Title: "A Christmas Poem"

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John 1:1-5

12/25/2024

Service Readings: Isaiah 52:7–10, Heb. 1:1–6, John 1:1–18 *The story of Christmas*

Message:

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

In the beginning before time had begun, The Word was with God: Father, Spirit and Son. Eternal, unchanging, like light shining bright Creation would flow from the Word one dark night.

He spoke into darkness and chaos gave way To the light of creation, the dawn of that day. The Word had created, the Word would sustain And man would assist, on Earth he would reign

But sin it was crouching, ready to pounce, And Adam and Eve, God's will they'd renounce. In but one moment the damage was done Enmity existed, Satan thought he had won.

But God in his fullness, prepared quite a plan, A way to save each woman, child, and man. From out of the darkness the Word became flesh Born in a manger and laid in a crèche

Veiled in our weakness, the fullness of grace, In Bethlehem's manger, God showed His face. The glory of Heaven, with angels' acclaim, Became infant small, yet eternally the same.

No one has seen God, nor gazed on His face, But Christ, the Word Incarnate, reveals His embrace. At Christmas, we marvel, this gift from above, The Word made flesh—God's unfathomable love. A light out of darkness, a light that shone bright Jesus was born on that first Christmas night Descending from heaven fulfilling God's plan Taking us back from the grip of Satan

The law that was given, that Moses proclaimed Would now be fulfilled in Christ Jesus' name And grace upon grace we'd receive from the cross A restoration of life we'd once considered lost

What once had been broken has now been restored Through the blood of the lamb and the death of our Lord But his work did not end on the day he was laid For in the tomb... only three days he stayed

His victory over sin through death and the grave Broke the shackles of sin, we're no longer its slave And his rising to life on the first Easter morn Gives promise to us of being reborn

Reborn in our baptism, reborn in our lord We share in his death and the resurrection award For salvation eternal, the promise is sure A life lived with God, he has finally secured

So come, all ye faithful, rejoice and proclaim, The light of the world, born to suffer our shame. To save us from darkness, He came to abide, Our Emmanuel, our Savior, our eternal bride.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Please pray with me.

We thank You for the gift of Your Son, the Word made flesh, who entered our world to save us from sin and death. Fill our hearts with the light of His grace, that we may trust in His truth and share His love with others. As we rejoice in His birth, grant us faith to see Your glory and live as Your redeemed children.

Amen.