



A Reason to Sing

CHRISTMAS 2022

lincolnberean

2022 CHRISTMAS CALENDAR

WEEKEND SERVICES

NOV. 26/27

MAIN AUDITORIUM

“A Thrill of Hope”

>> PASSAGE: LUKE 1:26-56

WEEKEND SERVICES

DEC. 3/4

MAIN AUDITORIUM

“Joy to the World”

>> PASSAGE: PSALM 98

CHOIR CONCERT

DEC. 4

6:30PM • MAIN AUD

An Evening in December

>> Enjoy a festive and worshipful evening of beautiful Christmas music presented by Lincoln Berean choirs and ensembles.

WEEKEND SERVICES

DEC. 10/11

MAIN AUDITORIUM

“A Strange Way to Save the World”

>> PASSAGE: Philippians 2:1-13

WEEKEND SERVICES

DEC. 17/18

MAIN AUDITORIUM

“Glory to the Newborn King”

>> PASSAGE: 2 Corinthians 3:1-18

CARE + SUPPORT

DEC. 18

4:00PM • CHAPEL

Blue Christmas

>> The holidays can be difficult for many reasons: grief, separation, illness, uncertainty. If you are looking for comfort and hope, please join us for a reflective time of worship, acknowledging our losses, as well as the healing and hope of Jesus' birth.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

DEC. 24/25

MAIN AUDITORIUM

Christmas Eve // 2PM^{♥*} • 4PM^{*} • 6PM^{*}

Christmas Day // 10:45AM[^]

[♥]ASL interpreter present

^{*}Childcare for nursery - age 3 provided

[^]No childcare provided

Music is everywhere this time of year—restaurants, malls, grocery stores, radio stations, Spotify playlists, church services, and more. Yet, it's all too easy to become distracted by the cultural chaos surrounding Christmas and forget about whom and what we're actually singing.

After all, they aren't just Christmas songs...they're worship songs. And if we're not careful, we'll look up at the end of December and realize we've missed another opportunity to embrace the true meaning behind the melodies.

How can we be present this Christmas, and find peaceful delight in Jesus?

Holiday vacations, trees strung with lights, piles of presents, meals with family and friends, white elephant parties, and ugly sweaters are all great, but none of them satisfy our deepest need.

Thankfully, there is an even greater gift being offered.

What if we could wake each morning this season with the eyes of our hearts fully focused on the undying hope, joy, salvation, and glory we have access to through Jesus?

That would surely give us a reason to sing!





Why Sing?

Physical/Emotional/Mental

- Increased lung capacity
- Greater oxygenation of the blood
- Improved alertness and non-verbal reasoning
- Enhanced language abilities and memory function
- Alleviation of depression, anxiety, and stress
- Feelings of bonding and inclusion
- Accessibility of emotions
- Brain and muscle development and recovery

Spiritual

- Offers praise to God
- Helps memorize and internalize scripture
- Pushes truth from our heads to our hearts
- An act of obedience
- Encourages those around us
- Sustains us through trials
- Puts God's creativity on display
- Connects us to multiple generations of believers

LINCOLN BEREAN SPOTIFY PLAYLISTS

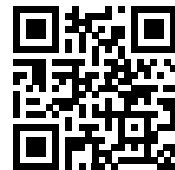
Playlist One:


Songs we will be singing during worship services throughout the Christmas season!





Playlist Two:

Lincoln Berean staff picks of their favorite Christmas music.





A Thrill of Hope



O HOLY NIGHT: The original text of O Holy Night was written in 1847 by a French poet named Placide Cappeau after he was approached by a local priest who simply wanted a song that showcased his church's new organ.

NOV.

DEC.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

Read: Luke 1:26-56

In this passage, we see that Mary was troubled and afraid when she first heard God's message from the angel. She had questions, but ultimately surrendered to God's calling on her life and responded with a song!

Do I have a reason to sing?

Look at all the different ways Mary describes God in her song. As you read this passage and are reminded of the character of God, do you feel any differently about whatever is troubling you in your own life?

Consider doing one or more of the following this week:

- Ask the Spirit to open your eyes to what God is doing around you right now, then ask what it would look like to join him in that.
- Write down "the plan" for your life moving forward in a few sentences, then ask God to help you see where your plans need to surrender to his.
- Think about the hardest circumstance you are experiencing right now, then find a quiet place to pray and sing your favorite song or hymn as an act of intentional worship in the midst of your struggle.



Look for Opportunities

Help someone close to you have a reason to sing by bringing them to *Blue Christmas* or *An Evening in December*.



Create a Memory

Take some time to enjoy Christmas music - use our Spotify lists or make one of your own with family and friends.



JOY TO THE WORLD



JOY TO THE WORLD: This song was not originally intended to be a Christmas carol when it was written in 1719. Instead, it appeared in a collection of writings on the Psalms by minister, Isaac Watts.

DEC.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Read: Psalm 98

In this passage, we are reminded that “the Lord has made known his salvation” and “revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations” through the same person we celebrate at Christmas!

