

NARRATOR:

The Sixth Lesson: Jesus – the Savior, Messiah, and Lord of *all* – is born in Bethlehem

Luke's basic message of the Infancy narrative
is contained in the angel's announcement to the shepherds
that Jesus is

savior,
and Messiah,
and Lord.

As savior, Jesus rescues humanity from sin.

As Messiah, Jesus is the one who now brings salvation
to *all* humanity, whether Jew or Gentile.

As Lord, Jesus is God, who has dominion over humanity.

For all of us gathered here, a savior has been born, who is Messiah and Lord.

Joe Colvin:

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

**In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus
that the whole world should be enrolled.**

This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria.

So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town.

**And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea,
to the city of David that is called Bethlehem,
because he was of the house and family of David,
to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.**

**While they were there, the time came for her to have her child,
and she gave birth to her firstborn son.**

**She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger,
because there was no room for them in the inn.**

**Now there were shepherds in that region
living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock.**

**The angel of the Lord appeared to them
and the glory of the Lord shone around them,
and they were struck with great fear.**

The angel said to them,

**“Do not be afraid; for behold,
I proclaim to you good news of great joy
that will be for all the people.**

**For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you
who is Messiah and Lord.**

And this will be a sign for you:

**you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes
and lying in a manger.”**

**And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel,
praising God and saying:**

**“Glory to God in the highest
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”**

**When the angels went away from them to heaven,
the shepherds said to one another,**

**“Let us go, then,
to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place,
which the Lord has made known to us.”**

**So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph,
and the infant lying in the manger.**

When they saw this,

**they made known the message that had been told them about this child.
All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds.**

“The Gospel of the Lord.”

Luke 2:1-18



All Sing:

**♪ Silent night, holy night
All is calm, all is bright
‘Round yon Virgin Mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace**