



PARK STREET

BRETHREN CHURCH

December 20, 2020

Afraid of Being Forgotten (Luke 2:8-20)



Sigurd Eysteinnsson, or Sigurd the Mighty, reigned as the Earl of Orkney from 875-892. He was one of the key leaders of the Viking conquest of northern Scotland.



fear not

— An Advent Sermon Series —

Luke 2:8-20, “Afraid of Being Forgotten”

Luke 2:8-20

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

Luke 2:8-20

But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

Luke 2:8-20

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

Luke 2:8-20

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

Luke 2:8-20

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

Luke 2:8-20

But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.



fear not

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Luke 2:8-20, “Afraid of Being Forgotten”

Perhaps, like Zechariah, we fear being disappointed
—so we decide not to get our hopes up.

Maybe, like Mary, we fear being trapped
—so we decide not to risk and play it safe instead.

Maybe, like Joseph, we fear being judged
—so we hide our true selves from the world.

Perhaps, like the shepherds, we have accepted our place in the world as outcasts and secondary characters—so we resign ourselves to being overlooked and forgotten.

The birth of the Messiah means that we are not hopeless, trapped, judged, and forgotten. In Christ, the hope of the nations, we are free, accepted, and beloved.



fear not

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Luke 2:8-20, "Afraid of Being Forgotten"