

**A CHRISTMAS AND EPIPHANY NOTE:** from Fr. Hal Weidman

*“In that region, there were shepherds keeping watch over their flock by night. An angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy...to you is born this day...a Savior, who is the Messiah.’”*

Each year when I hear these words, I am transported high on the hills, above the town of Bethlehem, where the shepherds watch their flock. With them I am awed by the majestic choir of Angels who proclaim the Good News. I can almost see the shepherds, surrounded by their flock of sheep, and feel their fear at the apparition before them. They overcome their fear and make their way to that manger where they behold the little child who is to change to world. This night, they don't know the future of this child, all they can see is the simple scene of mother, father, and baby.

Once again, we come to the wonder of Christmas, the birth of the child, and our own wonder at the season. I hope this season holds wonder for you. My prayer for you is that you will find in the Creche your own place in the power of this night. As you stand before the scene, my hope is you will feel renewed by the coming of Jesus and know the power of God's love. For God so loved the world, that God came among us.

This Christmas know that the love of Jesus is yours to feel each day. Know that Jesus is with you in the daily struggles, and in the many joys awaiting you this new year. Please join us in celebrating this event. Our Christmas *and Epiphany Day* Events:

Sunday, December 22	11:15AM 3PM	Decorating the Church for Christmas Lessons and Carols
Tuesday, December 24	4:30PM 10:30PM 11PM	Family Christmas Eve Service with music Christmas Music Christmas Eve Service with music and incense
Wednesday, December 25	10AM	Christmas Day Service with music
Sunday, December 29	8 & 10AM	Holy Eucharist Services
Wednesday, January 1	10AM	The Holy Name Holy Eucharist Service
Sunday, January 5	8 & 10AM	Holy Eucharist Services with Epiphany Pageant

May God's grace bless and keep you this Christmas. May you feel Jesus' love throughout the year.

Fr Hal