

Theme: Advent of the Christ Child: “Zechariah and Angels”

Text: Isaiah Luke 1:5-20

Rev. Dominic Tommy

Introduction:

1. The man Zechariah: Who was he?

Extremely popular name in the Bible; it means "the Lord remembers." (Almost 35 personalities in both OT & NT). His story is recounted in [Luke 1](#)

2. Faith and Character affirmed by God (Verse 6-7)

Note the words: Upright, obedience (observing) and Blameless in verse 6

3. The people Rejoice in Answers to Prayer

4. Ministry of Angels (verse 11-13) (study this by yourself)

- They live in God's presence, do his will, and carry out his work on earth.
- They bring God's messages to people (as here to Zechariah and Mary, [1:26](#)),
- They protect God's people ([Daniel 6:22](#)), offer encouragement ([Genesis 16:7](#)),
- They give guidance ([Exodus 14:19](#)),
- They carry out punishment ([2 Samuel 24:16](#)), patrol the earth ([Zechariah 1:9-14](#)), and fight the forces of evil ([2 Kings 6:16-18](#); [Revelation 20:1-2](#)).
- There are both good and bad angels ([Revelation 12:7](#)). Bad angels are allied with the devil and thus have considerably less power and authority than good angels. Eventually the main role of angels will be to offer continuous praise to God ([Revelation 7:11-12](#)).

Do you believe that God answer prayers? Is there God's Timing?

****Let the sense of God's presence through his angels' give you hope through Christmas.**

****Are you interested in becoming a member of Central Church, or seek to be baptized?**

Talk to the pastor, or call the office for information.

Welcome to



Central Church

Our Mission

Central United Methodist Church Glorifies God through the Work of Ministry and the Making of Disciples of Jesus Christ.

912 Fourth Ave., PO Box 485, Lake Odessa, MI 48849
www.centralchurch-lakeo.org (616) 374-8861

Rev. Dominic Tommy, Pastor
pastor@centralchurch-lakeo.org

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Celebration Service

December 10, 2017

2nd Sunday of Advent

GATHERING

Large print hymnals and bulletins are available. Please ask an usher.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please sign, pass, and return red friendship pads in each pew at this time.
Also prepare Prayer Request Sheets during this time.*

INTROIT "Emmanuel, Emmanuel" Chancel Choir
Bob McGee

*CALL TO WORSHIP

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his Word, I hope.

My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning.

There is no darkness with you, O Lord. O Israel, hope in the Lord!

For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is plenteous redemption.

We are the people of light, for in Christ there is no darkness with you, O Lord.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit—in our Father's presence, there is no darkness with you!

*OPENING HYMN: "Joy to the World" vs 1-4 Hymnal 246
Ushers will collect Prayer Request Sheets
(Please be seated)

Lighting of the Advent Candle Angie & Tabitha Landon

Response: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing vs 1-3 Hymnal 240

INVOCATION (in unison)

O Immanuel, O Wisdom from on high, O Lord of might, O Branch of Jesse's stem, O Key of David, O Bright and Morning Star, O King of nations,

We rejoice and are glad on that bright Christmas morning, for truly you have come, full of grace and truth. Even now, come into our hearts again.

Show us the path of knowledge. Comfort us in our mourning.

Save us from our sin. Open wide our way to heaven. Turn our darkness into light. End our sad divisions and be our King of peace, so that every

creature in heaven and on earth will join in a chorus of praise, and shout with joy to you, our Lord. Amen.

ANTHEM "Fanfare of the Angels" Chancel Choir
John Purifoy

SHARING PEACE

The Peace of our Lord Jesus be with You!

And Also with You!

(Please take this time to greet one another in the Name of Christ by saying, "Peace be with you" and your neighbor says "And also with you")

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Children age 4 & under are welcome to leave for the Nursery downstairs right after the *Children's Moment*.

INVITATION FOR OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" Hymnal 95

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF GIFTS

God of wonder, we offer you these humble gifts, signs of your goodness and mercy. Receive them with our gratitude that through us all people may know the riches of your love in the Word-made-flesh. Amen.

PRAYER CONCERNS, PRAISES, PASTORAL PRAYER, THE LORD'S PRAYER

Please Stand for the Reading of God's Word.

*SCRIPTURE: Luke 1:5-24; 57-58 Pew Bible, NT pg 52-54

SERMON: "ADVENT OF THE CHRIST CHILD" Rev. Dominic Tommy
"Waiting and Hoping"—Zechariah

*CLOSING HYMN "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" vs 1-3 Hymnal 251

*BENEDICTION Choral Response "Jesus, Name above All Names" TFWS 2071

**Jesus, name above all names
Beautiful Savior, glorious Lord.
Emmanuel, God is with us.
Blessed Redeemer, Living word.**

POSTLUDE

**Please stand in body or in spirit*

We would like to have **nursery care** available for families with young children for the Christmas Eve service. If this is something that you would be willing to help with, please contact Penny Thelen (616-374-8255) or the church office.

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New **Advent Devotionals** from the Samaritans Purse are available on ushers' tables and in Fellowship Hall. December newsletters and prayer calendars can also be found.

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Year-End Notes from the Finance Office:

(Please see Dawn Deardorff or the Church Office if you have any questions.)

