

# ADVENT

{3<sup>rd</sup> Week – Sunday December 17, 2017 A.D.}

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

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

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## **Isaiah 7:14**

<sup>14</sup> "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel.

## **Isaiah 9:6-7**

<sup>6</sup> For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup> There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, On the throne of David and over his kingdom, To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness From then on and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will accomplish this.

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## **Luke 1:26-38**

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

<sup>31</sup> "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> "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; <sup>33</sup> and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end."

<sup>34</sup> Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"

<sup>35</sup> 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. <sup>36</sup> "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. <sup>37</sup> "For nothing will be impossible with God."

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

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<sup>a</sup> Deuteronomy 22:23-24 (NASB)

<sup>23</sup> "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, <sup>24</sup> 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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**Luke 1:46-55**

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

<sup>50</sup> "AND HIS MERCY IS UPON GENERATION AFTER GENERATION TOWARD THOSE WHO FEAR HIM.

<sup>51</sup> "He has done mighty deeds with His arm; He has scattered those who were proud in the thoughts of their heart. <sup>52</sup> "He has brought down rulers from their thrones, And has exalted those who were humble. <sup>53</sup> "HE HAS FILLED THE HUNGRY WITH GOOD THINGS; And sent away the rich empty-handed. <sup>54</sup> "He has given help to Israel His servant, In remembrance of His mercy, <sup>55</sup> As He spoke to our fathers, To Abraham and his descendants forever."

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**HEIDELBERG CATECHISM**

(1563)

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**Q. 84. How is the kingdom of heaven opened and shut by the Preaching of the Holy Gospel?**

**A.** In this way: that according to the command of Christ, it is proclaimed and openly witnessed to believers, one and all, that as often as they accept with true faith the promise of the Gospel, all their sins are really forgiven them of God for the sake of Christ's merits; and

on the contrary, to all unbelievers and hypocrites, that the wrath of God and eternal condemnation abide on them, so long as they are not converted; according to which witness of the Gospel, will be the judgment of God both in this life and in that which is to come.

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ALL SCRIPTURE REFERENCES ARE NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE, 1995 UPDATE, UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.

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