

CHRISTMAS DAY SERMONS

Our Dear CHRIST Enters In

In Our
Hearts



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SERMONS FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

SERMON

P Our dear Christ enters in—this has been our proclamation for Advent and Christmas Eve. In our journey we have considered aspects of home life such as family trees, hurts and struggles, gender reveals and baby names, and the ever-flowing joy of coming home to Christ. On this day of our Lord’s birth, we will ponder fond memories associated with home that we feel in our hearts, much like Mary did on that first Christmas when the Bible says, “But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart” (Luke 2:19).

All that being said, I have a guessing game for you to help you consider the special memories of this day. Here’s the first item I want you to consider. See if you can guess what I am from these clues.

- Clue #1: I love shelves and clouds. *(pause)*
- Clue #2: Sometimes I’m a random mess; other times, I’m quite organized. *(pause)*
- Clue #3: I bend and brake, stare and glare. *(pause)*
- Clue #4: Don’t judge a book by its cover. *(pause)*
- Clue #5: Turn me or flick me and see. *(pause)*

What am I? A photo album!

Photo albums harbor fond memories of home that we feel in our hearts. Wedding nights and

honeymoon trips. Getaways and graduations. Former residences and reunions. Grandparents and grandbabies. Planes, trains and automobiles. Nature and pets. Sunrises, sunsets and all kinds of weather in between.

I dug out an old photo album of mine and brought a few pictures of my own fond memories of Christmas, fond memories that we ponder in our hearts. *(Show examples from your own life.)*

- *(Show a photo from a Christmas play or Advent church event you were in as a child, if you have one, and describe.)*
- *(Show a photo of a favorite Christmas present you received, if you have one, and describe.)*
- *(Show a photo of a Christmas tradition in your family, if you have one, and describe.)*
- *(Show a photo of a pet of some kind you had, if you had one, and describe.)*
- *(Show a photo of your confirmation, if you have one, and describe.)*
- *(Show a photo of your first car, if you have one, and describe.)*
- *(Show a photo from your wedding day, if you are married, or a picture of your immediate family, if you are single, and describe.)*
- *(Show a photo from a memorable vacation and describe.)*
- *(Show a photo of you engaging in a favorite hobby and describe.)*
- *(Show a photo of the first church you served as pastor or your current church and describe.)*
- *(Show a photo of a family member who has passed away and describe.)*

Even in hard and challenging times, God's gift of earthly life produces many fond memories.

What fond memories you feel in your hearts would you share from your own photo album? Share a fond memory of Christmas with the person next to you. *(Allow worshippers time to share a fond Christmas memory with someone next to them.)*

In our text today, we honor the final verses of Luke's Christmas account: Luke 2:15-20. If we are not careful, the significance of one detail can be overlooked—even missed. Let me read the passage again, noting each verse number. Luke records, starting with verse 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." Verse 16 reads: So