Good News Message

Isn't it captivating to not only hear, but see the Word of God displayed before your very eyes? It reminds us that Jesus Christ actually, historically, came into this world two thousand years ago! And why? Because God the Father loved us so much that He gave His Son so that whoever trusts in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life! Now, His Son has paid for our sins, has risen from the dead, ascended into heaven and freely offers to you and me the gift of eternal life. You can receive His gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ right now. "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:13).

If your desire is to receive the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ, then call on Him asking Him for this gift right now. May I suggest a prayer: "Lord Jesus Christ, I know I am a sinner and do not deserve eternal life. But I believe You died and rose from the grave to purchase a place in heaven for me. I ask You to come into my life; take control of my life; forgive my sins and save me. I turn from my sins and now place my trust in You for my salvation, and now accept the free gift of eternal life."

Please let us know if you prayed this prayer or would like to talk with someone about a relationship with Jesus Christ by contacting us at nativity@briarwood.org.

We would love to hear from you, pray with you and talk with you about Jesus, the Savior of sinners. Emmanuel, God with us!

Join us for Sunday Worship

8:00 a.m. • 11:00 a.m. • 6:00 p.m.

Christmas at Briarwood

Children's Christmas Choir

November 30 • 6:00 p.m.

Briarwood Ballet Performance

December 7 • 6:00 p.m.

Walk Through Nativity

December 10-12 • 6:45-8:45 p.m.

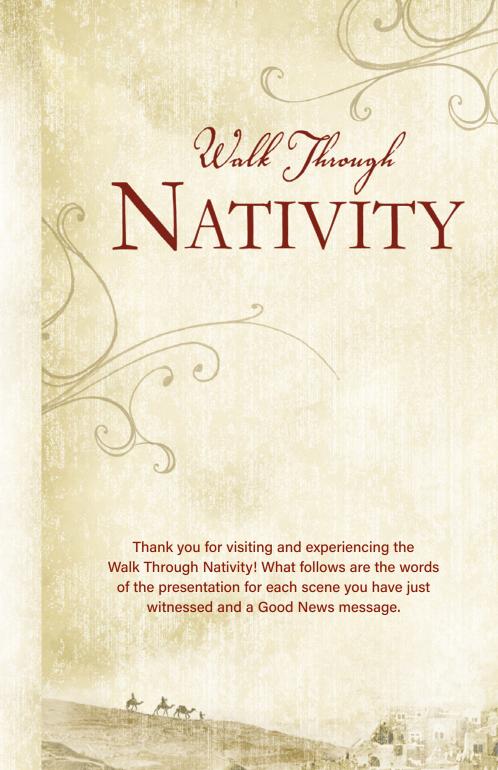
A Briarwood Christmas: Your Light Has Come!

Featuring Sandra McCracken December 21 • 6:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Services December 24

Family Candlelight Service 5:00 & 7:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service 11:00 p.m.

briarwood.org/advent



SCENE 1: "Family Christmas"

The true meaning of Christmas is really about the birth of Jesus ... the promised Messiah who came to save His people from their sins.

SCENE 2: "Prophet Speaking to the People"

More than 400 years before Jesus' birth, prophets spoke more than 60 prophecies telling specifically how the Messiah would come and what He would experience.

SCENES 3-4: "Angels Appearing to Mary and Joseph"

God sent His angel Gabriel to a city in Galilee, called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the descendants of David: and the virgin's name was Mary. Joseph was also visited by an angel in a dream. He was told that Mary's baby was conceived by the Holy Spirit and he was commanded to take her as his wife.

SCENE 5: "Roman Census and Birth of Jesus"

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, in order to register, along with Mary, who was engaged to him and was with child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

SCENE 6: "Angels Appearing to the Shepherds"

And the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which shall be for all the people; for today in the City of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Then the shepherds said, "Let us go straight to Bethlehem and see this thing which has happened which the Lord has made known to us."

SCENE 7: "Jesus in a Manger"

The shepherds came in haste and found their way to Mary and Joseph and the baby as He lay in a manger and they made known what had been told to them by the angels. And Mary treasured up all the things pondering them in her heart.

SCENE 8: "Magi Following the Star to Visit Young Jesus"

Magi came from the east to see Jesus who was to be born King of the Jews. They followed the star and rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. The magi came not only to give gifts but to worship Jesus as King.

SCENE 9: "Jesus Heals the Paralytic"

After Jesus began His ministry at about 30 years of age, a paralytic was brought to Him to be healed. Jesus said to him, "Your sins are forgiven." The religious leaders questioned in their hearts, "who can forgive sin but God alone?" Jesus, knowing their hearts, said to them, "that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—He said to the paralytic—"I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home." And he immediately rose and went out, so that they were all amazed and glorified God.

SCENE 10: "The Garden of Gethsemane"

In Jesus' last days on earth He became greatly distressed and troubled knowing the great agony He would soon experience while in the garden. He cried out to God, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Remove this cup from Me, yet not what I will, but what You will." Jesus was then arrested and after a series of five trials, Jesus was condemned to death by crucifixion.

SCENE 11: "The Cross and Crucifixion"

However, the real meaning of Christmas is even more than the miracle of God coming to live among us; it is the reality that when God sent His only Son, it was His necessary plan that Jesus come and die. He accepted the punishment for our sins to redeem sinful man and restore our relationship with God. Jesus was born to die, and the cross was the fulfillment of the purpose of His coming.

SCENE 12: "The Empty Tomb"

But the story doesn't end there! Yes, Jesus was crucified for our sins, but no tomb was capable of holding Him. On the third day Jesus conquered death, rose again and physically appeared to more than five hundred witnesses.

To read the Christmas Story for yourself, read in the Bible, Matthew 1:8–2:12 and Luke 2:1–21.



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