

Makarios Darawi, Pastor
Mrs. Susan Harrison, Choir Director and Organist

11:00 A.M.

December 12, 2010

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

We welcome all who are worshipping with us, especially guests and newcomers. We invite you to take part in worship, to engage in the activities of the church and make this your home church.

PRELUDE
CALL TO WORSHIP

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN – #165 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (1,2,3)

HYMN – #32 “O Little Town Of Bethlehem”

READING AND LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE -
George and Carole Basmadjian

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*HYMN – # 171 “The First Noel, The Angels Did Say” (1,2,3)

ENGLISH MESSAGE: Matthew 22:41-46 (p. 1536)
“The Christ of Christmas”

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY
OFFERING – Offertory Anthem

ARMENIAN MESSAGE: Luke 1:26-55 (pp. 1588-89)
“Mary, The Mother of Jesus”

REMINDERS

*HAYR MER – #133

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: “Park Khez Dher, Asdvadz Mher”

POSTLUDE

***Congregation is requested to stand**
*** Latecomers be seated

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE COFFEE HOUR this morning is sponsored by Ms. Ovsanna DerVartanian in memory of her father Bedros, and sister Never DerVartanian.

ACC WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP The December meeting will be held *today* following the fellowship hour. All ladies are welcome to join us.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES December meeting will be held on Thursday, December 16 at 7:30 pm.

CHRISTMAS JOY FOR ARMENIA. It is not too late to bring Christmas joy to the children of Armenia and Karabagh through AMAA Armenia Summer Camp Christmas Committee. Pick-up a form from the hallway and make checks payable to the ACC.

THE DECEMBER ISSUE OF THE A.C.C. BULLETIN will be a Christmas issue. Once again, as in the past, we offer you the opportunity to **send your Christmas** greetings to all the church members and friends by making a contribution to our missions fund. Please submit your names *today*.

SUNDAY SCHOOL. Please join the Sunday School on next Sunday December 19 for this year’s Christmas Program. The program begins after the church service, with a luncheon to follow. All are welcome. Parents the rehearsal for the Christmas Program is on *Saturday, December 18 at 11:00 p.m.* with complimentary Pizza luncheon.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS. We are taking orders for flowers to adorn our chancel on Christmas Sunday. The poinsettia price is \$15.00. Please submit your name to the church office no later than Wednesday, December 15.

ACC YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY

We invite all the ACC youth (13-17 years) for a Christmas party in the Christian Education room on Friday, December 17th at 7:00 p.m. The evening includes dinner, singing Christmas carols, games, gift exchange and reviewing the biblical Christmas Story.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR please gather in the sanctuary after the worship service to rehearse the music for December 19, Christmas Sunday, and for Christmas Eve at 7:00 p.m. On December 19 and on Christmas Eve (arrive early to rehearse), please gather at the altar to sing at the beginning of the service.

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY.

Please pray for Mr. Bob Arabian, and Rev. Barkev Darakjian.

Synopsis of the Armenian Message

Last week's lesson came from Zechariah and Elizabeth. It was the lesson of two ordinary people who learned to handle their problems together. This week's lesson comes from the scripture that is surrounded by the story of Zechariah and Elizabeth. The lesson in this passage is simple. Those people wise enough to make a complete commitment to God and keep it enjoy experiences about which the rest of the world can only dream. The key to everything in this passage is found in verse 38, "I am the Lord's servant. May it be to me as you have said." The lesson we learn from Mary is that pure, unlimited joy is the result of a complete commitment to God's plan. God honors those who keep His commandments. We will not always understand what God is doing or how He will do it. Mary was confused, disturbed, even frightened (vv. 29-34). At times we will experience these same emotions. Nothing is impossible with God. What was announced to Mary was impossible under normal, human circumstances. When Mary accepted God's will, it became His responsibility and brought divine ability into the situation. What God asked of Mary was so unusual He decided to help her faith (vv. 36-37). In order to experience the joy of God's richest blessings, our response must be an unqualified yes! Mary experienced the confirmation of God's plan (vv.39-45). God understands the human side of His creation. He would not leave that dedicated vessel of His to become confused and defeated. Unparalleled joy always follows the fulfillment of God's will. In verses 46-55 Mary expresses that joy.

For two consecutive weeks we have been confronted with a subtle but powerful truth. That truth is that lives of complete commitment to God are honored and blessed by Him. God's gift to you is the ability to be a part of the divine plan and to therefore experience the joy of knowing He is using you. Learn the lesson and the joy of a fully committed life.