Do I have a reason to sing?

Look at all the action words used by the psalmist in this passage to describe the joy he feels in knowing that his salvation comes from God. As you read this passage, are you reminded of a joy you once felt as a result of hearing the gospel and receiving God’s love?

Consider doing one or more of the following this week:

- “Make a joyful noise to the Lord” by singing or playing an instrument as an act of praise.
- Thank God for saving you, and ask his Spirit to fill you with joy and confidence about the present and future (not shame about the past).
- Take an opportunity to tell your friends or family why you have joy in your heart regardless of your circumstances.



Look for Opportunities

Give someone in your neighborhood a reason to sing by showering them with a loving act (*shoveling their driveway, babysitting their kids, bringing over a treat with a kind note, etc.*).

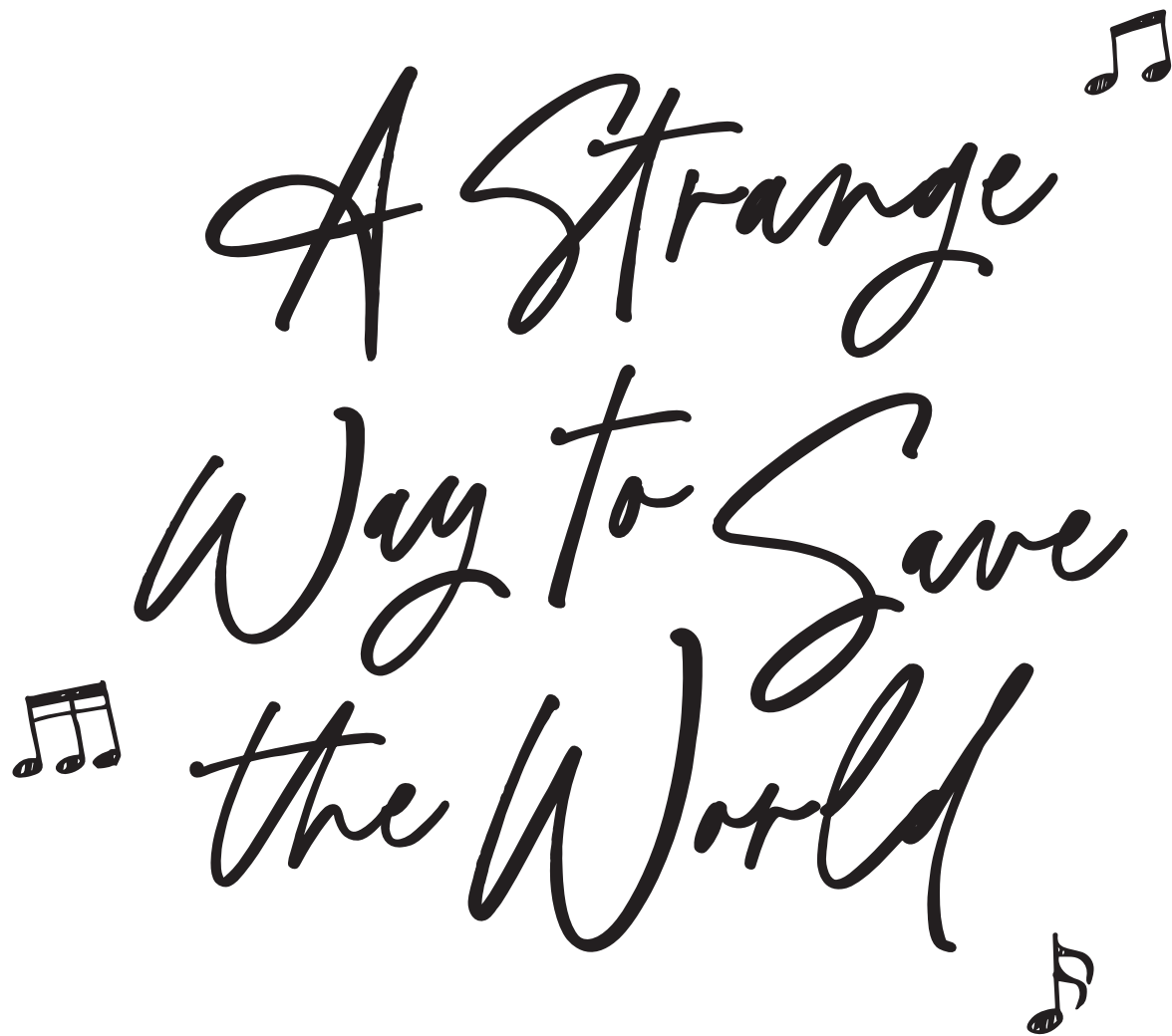


Create a Memory

Sometimes a simple craft can inspire both joy and remembrance during the holidays! Try this one with your family or friends.



(easypeasyandfun.com link)



A Strange Way to Save the World

A STRANGE WAY TO SAVE THE WORLD: The most well-known version of this song, which is told from the perspective of Mary's husband, Joseph, is by Rascal Flatts. However, it was originally recorded in the 90s by the CCM band, 4Him.

