New Life Sermon December 27th, 2015 Gina Nicola, LMFT

"Living in the Christmas Spirit"

The Gift of Our Savior Luke 2:17-20

Luke 2:17-20¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Living in the Christmas Spirit

1. We keep talking about the gift.

- Sharing experience
- Acknowledging God's Promise
- Spreading the Good News

Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) ⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

2. We treasure the gift given to us.

- Ponder
- Keep in mind
- Within oneself

Psalm 107:43 (NIV) Let the one who is wise heed these things and ponder the loving deeds of the Lord.

Psalm 111:2 (NIV) Great are the works of the Lord; they are pondered by all who delight in them.

3. We continue to celebrate the gift.

- Glorifying & Praising
- Magnifying

<u>1 Peter 4:11</u> (NIV) If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen

Ephesians 2:10 (NIV) For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

<u>**Hebrews 13:15**</u> Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise – the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.