

# Christmas IS... HOPE



Gospel Lesson— Luke 1: 3-24

ONLINE WORSHIP GUIDE - November 29, 2020

Today's Gospel is from the First Chapter of Luke.

### Hear these words:

In the days of the ruler Herod, there was a priest named Zechariah. His wife Elizabeth was a descendant of Aaron. They were childless and both were advanced in years.

Now it was the turn of Zechariah's priestly class to serve. And as he was fulfilling his priestly office before God, an angel appeared to him, standing to the right of the altar of incense. Zechariah was deeply disturbed, and was overcome with fear.

The angel said to him, "Don't be frightened, Zechariah. Your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear a son whom you will name John. He will be your joy and delight and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of our God. He will go before God as a forerunner, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the rebellious to the wisdom of the just—to make ready a people prepared for our God."

Zechariah said to the angel, "How can I be sure of this? I am an old man, and my wife too is advanced in age."

The angel replied, "I am Gabriel, who stands before God. I was sent to speak to you and bring you this good news. But because you have not trusted my words, you will be mute until the day these things take place. They will all come true in due season."

Some time later, Elizabeth conceived. She went into seclusion for five months, saying, "Our God has done this for me. In these days, God has shown favor to us and taken away the disgrace of having no children."

**This is the Gospel of Hope. Praise to you, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

### CONGREGATIONAL CARE

If you find yourself experiencing illness, hospitalization, grief, or other critical challenges, the Congregational Care Ministry (CCM) at Cathedral of Hope will connect you with the appropriate resources that best correspond to your needs.

The CCM can be reached by  
Phone (214) 351-1901 Ext. 124  
Email at [CCMCOH@gmail.com](mailto:CCMCOH@gmail.com)

*Our Modern Lesson is from our Advent Study book, **Low: An Honest Advent Devotional**, by John Pavlovitz.*

### Hear these words:

Hospital delivery rooms are places where smiles often come easily. They are, after all, spaces built specifically for welcome, and the expectancy when you're standing there is palpable. In delivery rooms hope is almost an involuntary response. Though on many days we may struggle with the news in front of us, a baby is a tangible reminder that something new is always unfolding, even in the midst of repetitive pain and injustice. The Christmas narrative is that of Hope arriving. The occasion is one pregnant with possibility.

**May God bless the hearing of these new words.  
Amen.**

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11/15/20	\$39,166	\$48,000	(\$8,834)
11/22/20	\$24,332	\$34,500	(\$10,168)
<b>YTD 2020</b>	<b>\$1,738,970</b>	<b>\$1,902,500</b>	<b>(\$163,530)</b>

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