

Call to Worship

L: How magnificent is all creation!

P: God's love is poured throughout all God has created.

L: God's love is poured out upon us each day.

P: Praise be to God!

L: Let your souls and spirits rejoice at the goodness of God.

P: Let all the people praise God! AMEN.

Opening Prayer

God of hope and light, your good news has been emblazoned across the skies, the great starry night of Jesus' birth, sung by angels, celebrated by shepherds, witnessed by animals. You have given to us a new chance, a reminder of your continual love for us. Be with us in this worship, we pray. Guide our thoughts, our lives, our spirits. Heal and restore us. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

Sending Forth

May the God of light, love, and mercy be in your hearts and spirits this day. Go in peace and God's peace will go with you. AMEN.

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NOTES

The Grinch of the Holy Land

Matthew 2:13-23

Pastor Harold Long

December 20, 2020

1. There is nothing in the _____ or _____
that can defend itself from _____.

Psalm 18:2 (NRSV), ² *The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer, my God, my rock in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold..*

2. Despite the reality of _____ in our _____, God's love still _____ and is resistant to all _____.

1 John 2:16-17, ¹⁶ *For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. ¹⁷ The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.*

3. God's _____ is always _____ over the _____.
_____. God's love is always _____
_____?

John 1:5, *The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.*

4. Jesus came into a dark world to _____.

John 12:46, ⁴⁶ *I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness.*

John 8:12, ¹² *When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

Ephesians 5:12, ¹² *When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

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