

# GOSPEL COMMUNITY GUIDE

## Hymns of Hope - Volume 2

The First Noel | November 30, 2025



REDEEMER  
ROUND ROCK

### QUICK UPDATES

Share any upcoming church events and handle housekeeping for the Gospel Community.

### CONNECT

What's one Christmas tradition, song, or moment that always brings back a sense of joy or wonder for you?

### REVIEW

Have someone read the passage out loud from the ESV translation or something similar. Reflect on any insights, questions, or parts that stood out from the text or the sermon. Then read the summary below.

*Luke 2 presents the birth of Jesus as a real moment in human history - rooted in emperors, governors, travel routes, and a tiny, ordinary town chosen by God long before through prophecy. The angelic announcement to shepherds shows that Christ came for the lowly, overlooked, and unworthy, revealing the humble nature of his kingdom. The First Noel retells this scene, painting the nativity as a gathering of undeserving people drawn into God's grace. The sermon invites us to see ourselves in that scene and respond with humility and hope. Because if God orchestrated all of history to bring Christ at the perfect time, then that same Savior draws near to us today in our need.*

### LEARN & LIVE

These questions help us grasp the truth of the passage and consider how to live it out.

- According to Luke 2:1–7, how does grounding Jesus' birth in real dates, leaders, and locations shape your confidence in the gospel's historic truth?
- What does Micah 5:2 reveal about God choosing Bethlehem, and how does that help you see the character of God's kingdom?
- How does the humility of Jesus' birth in a manger contrast with the kind of Savior many people expect?
- Why is it significant that the first announcement of Jesus' birth came to shepherds (Luke 2:8–10)?
- In Luke 2:10–11, how does the angel describe Jesus, and which part of that announcement stands out to you as personally meaningful?
- What does the shepherds' response in Luke 2:15–17 teach us about hearing and responding to God's Word?
- Luke 2:19 says Mary "treasured and pondered" these things. What would it look like to adopt a similar posture during Advent?
- Titus 3:3–6 describes our spiritual condition before Christ; how does this passage deepen your understanding of why we need a Savior?
- How does the manger scene show that God's grace reaches people who feel unworthy or overlooked?
- In what practical ways can remembering Christ's humble arrival help you resist the frantic and pressured rhythms of December?

## GO DEEPER

*These questions invite us to slow down and wrestle with what's going on beneath the surface. Use these to go a little deeper or in your Huddle Groups.*

- Where do you most identify with the shepherds - feeling unseen, unclean, or unworthy - and how does the announcement "for unto you is born... a Savior" speak to that place?
- Which part of your life feels like "Bethlehem"; small, ordinary, overlooked, and how might God be at work there in ways you haven't recognized?
- What fears tend to surface in your life, and how would hearing "Fear not... I bring you good news" change how you face them?
- How have you experienced God interrupting your life like the angels interrupted the shepherds' night?
- In what ways do you resist humility during Advent, and what keeps you from acknowledging your need like Titus 3 describes?
- When you think about God orchestrating history to bring Jesus at the perfect time, what burden or situation in your life becomes harder to cling to?
- What part of your story feels too messy or unimpressive for God to enter? And how does the manger challenge that belief?
- If you imagine yourself standing with the shepherds, Mary, and Joseph at the manger, what emotion rises to the surface first, and why?
- Which place of discouragement, grief, or disappointment in your life most needs to hear, "Your Savior draws near"?
- What would it look like to approach this Advent season not trying to "perform" for God, but simply receiving mercy as an undeserving recipient of grace?
- **How is the Spirit inviting you personally to respond and what will you do differently this week?**

## PRAY

- Pray about one way God spoke to you tonight through His Word.
- Pray by name for someone in your life who doesn't yet know Jesus.
- Pray for the needs of those in the group.
- Pray for this ministry area of Redeemer: [Pray for our Worship Team staff and volunteers](#)

## 5 GROUP DISCUSSION RULES

We want to be full of grace as we meet, deepening our relationship with one another and with Christ. These five values help us know our **P.L.A.C.E.** in our GC's and Huddles.

1. **Pray** - Prayer is a space for confession, struggle, and praise. Keep requests focused on yourself and your immediate family, so we can pray specifically and personally.
2. **Listen** - Be present and attentive. Share with humility, be mindful of time, and remember: silence is okay.
3. **Apply** - Answer honestly. Consider how God's Word speaks into your life, and what it might look like to respond.
4. **Confess** - Confession and repentance are signs of maturity. We meet one another with grace, not shame.
5. **Encourage** - Practical advice is helpful, but truth is better. Speak the gospel into each other's hearts and stories.

## COMMENTARY EXCERPT:

*No Commentary This Week*