



# "The Eternal Gift"

December 22, 2024

## 1.0 Come All Ye Faithful - Praise Team and Congregation

## 2. Prayer -

## 3. Narration - Rod Anthony

**[gift]** Today we celebrate "that indescribable gift." **[chain]** Liberty has been given freely to us but at **[Christ]** great cost to our Savior. God's only begotten Son has set us free from the debt of our sin and reconciled us to our Creator. **[Christ][Christ with thorns]** When we behold the glory of our Lord there is a transformation that takes place. The Divine Author of all Good is our Provider. **[Two hands creation]** The One by whom all things were created, **[both]** in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things have been created through Him and for Him. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. **[Christ with three crosses]** The One who created you loved you enough to become human, take upon Himself the penalty of your sin and rebellion and redeem you to your Holy God.

**[Christ black & white ]** Void of selfishness and in great humility of mind Jesus the Son of God, although He existed in the form of God did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, **[bondservant]** but emptied himself by taking on the form of a slave, by looking like other men, and by sharing in human nature. **[Christ carrying cross]** He humbled himself, by becoming obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross! **[gift - incarnation]** How indescribable a gift that the Son of God who created you willingly humbled Himself to enter the world He had created. INDESCRIBABLE!!!

## 4. Hark the Herald Angels Sing - Praise Team

## 5. Son of God, Son of Man

## 6. Narration - Rod Anthony

Consider the incarnation of Christ and many of the things that make up this indescribable gift. [Joseph & Mary] Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit. [Joseph] And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man and not wanting to disgrace her, desired to put her away secretly. [Joseph sleeping angel] But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; [Mary] for that which has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins." Now all this took place that what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet might be fulfilled, saying, [baby & world]" BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD AND SHALL BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL," which translated means, "GOD WITH US." - Mat 1:18-23 NASB [ gift - God with us] The indescribable gift is God of the universe came and dwelt among men.

## 7. What Child is This? - Praise Team

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## 8. Narration - Rod Anthony

[Cesar, decree ] "Now it came about in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, that a census be taken of all the inhabited earth. This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all were proceeding to register for the census, everyone to his own city. [Mary & Joseph traveling] 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. [Joseph & Mary in town] And it came about that while they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth. [baby] 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. [shepherd in field] In the same region there were some shepherds staying out in the fields and keeping watch over their flock by night. [shepherds with angel] And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened. And the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will 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. [Bethlehem]"This will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." [Shepherd, angels] And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased." - Luk 2:1-14 NASB [Gift - peace with God] How invaluable is it that God has replaced the tumult of our rebellion with peace. Having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. While we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son. How much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! [Rom 5:10 NIV] We boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation. [Rom 5:11 NIV]

## 9. The First Noel - Praise Team

## 10. Narration - Rod Anthony

**[Shepherds]** *And it came about when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds began saying to one another, "Let us go straight to Bethlehem then, and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us." **[manger scene]** And they came in haste and found their way to Mary and Joseph, and the baby as He lay in the manger. And when they had seen this, they made known the statement which had been told them about this Child. And all who heard it wondered at the things which were told them by the shepherds. **[Mary with baby Jesus]** But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds went back, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, just as had been told them. ... **[world child is born]** "for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." - Luk 2:15-20,11 NASB. ""For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." And "He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." **[gift our savior]** The indescribable gift is the Son of God packaged in human flesh and given to us in order to save us from our sins.*

## 11. Oh Little Town of Bethlehem - Praise Team

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## 12. Narration - Rod Anthony

[In the Beginning] *In the beginning was the word, and the was with God, and the Word was God. He created all things and He became flesh and dwelt among us. We beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father. Full of grace and truth. [Christ extending hand] To all who received Jesus Christ He gave to them the authority to become children of God. To everyone who believes in His name they are born of the will of God. It is not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, [Tit 3:5 NKJV]*

[Prophet, priest & King] *Our Lord Jesus Christ fills the offices of Prophet, Priest, and King. He came not to be served but to serve and give His life a ransom for many. Moses prophesied, "The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your countrymen, you shall listen to him. [Deu 18:15 NASB95] [Christ praying] In the book of Hebrews we are told that He had to be made like His brethren in all things, the Christ had to become fully human, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. [Heb 2:17 NASB95] [crown on world] How could we assess the value of what has been given to us? Fall on your knees and worship the Son of God and Son of Man, the Lord of lords, the King of kings, and the Prince of peace. [gift our King of Kings/Lord of Lords] In God's great love for you He gave the most valuable and most capable redeemer, the perfect prophet, priest, and King of kings, Lord of lords, and prince of peace.*

## 13. Oh Holy Night - Praise Team

## 14. Narration - Rod Anthony

*[Lamb] God is just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. Through His gift we have been justified by His grace through faith in the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. God displayed Jesus publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. [Hands with cross] God has publicly displayed His righteousness in forgiving sinners and covering us in the righteousness of Christ our Lord. [holy of holies high priest] When the veil of the temple was rent we were given a pathway not into an earthly temple but into a heavenly temple. We have been given a high priest who can sympathize with our weaknesses. One who has been tempted like as we are tempted, yet He was tempted without committing sin. Our great high priest Jesus has passed through the heavens and is seated at the right hand of God our Father ever to make intercession for you and for me. There He Himself makes propitiation for our sins; and not only for ours, but also for those of the whole world. Therefore He is able also to save forever those of us who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for us. [Heb 7:25 NASB95] [gift - throne room] In Christ we have access to the very throne room of God. What a marvelous gift has been given to God's people*

## 15. At Last, the King - Special

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## 16. Narration - Rod Anthony

[sun in the clouds] At the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ we will receive the full indescribable benefit of the eternal life that is the ultimate gift. At the proper time He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of king and Lord of lords, who alone possesses immortality and dwelling in unapproachable light will appear. He is the one who no man has seen or can see. Worthy is the babe who was given to us. [worthy is the lamb] Worthy is the Lamb who has taken away the sin of the world. Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing and dominion forever and ever. The Lamb has overcome sin and death. He has overcome all of the angelic principalities and powers. [two crowns] All authority in heaven and on earth have been given to Jesus Christ. He is the Lord of lords and King of kings, and we who are with Him [are the] called and chosen and faithful." [Rev 17:14 NASB95] [glory] Beloved, we are children of God, and it has not yet appeared as what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. 3 And everyone who has this hope [fixed] on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. [1Jo 3:2-3 NASB95] "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY [is] THE LORD GOD, THE ALMIGHTY, WHO WAS AND WHO IS AND WHO IS TO COME." [Rev 4:8 NASB95], The whole earth is full of His glory." [Isa 6:3 NASB95]

## 17. Holy Holy Holy - Praise Team

## 18. [gift- eternal gift] Closing - Pastor Jim

## 19. Joy to the World - Praise Team