DEC.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
11	12	13	14	15	16	17

Read: Philippians 2:1-13

In this passage, we are reminded that the Jesus we celebrate at Christmas flipped all the world's expectations by going from the glories of heaven to the sufferings of a cross for us!

Do I have a reason to sing?

Look at the humility and obedience exemplified by Jesus in this passage. As you read this passage, does his example of loving sacrifice fill you with gratefulness and a desire to see others as more important than yourself?

Consider doing one or more of the following this week:

- Draft a list of things that make you angry and fearful, then next to each entry, write what it would look like to surrender that to Jesus.
- Confess an act of selfish ambition or arrogance to someone you have hurt and humbly ask for their forgiveness.
- Sit with friends or family and name your favorite Christmas songs, then listen to a few of them and make special note of the portions that reference the humility of Jesus put on display in the Christmas story.



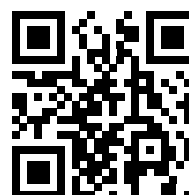
Look for Opportunities

Help others around the world have a reason to sing by sponsoring a child with our global partners Compassion or Hope Venture, or by praying for missionaries we support (contact outreach@lincolnberean.org for specifics).



Create a Memory

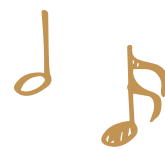
Hot chocolate...yum!
Is there anything more Christmas-y? We think not.
Enjoy this recipe!



(tasteofhome.com link)



GLORY TO THE NEWBORN KING



HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING: The original lyrics for this song were written by Charles Wesley and George Whitefield, two of the founding members of Methodism. Wesley wrote over 6,000 hymns in his life.

DEC.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
18	19	20	21	22	23	24

Read: 2 Corinthians 3:1-18

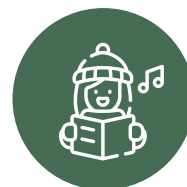
In this passage, we are reminded that the Christmas story changes everything about us as individuals, as the people of God, and even the trajectory of the universe!

Do I have a reason to sing?

Because of Jesus, the veil is lifted from our eyes and we can see the glory of the Lord. As you read this passage, are you excited about the opportunity you have, by the Spirit's power, to reflect that same glory out into the darkness?

Consider doing one or more of the following this week:

- With the places you live, work, go to school, or recreate in mind, commit to sharing the light of Jesus through your words and actions to a specific person in one of those locations on a consistent basis in the coming year.
- Thank someone who shined the bright light of Jesus into your life.
- Turn off every light in your home except the lights on the Christmas tree and sing your favorite song or hymn around it, allowing the festive light to symbolize the light the Spirit can shine through you into the world to God's glory.



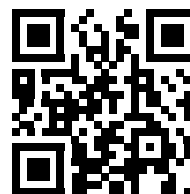
Look for Opportunities

Give someone who might be forgotten a reason to sing by caroling at a nursing home, in a prison, or to parts of your neighborhood you don't normally frequent.



Create a Memory

Cookies would probably have gone pretty well with some hot chocolate...so maybe make this week's recipe along with a second batch of last week's!



([tasteofhome.com link](https://tasteofhome.com/link))

What's my reason to sing?





COMING TOGETHER TO KNOW JESUS,
BECOME MORE LIKE HIM,
AND HELP OTHERS DO THE SAME.

WEEKEND SERVICES // SATURDAY: 7:00PM • SUNDAY: 9:00 + 10:45AM



SUN 9:00AM & 10:45AM

⇒ LINCOLNBEREAN.ORG/KIDS



(MS) SUN 9:00-10:15AM • WED 6:30PM
(HS) WED 6:30PM

⇒ LINCOLNBEREAN.ORG/YOUTH



SUN 10:00AM
THU 7:00PM (OFF CAMPUS)

⇒ LINCOLNBEREAN.ORG/COLLEGE



LIFE GROUPS //

Life Groups offer a weekly “living room” gathering to help you figure out what to do during the week with what you heard over the weekend.

Winter session sign ups open in January 2023!

- Open Enrollment: Dec 31 - Jan 18
- Session starts week-of Jan 15 // 10 weeks

⇒ LINCOLNBEREAN.ORG/LIFEGROUPS

SERMON PODCAST //



SOCIAL MEDIA //

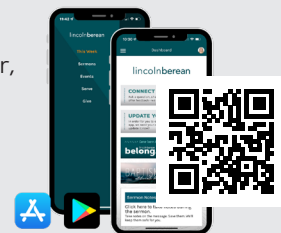


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LINCOLN BEREAN APP //

This is our go-to place for weekend announcements, event calendar, serving opportunities, keeping sermon notes, asking questions and sending comments—more helpful features to come! *(Be sure to log-in or create a profile, for a more customized experience.)*

⇒ AVAILABLE IN THE APPLE APP STORE AND GOOGLE PLAY





WE
WISH YOU
A MERRY
CHRISTMAS



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