



Sermon Notes – Steve Southards – Christmas Eve

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer
Had a very shiny nose.
And if you ever saw it
You would even say it glows.
All of the other reindeer
Used to laugh and call him names.
They never let poor Rudolph
Join in any reindeer games.

Luke 2:8-10

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.

Luke 2:10-14

"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."

If God's grace covers the misfits...it covers us too.

Mark 2:17

When Jesus heard this, he told them, "Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do. I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners."

Saint Augustine

The church is not a museum for saints, it is a hospital for sinners.

The power of Christmas turns misfits into messengers.

Luke 2:16-17, 20

They hurried to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger. After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child. 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.

Then one foggy Christmas Eve
Santa came to say,
“Rudolph, with your nose so bright
Won't you guide my sleigh tonight?”
Then how the reindeer loved him
As they shouted out with glee,
“Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer
You'll go down in history.”