



Cornerstone
CHURCH

Follow Jesus with Joy and Wonder

The Great Exchange

Pastor Mark Lehmann

December 14, 2025

“Joy is the serious business of Heaven.”

C. S. Lewis

The Joy at the Birth of Jesus

- Mary's Joy

“...and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior...”

Luke 1:47 NIV

- John the Baptist's Prenatal Joy

“As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy.”

Luke 1:44 NIV

- Joy for the Outcast – The Shepherds' Joy

That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger. Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying, "Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased."

Luke 2:8-14 NLT

The shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. It was just as the angel had told them.

Luke 2:20 NLT

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder.

Isaiah 9:2-3 NIV

"Jesus came not for the good, but for the confused. Not for the proud, but for the broken."

Max Lucado

Joy for the Redeemed

... "My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior..."

Luke 1:46-47 NIV

“Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The Lord, the Lord himself, is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation.”
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.
Isaiah 12:2-3 NIV

Joy Because We Belong to and Abide in Jesus

“There is no joy in the world like the joy of knowing Jesus Christ.”

“I have loved you even as the Father has loved me. Remain in my love. When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father’s commandments and remain in his love. I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow!”
John 15:9-11 NLT

“If Jesus is your real joy, nothing can take it away.”

Tim Keller

Joy in Our Suffering

“Joy is not the absence of suffering but the presence of God.”

Elisabeth Elliot

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve in Zion—to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.
Isaiah 61:1-3 NIV

The Joy of the Lord is My Strength (Nehemiah 8:10)

Then young women will dance and be glad, young men and old as well. I will turn their mourning into gladness; I will give them comfort and joy instead of sorrow.
Jeremiah 31:13 NIV

You love him even though you have never seen him. Though you do not see him now, you trust him; and you rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy. ⁹ The reward for trusting him will be the salvation of your souls.
1 Peter 1:8-9 NLT

The Joy that is Coming When Jesus Returns

...keep on rejoicing, so that at the revelation of His glory you may also rejoice and be overjoyed.
1 Peter 4:13 NASB

- “There will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain.” Revelation 21:4 NLT
- “Well done... enter the joy of your master.” Matthew 25:21 NASB

“Even when we allow our imaginations to run wild on the joys of heaven, we find that our minds are incapable of conceiving what it will be like.”

Billy Graham