** **Message Outline**

 *The Christmas in the*

 *midst of the Chaos*

 **Luke 2:1-20**

**Intro:** A Christmas tradition to read Luke 2…

**Read:** Luke 2:1-20

**v.1-3—**Too soon to talk politics???

* The original Christmas came despite political chaos…
* A census served God’s Sovereign plan from Nazareth to Bethlehem! (cf.Mic.5:2).

**v.4-7—**Did God overlook a detail…OR is the meaning found in the manger!

* The God of humility, not comfortability!

**v.8-20—**What a night!!! Brilliant but humble, political but personal, Divine being and human being!

**A Christmas Sob Story…**

* The difficult Christmas of last year…

 -Christmas crunch, Denominational details, Dad details, December deaths…

 -The challenging days to trek thru…

* What do you do when life feels heavier than you can handle?

 -Getting alone with God…where I’ve discovered God ministering to me!

 -A song that spoke to my soul…

*In the bleak mid-winter, all creation groans
For a world in darkness, frozen like a stone
Light is breaking
In a stable for a throne*

*And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore
Unto us a child is born
The King of kings and Lord of lords
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore*

 *-“He Shall Reign Forevermore” by Chris Tomlin*

* Christmas reminds us God can light up the night sky with His glory! No matter your situation, there is Good News of great joy because Jesus is born!!!

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**Advent:**

 **The CHRIST Candle**

**Reviewing Romans around the Wreath**

***23****For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in****CHRIST*** *Jesus our Lord.*

 *-Romans 6:23 NIV*

 God’s got a gift for each of us this Christmas! His gift is to trade in sins payments for a gift we could never earn but has already been freely given. It’s a gift not of death, but life—forgiving, freeing, eternal living! And it’s all wrapped in that swaddling cloth Baby who is the **CHRIST** of **CHRIST**mas!

 Have you ever unwrapped the gift of Jesus in your life? The verse says the gift is found in making “**CHRIST** Jesus our Lord.” Is Jesus your Lord? Do you follow His lead, or do you still insist on doing life your way rather than His way?

 Some gifts forever change your life—once you’ve received it, you can’t do without it. If you’ve truly received Jesus, you won’t want your life any other way than His way. Receive the Gift by faith and follow Him as Lord this **CHRIST**mas!

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