

The joy and wonder of the Christmas
 birth are soon challenged in the flight
 to Egypt and the obscurity of Nazareth.
 God's saving acts in history seem
 to move in slow and uncertain ways
 toward fulfillment.

Call to Worship

Now bring you good news of great
 joy for all the people:
 for you is born this day in the
 City of David a Son,
 who is the Messiah, the Lord.
 Glory to God in the highest,
 and on earth peace among those
 whom he favors

Scripture: Matt 2:13 ff

19-93

Joseph was warned in a dream
 that Herod intended to kill the baby
 infant. Joseph took the child and his
 mother and fled to Egypt. When Herod
 died, another dream told Joseph to bring
 Jesus back to Israel. He went to
 Nazareth in Galilee. Mathew's story
 to Bethlehem in Judaea because
 Herod's son ruled there. Prophecy
 was fulfilled -