

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

{Priest} Zechariahs & Elizabeth {Doubt}

Luk 1:7 But they had no child, because **Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years.**

Luk 1:11 **And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense.**

Luk 1:12 **And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him.**

Luk 1:13 **But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John.**

Luk 1:14 **And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth,**

to make ready for the Lord a people prepared."

Luk 1:18 **And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years."**

Nothing is Impossible

Mat 19:26 But Jesus looked at them and said, **"With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."**

Mary's {Willingness}

Luk 1:26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth,

Luk 1:27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary.

Luk 1:28 And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!"

Luk 1:29 But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be.

Luk 1:30 And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

Luk 1:31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.

Luk 1:32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David,

Luk 1:33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Luk 1:34 And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

Luk 1:35 And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.

Luk 1:36 And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren.

Luk 1:37 For nothing will be impossible with God."

Luk 1:38 And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Joseph's {Obedience}

Mat 1:18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.

Mat 1:19 And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.

Mat 1:20 **But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.**

Mat 1:21 **She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."**

Mat 1:22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

Mat 1:23 "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).

Mat 1:24 **When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife,**

Mat 1:25 **but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.**

Shepherd's {Joy}

Luk 2:8 And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

Luk 2:9 **And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.**

Luk 2:10 **And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.**

Luk 2:11 **For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.**

Luk 2:12 **And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."**

Luk 2:13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

Luk 2:14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

Luk 2:15 When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."

Luk 2:16 And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

Luk 2:17 And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child.

Luk 2:18 And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.

Luk 2:19 But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.

Luk 2:20 **And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.**

The Message For Us

Joh 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Joh 3:17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

**The Story of this Baby is the story of
Love and Hope and Redemption!**

Maybe we could respond like Joseph Mohr did in **1818**
when he wrote these words

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light;
Radiant beams from thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.