

MAY ALL KINGS
FALL DOWN
BEFORE HIM,
ALL NATIONS
SERVE HIM!

PSALM 72:11, ESV

First Church of the Brethren
730 Church Street, Eden, NC 27288
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Christmas music... It can be a love/hate relationship this time of year. Much of it is beautiful and enhances our celebration of the birth of Christ. Some of it is cheesy and tired. Some people are intrigued with classics, some prefer modern remakes or contemporary original songs. If you have ever worked in a mall or other retail venue you have probably been overwhelmed with hearing the same Christmas songs over and over again. After a while, we tune them out.

Every now and then I hear Christmas song that really touches me. Those songs in the past have been ones like "Mary, Did You Know?", "How Many Kings?" and "Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer." OK, maybe not that last one. A few days ago, I heard one that I had never heard before.

It is called "Where Else Would a Lamb be Born?" by Steve Amerson.

The chorus asks:

A bed of straw became a cradle
Embracing God in human form
One would expect more than a stable
But where else would a Lamb be born
But where else would a Lamb be born

As we celebrate the coming of the baby Jesus this Christmas, let's not lose sight of the fact that this Baby is the one who was promised to be the sacrifice for our sins. He is the King of kings and the Lord of Lords. He is Christ the Messiah.

He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

Isaiah 53:7

Truth Incarnate



The Almighty appeared on earth as a helpless human baby, needing to be fed and changed and taught to talk like any other child. The more you think about it, the more staggering it gets. Nothing in fiction is so fantastic as this truth of the Incarnation.

—J.I. Packer

FIRST CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

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Pray Without Ceasing

Eugene Barton, Lucy Bradford, Katherine Bridges, Carolyn Combs, Melissa Dalton, JT Hale, Barbara Janney, Tania Martin, Salem Nelson, Marie Priddy, Aaron Roach, Jutta Shelton, Roger Shockley, Patsy Underwood, Leon & Gail Walker, Danny Whitley, Frankie Wilson

Thinking of You

Yvonne Bateman

District Prayer Request

Pray for Loretta Wolf, the Director of Material Resources for the Church of the Brethren in New Windsor, Maryland. Let us use all of our being and substance to witness to the fullness of God in Jesus Christ in the midst of the great challenges and wonderful opportunities which are before us!



If you can't attend Sunday services you can watch a live stream of Sunday Worship service on YouTube. Find us on YouTube as Eden NC Church of the Brethren and catch up on the weekly sermons.

The Example Of Mary

“We must look to Mary’s example to know how to deal with the glorious impossibilities of God,” writes Calvin Miller in *The Christ of Christmas*.

“Look how she turned the world upside down by making one simple statement.”

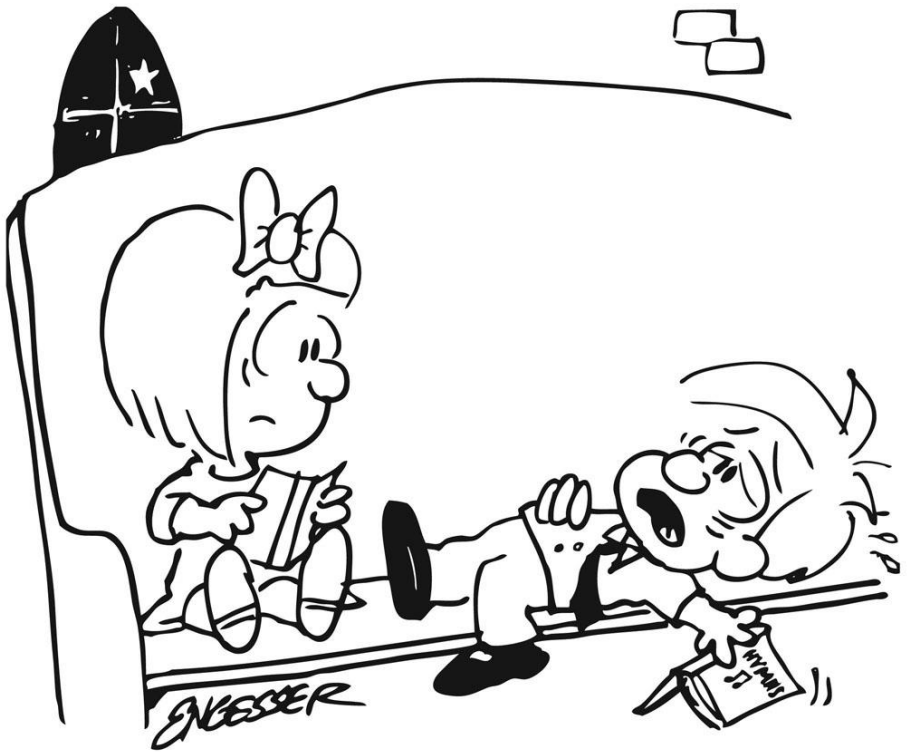
Jesus surely could have come to earth without Mary’s aid. But God seems to prefer partnering with people to accomplish miracles such as salvation and healing. So God chooses Mary to carry the Savior. Later, Jesus often declares people’s own faith crucial to their healing. And today, God works justice through us, not apart from us.

God doesn’t force us into collaboration. Yet, notes Miller, “God needs only a little of our agreement in order to work mighty wonders.” Like Mary’s humble assent: “I am the Lord’s servant. . . . May your word to me be fulfilled” (Luke 1:38, NIV). And like yours — for whatever partnership God invites you into. God will do the heavy lifting, for certain, but he hopes you’ll say yes.

Upcoming Birthdays

December 16: Judi Harmon

December 18: Deja Dalton



"That last 'Glo-ooo-oooh-oooh-oooh-oooh-oooh-oooh-ooria' about did me in."