

Messiah Lutheran Church
816 Roy St.
Houston, TX 77007

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The Messiah Messenger



Messiah Lutheran Church

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Visit Us
www.mlhouston.org

Worship with Us
Sunday service @ 9am
In-Person and Facebook Live

FB: *Messiah Houston*
IG: *messiah_houston*

Off-street parking available



Midweek Advent Worship Wednesdays at 7pm

Each week we will explore the meaning
of one of the Advent candles.

November 30 - Prophecy Candle
December 7 - Bethlehem Candle
December 14 - Shepherds Candle
December 21 - Angels Candle

Worshippers will also receive an Advent
wreath set with a wooden base and a
candle added to it each week.

Daily – Doggedly – Daringly
Embracing Our Neighbors with Jesus' Unconditional Love



Gabriel's Glad Tidings



Hey friends,

About once a month Pastor Engel takes me to see my friends at the Harris County 911 Call Center to visit the dispatchers.

These are the men and women who answer the phone when someone has an emergency.

They are sometimes called the Thin Gold Line.

Without them, the Sheriff's Deputies wouldn't be sent to provide help.

The dispatchers have a very hard job and my visits help them get through their shifts.

They always answer their calls by saying, "Harris County 911. What's the nature of your emergency?"

Watching them work reminds me of something that my Jesus said. "Call on Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you and you will honor Me" (Psalm 50:15).

My Jesus promises to send help when we pray to Him. He's like a Divine Dispatcher!

All of us have days of trouble when we need help.

Maybe you need to call 911. If so, my friends are there to help.

Whatever your day of trouble is, don't forget to call on my Jesus.

He always gives the best help!

Isn't that PAWSOME?!?

Your friend Gabriel



*Harris County 911.
What's the nature of your emergency?*



From the Pastor



Go Tell It on the Mountain

*Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born*

*While shepherds kept their
watching*

*O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light*

*The shepherds feared and trem-
bled*

*When lo above the Earth
Rang out the angel's chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth*

*Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born*

John W. Work II

Dear Friends in Christ,

The hymn “Silent Night” is one of the most beloved of the Christmas songs. What Christmas Eve Service would be complete if we didn’t sing that hymn to the soft glow of the candles?

That first Christmas, however, may or may not have been all that silent. The holy family was huddled in a rock enclosure (not a wooden stable) surrounded by various animals.

If Jesus’ birth was like every other birth, it was accompanied by Mary’s birth pang cries.

The newborn Jesus also would have cried out as he entered the world, as every healthy baby does.

Eventually the scene would have settled down, but no doubt it was marked by more than silence.



That’s the way it should be today as well.

Too many people in our world don’t know the true meaning of Christmas.

You and I can’t be silent about this celebration. We need to be like the shepherds.

Luke tells us that “when they had seen Jesus, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child” and they “returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen.”

The shepherds were far from silent. They didn’t just go back to their fields and flocks.

They became the first evangelists who couldn’t keep the news to themselves.

It’s fine to enjoy singing “Silent Night.” My Christmas Eve wouldn’t be complete without it, either.

But Christmas is more than “Silent Night.” Christmas is also “Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!”

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Engel