

Christmas Eve, 2015 *How Are We Singing?* based on Luke 2:1-20

Angel story: Angels to sing, but only once. Now we are to do the singing(responding). Nativity is so full of wonder that we can't just 'talk' about it, we have to sing!

Deeper sense in which we sing in response to God's gift of the Christ child. It has to do with relationships – to God, to ourselves, to others.

- Old couple who become nostalgic. Man hadn't moved. God hasn't moved, we have. But, God still takes the initiative to lure us back.
- Man wrote letter admitting not paying income tax, but not all of it. We've been given a second chance, another opportunity to get 'right' with God. We need to take it!
- Custom of kissing under mistletoe. Came from Druids, curative power, which became a sign or symbol for healing between us and others. Reconciliation becomes possible because of Christ.

Wonderful way to celebrate the meaning of God sending Jesus into the world – by singing "Glory to God in the Highest, and peace and good will to all! Have a blessed and joyous Christmas!