

December 26, 2023

## The Christmas Rush

[Luke 2:15-20](#)

*<sup>16</sup> So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger.*

The shepherds wasted no time in setting off to find the baby Jesus. The scripture states they “hurried;” other translations use “with haste” and the Message states, “they left, running.” They did not hesitate. They dropped what they were doing and immediately began their search for the Christ Child.

We, too, rush at Christmas time just like the shepherds did, only for different reasons. We have the Black Friday rush which is filled with a steady flow of shoppers rushing to get the best gift and the best price. We rush to get our cards mailed; we rush to get our presents wrapped; we rush to get our tree up and decorated.

Instead of rushing with our Christmas preparations of buying gifts and decorating, we should be rushing to the manger to see the best Gift of all. We should be rushing to church to hear about the baby born to save us all.

The shepherds dropped everything and rushed to hear the good news of great joy. Is this our attitude? Do we drop everything to worship him? Or do we hesitate and drag our feet when it comes to worshipping our savior? Are we so hung up on the rush of Christmas that we forget the purpose of Christmas?

We rush to get things done when we should be rushing to tell others about the good news of Jesus Christ. We need to be filled with the same rush of excitement that we had as children for our presents underneath the tree.

This Christmas season let us be like the shepherds and rush to tell others about the baby Jesus and what he has done for us. Let us tell others about the peace, which is like no other, that only he can provide. Let us be like the shepherds and glorify and praise God for all we have seen and heard.

Enjoy the Christmas rush to see, worship, and adore Christ the Lord.

***Prayer:** Heavenly father, may this Christmas season be filled with the rush of worshipping your son and our savior, Jesus Christ. Fill us with your peace which surpasses all understanding. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.*

Lynn Ritter  
First United Methodist Church, Elkins, WV  
[jimlynnritter@gmail.com](mailto:jimlynnritter@gmail.com)  
Local Church Volunteer Staff Liaison,  
Certified Lay Servant, Member Greenbrier-Wesleyan Lead Team