



Loving God, Serving Others, Transforming Lives.

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PRELUDE 前奏

We invite you to quietly prepare yourself for worship.

WELCOME & PRAYER 歓迎と祈祷

Rev. Motoe Yamada Foor

THRESHOLD MOMENT

“There Are Angels Among Us”

There are angels among us that may not meet the eye

There are messages of [hope] coming from a choir on high

But don't just look up; for the way God works is to plant more [hope] right here on earth just like it was with Jesus birth.

There are angels among us, there are angels among us, there are angels among us, bringing [hope] on earth.

One: Holy Living God, Blessed Jesus, Guiding Spirit,

All: alight within us your flame of hope this day.

One: Grant us openness to hear your message.

All: Grant us courage to be your messengers in the world, creating [more hope] in the midst of fear.

One: And with the angel messengers above us, among us and within us, we sing...

***OPENING HYMN 讚美歌**

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

UM Hymnal #196

*1. Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.*

*Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.*

*2. Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King, born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.*

*By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all
sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.*

CANDLE LIGHTING ろうそく点灯

Nakamura Family

You are invited to light your Advent 1 candle of Hope (purple) at this time

HYMN

Advent Song (v. 1)

Faith We Sing #2090

OFFERING 献金

1. use the contribution box as you leave.
2. give an online donation www.sacjumc.com/give
3. send a check to the church at our address above.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 1: 5-25, 57-80

In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years. Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people

prepared for the Lord.” Zechariah said to the angel, “How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years.” The angel replied, “I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur. “Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. When his time of service was ended, he went to his home. After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, “This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people.” Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. But his mother said, “No; he is to be called John.” They said to her, “None of your relatives has this name.” Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. He asked for a writing tablet and wrote, “His name is John.” And all of them were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. Fear came over all their neighbors, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. All who heard them pondered them and said, “What then will this child become?” For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him. Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy: “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them. He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us. Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins. By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.” The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

- ANTHEM** “Come, Child of Light” Chancel Choir with guests from RiverBells
- MESSAGE 説教** “Make Ready a People: #morehope” Rev. Motoe Yamada Foor
- HYMN** “Angels Among Us” (refrain only) See screen
*I believe there are angels among us, Sent down to us from somewhere up above.
 They come to you and me in our toughest hours
 To show us how to live, to teach us how to give, To guide us with a light of love.*

SILENT PRAYER & PASTORAL PRAYER 牧会祈祷
[To Submit your prayer, please click here.](#)

THE LORD’S PRAYER 主の祈り

HYMN I Believe
 We believe there are angels among us. Called within us, not just from up above. You give us peace enough in these times of trial. You show us how to live, You teach us how to give. You call us to be light and love

***CLOSING HYMN 讚美歌** “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing” *UM Hymnal #240*
 1. Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King; peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
 Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies; with th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

***BENEDICTION HYMN 頌栄**

Do not be afraid. Do not be afraid. Do not be afraid. Do not be afraid.

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