

ADVENT

{3rd Week -- December 16, 2012 A.D.}

Themes: {Pink/Rose – *Announcement, Incarnation, Life Eternal (Greening), Joy*}

{Luke 1:26-38, Luke 1:46-55, Matthew 1:18-25, Matthew 2:1-12 & Luke 2:4-20}

Luke 1:26-38 (NASB)

²⁶ Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the descendants of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And coming in, he said to her, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord *is* with you." ²⁹ But she was very perplexed at *this* statement, and kept pondering what kind of salutation this was. ³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; for you have found favor with God.

³¹ "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus. ³² "He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; ³³ and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end." ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵ The angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God. ³⁶ "And behold, even your relative Elizabeth has also conceived a son in her old age; and she who was called barren is now in her sixth month. ³⁷ "For nothing will be impossible with God."

³⁸ And Mary said, "Behold, the bondservant of the Lord; may it be done to me according to your word." ¹ And the angel departed from her.

Luke 1:46-55 (NASB)

⁴⁶ And Mary said: "My soul exalts the Lord, ⁴⁷ And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. ⁴⁸ "For He has had regard for the humble state of His bondservant; For behold, from this time on all generations will count me blessed. ⁴⁹ "For the Mighty One has done great things for me; And holy is His name.

⁵⁰ "AND HIS MERCY IS UPON GENERATION AFTER GENERATION TOWARD THOSE WHO FEAR HIM. ⁵¹ "He has done mighty deeds with His arm; He has scattered *those who were proud in the thoughts of their heart*. ⁵² "He has brought down rulers from *their* thrones, And has exalted those who were humble. ⁵³ "HE HAS FILLED THE HUNGRY WITH GOOD THINGS; And sent away the rich empty-handed. ⁵⁴ "He has given help to Israel His servant, In remembrance of His mercy, ⁵⁵ As He spoke to our fathers, To Abraham and his descendants forever."

- **God acts mightily in Redemptive History – without our counsel, permission or approval** {Luke 1 verses 31-33 and 35}.
- **We are greatly affected – reflect deeply upon the implications of the cost of glorifying Christ in your life** {Luke 1 verse 27}:
- **Our correct response:**
 - Joy
 - Worship
 - Opening of Treasures
 - Obedience

¹ **Deuteronomy 22:23-24** (NASB)

²³ "If there is a girl who is a virgin engaged to a man, and *another* man finds her in the city and lies with her, ²⁴ then you shall bring them both out to the gate of that city and you shall stone them to death; the girl, because she did not cry out in the city, and the man, because he has violated his neighbor's wife. Thus you shall purge the evil from among you.

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- Thankfulness
- Humility