

**St. Andrew's Anglican Church, Douglas GA**

The Rev. Fr. John E. Commins+ Rector

Scripture: Various

**"Christ Came For You!"**

Wow – I am in awe – of the talents of these kids. What the young ones – the angels were doing was joy. You don't think that when the angels came on Christmas Eve to announce the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ that they did it without excitement! It was full of joy, and we witnessed that today – praise the Lord!

I was thinking while witnessing this event, the best one yet – and I was thinking – just why did Christmas happen? I put together some thoughts that I want to share with you.

**Christmas came into being because of God's desire to:**

- **Jesus, God the Father and God the Holy Spirit could embrace us with His love in a way that He had never, ever done before.** What was it the Angels said: "*Good News of great joy that will be for all the people.*" Look at those last 3 words – for all people! He loves people so much that He does not want to leave them that way – He wants to transform them into the love of His Son, Jesus Christ. There are a whole lot of people who could use some good news: those who feel lonely and unloved, isolated and un-forgiven. Did you know that pollsters say that **one out of five Americans say that life is meaningless?** How terribly sad! We just pray that God will touch their hearts this Christmas season.

**Christmas came into being because of God's desire to:**

- **Encourage us with His peace** –remember what the Angels proclaimed? "*Do not be afraid!*" You have nothing to fear – if you know God and love God – what are you worried about? If you believe in Jesus – bring it on!

**Christmas came into being because of God's Desire to:**

- **Enrich us with His joy** - "*Great joy*" the angels said.

Secondly: **In sending His Son to earth, it was God's design that Jesus Christ would**

- **Fulfill the Scripture** – There are hundreds of verses in Scripture that point to the coming of our Savior. He fulfills each and every one of them. If I went into the list – this would be a three-hour sermon – but instead I have about 2 minutes left.

**In sending His Son to earth, it was God's design that Christ would:**

- **Provide for us something that no one else could provide - our Salvation.** Another word for salvation is rescue. He rescues us from ourselves; from our sin, with the promise of everlasting joy. No more tears, no more cancer, no more gall bladders, no more anything. And all because - "*A Savior has been born*" in the Town of David.

**In sending His Son to earth, it was God's design that Christ would:**

- **Rule as Sovereign** – They said: "*He is Christ, the Lord.*" Christ meaning Messiah, and Lord – meaning over everything.

Thirdly - Christmas **occurred through God's own Decision**

- **God decided to come as a one of us** – starting out in the most simple way possible as "*a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.*" A manger is a food trough that

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animals eat out of. That is why there was hay in it and it was a good place to lay the baby. Talk about humble beginnings!

Jesus is the only way in which we can make a connection with God. That's why He came on that first Christmas night, and that is what Christmas is all about.