

**TELL ME THE OLD, OLD STORY**  
(A service of Scripture and song)

**CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 2)**  
**OPENING PRAYER**

**Intro: Our fifth priority for the year focuses on worshipping God in spirit and in truth. I had planned on each fifth Sunday this year to place a special emphasis upon meaningful worship.**

**To that that we will have this morning a sermon in Scripture and song. As we hear the word of God and then sing about the Savior, let us truly worship in spirit and in truth. I have enlisted Mark's help in leading the songs as I read the Scripture and comment on the songs and their messages. I urge you to listen to the Scriptures and then hear the words of the songs as they express their messages. (Numbers on board; I have tried to display the upcoming songs in the title slides as well so you can turn there and be ready to sing as we move through our lesson.)**

**We'll introduce our theme with our first song:  
#942--"Tell Me the Old, Old Story" (v. 1,2)**

**As Christians the story of Jesus means everything to us. We love to hear the old, old story and what it means to us. It is the story of...**

**His coming to earth**

The story of Jesus begins not on earth but in heaven. Paul writes:

*Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. (Phil. 2:5-8)*

*And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)*

**#382--"Why did my savior come to earth?" (v. 1,2)**

*And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, in order to register, along with Mary, who was engaged to him, and was with child. And it came about that while they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth And she gave birth to her first-born son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. And in the same region there were some shepherds staying out in the fields, and keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened. And the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which shall be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. "And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths, and lying in a manger." And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased." (Luke 2:4-14)*

**#387--"Tell me the story of Jesus" (v. 1 & 2 and then chorus)**

The second verse reminds us of the temptations that Jesus experienced. *Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For since He Himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted. (Heb. 2:17-18)*

With the proof of his holiness through overcoming these temptations, Jesus embarked upon His mission.

**His loving service**

*The word which He sent to the sons of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ (He is Lord of all)—you yourselves know the thing which took place throughout all Judea, starting from Galilee, after the baptism which John proclaimed. You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how He went about doing good, and healing all who were oppressed by the devil; for God was with Him. (Acts 10:36-38)*

**#416--"Footprints of Jesus" (v. 1,2,3)**

How beautiful and how perfect! What an example to follow. How it ought to inspire us to be like him.

**#429--"O to be like thee" (v. 1,2)**

**His rejection, suffering and death**

And yet, though we admire the beauty of Jesus' life, he was despised and rejected by men.

*He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him.11 He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him. (John 1:10-11)*

*Who has believed our message? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of parched ground; He has no stately form or majesty that we should look upon Him, nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him. He was despised and forsaken of men, a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and like one from whom men hide their face, He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. (Isaiah 53:1-3)*

On the last night of his life, he gathered his disciples and sought to prepare them for the things that would come upon Him. He gave them a new supper to observe in remembrance of Him. And then Luke writes:

*And He came out and proceeded as was His custom to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples also followed Him. And when He arrived at the place, He said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation." And He withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and began to pray, saying, "Father, if Thou art willing, remove this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Thine be done." Now an angel from heaven appeared to Him, strengthening Him. And being in agony He was praying very fervently; and His sweat became like drops of blood, falling down upon the ground. And when He rose from prayer, He came to the disciples and found them sleeping from sorrow, and said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation." (Luke 22:39-46)*

#### **#334--Tis midnight; and on Olive's brow (v. 1,2,3,4)**

Then the mobs came and took him away. Our next song tells the story:

#### **#349--"Ten Thousand Angels" (v. 1,2,3,4 and then chorus)**

Think about what the cross means to you, how it takes away all boasting:  
*But may it never be that I should boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. (Gal. 6:14)*

#### **#315--When I survey the wondrous cross (v. 1,2)**

Think about what the cross of Jesus means to you!

#### **#361-Nailed to the cross (v. 1,2)**

### **PRESENTATION BY LARRY & LORD'S SUPPER**

#### **His resurrection & ascension**

The disciples of Jesus lovingly took His body from the cross and placed it in the tomb of Joseph as the Sabbath began to dawn.

#### **#344--"Low in the grave He lay" (v. 1,2,3 and then chorus)**

#### **His reign and return**

*To these He also presented Himself alive, after His suffering, by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days, and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God. (Acts 1:3)*

*And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. And it came about that while He was blessing them, He parted from them. (Lk. 24:50-51)*

*... He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was departing, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them; and they also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven." (Acts 1:9-11)*

He ascended to take His seat on the throne of David, ruling from heaven over his kingdom, the church. Someday He will return and deliver up the kingdom to the Father.

**#353--"One Day" (v. 4)**

The old, old story is a wonderful story! Do you believe it?

**#342--"We saw thee not" (v. 1,2,3,4)**

### **His invitation to salvation**

From heaven, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to guide the apostles into all truth and through them to give to the entire world the evidence of His resurrection through their eye-witness testimony and their performance of mighty miracles in Jesus' name. They brought to the world the good news of salvation--of the forgiveness of sins and the hope of eternal life.

*Many other signs therefore Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name. (John 20:30-31)*

What does the old, old story mean to you? Will you accept the Savior's invitation?

**#930--Jesus the Loving Shepherd**