- Pledges for 2018 are still being received. Additional pledge cards are available on ushers' tables.
- If you are not currently using weekly offering envelopes but would like to do so, please contact Dawn Deardorff or the Church Office in the near future.
- 2018 envelopes will be made available at the end of the month.
- If you are interested in signing up for On-line giving through our website, or setting up an automatic reoccurring payment through your bank, you can also check with us for more information or if you have questions.
- Financial contributions for credit in 2017 must be made no later than December 31.

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Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 17, during worship

Parents are reminded to bring their children to Sunday School at 9:30 on Sundays for children to practice their parts, if they would like to be in the Christmas program.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 24th, 7:00 pm

Invite your family and friends to this beautiful service of story and song.

MINISTER: Every Member of This Church
PASTOR: Rev. Dominic Tommy
SECRETARY: Kim Stoepker
ORGANIST: Marilyn Noffke
CHOIR DIRECTOR: Jackie Spagnuolo
CUSTODIANS: Mike McCartney / Rolando Varela

Worship Assistant: Shelly Reiser

Audio/Visual

Today: Chuck Rayner / Kay Barcroft
Next Sunday: Same

Coffee Fellowship

Today: Elaine Garlock / Dan & Margie First
Next Sunday: Sunday School Classes

Greeters

Today: Brenda Steele / Jean Cook / Karen Avery
Next Sunday: Dale Mossburg / Jean Cook / Karen Avery

Nursery

Today: Jane Kostanko / Jean Cook
Next Sunday: Shelly Reiser / Brenda Steele

Ushers

Today: Tony Barcroft / Dave Faulkner
Next Sunday: Same

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Altar flowers this morning are presented by
John & Andrea Gentner
in celebration of their 48th anniversary.

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NEXT WEEK'S SERVICE FORECAST

Christmas Sunday school Program.

Christian Education Team has worked so hard with children and adults to bring you a special Christmas service. Please Come and Worship with us!

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER CONCERNS

Toni Robinson Unspokens	Peg Faulkner	Madalyn Hoffman
<u>Continued in Prayer</u>		
Sgt. Branden Curtis Sr. Airman Lloyd C. Corston PFC Steven Wakley, Jr 1SG Nicholas Ludema PFC Jason Hilley Sgt. Nathan Sparrow Brian Rayner Kim Seese	Karl Klynstra Toni Robinson Dale Patterson Phylis Armstrong Pam Coleman Terena Galaviz Travis Tucker and family Patti Coorman	Gary Smith Ed Hilliker Hank Minenna Susan Steele Sharon Brink Ross McDowell Judi Brandon Armrose LaBine

Our Special Friends

Leah Abbott Lois Goodemoot Ed Reiser	Margot Bailey Joanne McDaniels Helen Miller	Ada Dennie Phil Shetterly Toni Robinson
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Our Partners In Ministry

Our Missionary, Paul Webster, Zambia, Africa
Charlotte Lawrence Avenue United Methodist Church, Charlotte
Woodland United Methodist, Woodland

CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

12/10 Case Zona
12/10 Cole Zona
12/12 Leah Abbott

Anniversaries

12/11 Dan & Margie First – 35 years
12/13 John & Andrea Gentner – 48 years
12/15 Jan & Jane Everett – 26 years
12/16 Ron & Eva Atwell – 35 years

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**Our next Blood Drive is:
Monday, December 18, 2017
12:00 to 5:45 pm**

EVENTS

Mon 12/11	Finance Committee – Front Room AA Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom	6 pm 7 pm
Wed 12/13	Friendship Group – Fellowship Hall Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary	9 am 7 pm
Thu 12/14	Respite Care – Lounge Souper Thursday Community Dinner– Fellowship Hall	1:30 pm 4:30-6 pm
Fri 12/15	<i>Office closed – For an emergency, Pastor can be reached at 269-941-3787</i>	
Sun 12/17	Sunday School – Classrooms Worship Service – <i>Children's Christmas Program</i>	9:30 am 10:30 am
Mon 12/18	Missions Committee – Front Room Blood Drive – Fellowship Hall A.A. Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom	9 am 12 to 5:45 pm 7 pm
Wed 12/20	<i>Office closed – For an emergency, Pastor can be reached at 269-941-3787</i> Choir Rehearsal– Sanctuary	
Thu 12/21	<i>Office closed – For an emergency, Pastor can be reached at 269-941-3787</i> Respite Care – Lounge Souper Thursday Community Dinner– Fellowship Hall	
Fri 12/22	<i>Office closed – For an emergency, Pastor can be reached at 269-941-3787</i>	
Sun 12/24	<i>No Sunday School</i> Worship Service – Sanctuary Christmas Eve Service – Sanctuary	10:30 am 7 pm
Mon 12/25	Christmas Day (<i>church office closed</i>) AA Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom	7 pm

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*****Wednesday 12/20 thru Friday 12/22 – Church Office will be closed*****

*****Monday 12/25 thru Friday 12/29 – Church Office will be closed*****

*****Sunday 12/31 thru Saturday 1/6 – Pastor Dominic will be on vacation*****

*******Sunday School Announcement*******

There will be no Sunday School on December 24 or 31.
We will resume classes on January 7, 2018.

**In case of a pastoral emergency, please call
Pastor Dominic at the parsonage (374-8294) or on his cell
(269-941-3787) or the Church Office during office hours.**