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# H TABLELIFE C H U R C H

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE



Order of Worship 18 December 2022 The Fourth Sunday of Advent

## We Gather to Worship God

Welcome
Worship in Song
Call to Worship
Lighting of the Advent Wreath
Worship in Song

#### We Listen to the Word

Prayer

Sermon Series: Re-Gifted Sermon: "Regifting Love"

#### We Come to the Table

Prayer of Confession and Consecration
The Lord's Prayer
We Eat and Drink Together
We Celebrate the Eucharist in Song
Prayer

## We Go to Live in the Reign of God

Community Life
Gossiping the Good Stuff
Doxology
Blessing and Sending







#### Doggy Bag-Some questions to chew on:



- 1. Growing up, were you ever picked last for something? Have you ever felt unloved or unwanted? How has that experience shaped you?
- 2. In what ways do you relate to the shepherds? Has God ever used someone in your life who you or others might deem "lowly," "unlikely," or "unlovable?"
- 3. What excuses do you tend to make when it comes to following God's call? Do you struggle having a need for Jesus? Why or why not?
- 4. Do you find yourself passing over and putting off following God when you have other options?
- 5. What is one way you can move closer to the shepherds and acknowledge you have things in your life that need healing and things that are broken? How can you rest in God's love and recognize that earning, working, or buying your way to love is not the answer?
- 6. When God calls you, will you be one to say yes?

If you'd like to talk personally and confidentially w/ Pastor Kris about following Christ, please email pastorkris@tablelifechurch.org or call 717-774-6444 to set up an appointment.



# Re-Gifted "Regifting Love" Pastor Kris Beckert

# Have you ever felt like a gift that nobody wants? The Story of the Shepherds:

Luke 2:8-18 And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. 9 An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. 11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." 13 Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 14 "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." 15 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." <sup>16</sup> So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, z and the baby, who was lying in the manger. 17 When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them

about this child, <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.
I. God's choice of the shepherds was shocking because:
1. They no longer were seen
<ul><li>Many famous shepherds in</li><li>David wrote psalms describing</li><li>as a shepherd</li></ul>
Psalm 100:3 Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.
2. They did not have a job
<ul><li>Job responsibilities—</li><li>Sheep were raised to be</li></ul>
3. They were rendered ritually
4. They didn't make much
II. God's choice of the shepherds shows us:
1. Jesus reveals the magnitude of
• lesus is known as the

• The cross showed the sacrificial

of God

2.	. Jesus chooses and uses				

Luke 14:18-23 But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said, 'I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.' 19 "Another said, 'I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I'm on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.' 20 "Still another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come.' 21 "The servant came back and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.' 22 "'Sir,' the servant said, 'what you ordered has been done, but there is still room.' <sup>23</sup> "Then the master told his servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in, so that my house will be full.

3. They were	the ones	who would	say	
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When God shows up in your life, do you accept the invitation and follow?

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