

...the shepherds said to one another,
"Let us go now to Bethlehem and see
this thing that has taken place, which the Lord
has made known to us."
— Luke 2:15

Let's go! Now! When angels came to some shepherds with a brilliant message one night long ago, the shepherds had a brilliant idea. Let's go! Let's see what God is doing! The unknown dangers of the night did not hold them back. Maybe all they needed was the announcement of what God was up to this time. This time God would be conducting a rescue like none before -- saving the whole world, bringing peace and goodwill.

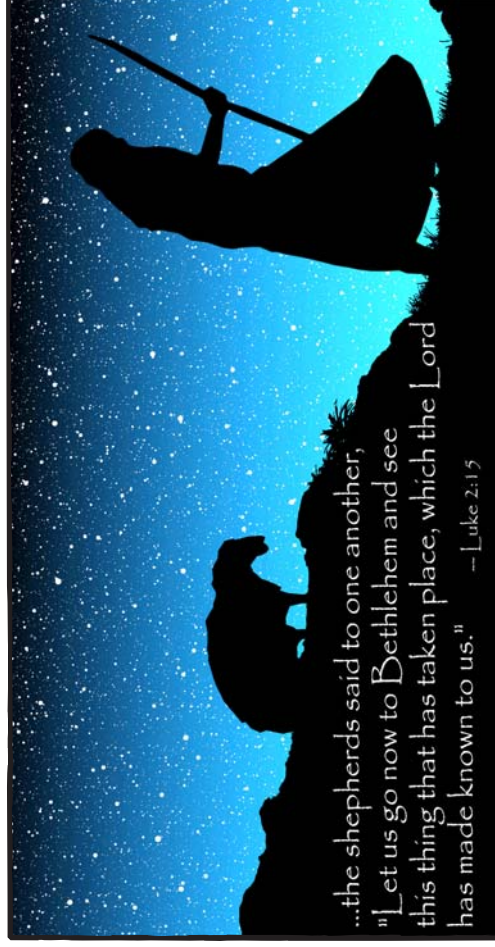
What if the shepherds had yawned, "That's interesting, some other time," and remained sitting in the night, in the dirt, in the comfort of predictable hardships and familiar enemies? Would promised joy have found them anyway?

Let's not test that speculation with our lives. Let's go! Let's see what God is doing!

God's blessings to you this Christmas,

The Rev. Mark S. Hanson
Presiding Bishop

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



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