

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

11:00 A.M.

December 5, 2010

SECOND 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 – #167 “Angels We Have Heard On High”

SONG – #19 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” (vv. 1,2, Songbook)

READING AND LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

*SONG – #35 “Mighty To Save” (Songbook)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

ENGLISH MESSAGE: Matthew 22:34-40 (pp.1535-36)

“The Greatest Commandment”

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

OFFERING – Offertory Anthem

ARMENIAN MESSAGE: Luke 1:5-25, 57-66 (pp. 1587-89)

“John The Baptist”

REMINDERS

*HAYR MER – #133

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: “*Park K'lez D'øer, Asdvadz M'øer*”

POSTLUDE

***Congregation is requested to stand**

*** Latecomers may be seated

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ALTAR FLOWERS this morning are given in loving memory of Dr. George Kadian, who is gone but never forgotten, by his wife and family.

THE BOARD OF DEACONS November meeting will be held today following the fellowship hour.

THANK YOU to Mrs. Ann Bayleran and Mrs. Joyce Gant for donating their valuable time to decorate the church, lobby and the fellowship hall beautifully for the holidays.

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 by **December 10** to Suzan at the office or Pastor Mak.

SUNDAY SCHOOL. Please join the Sunday School on December 19 for this year’s Christmas Program. The program begins after the church service, with a luncheon to follow. All are welcome.

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 rehearsal is every Sunday right after worship, in the sanctuary. All children are encouraged to participate in this wonderful opportunity and ministry for our church. They are scheduled to sing Christmas Sunday, the Sunday before Christmas, December 19 -- and also for the Christmas Eve worship on December 24 at 7:00 p.m.

COMMUNITY GROUPS. This Wednesday, December 8th at 7:30 pm.

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY.

Please pray for Mr. Bob Arabian.

Synopsis of the Armenian Message

There are a number of great lessons to be learned from the Christmas story. As we look at some, we will be able to share the same joy that those involved in the first Christmas experienced. No other time of the year directs our attention to so many ordinary people who were wonderfully blessed because they simply listened to God and followed His directions.

The story of John the Baptist and his parents is a good place to begin learning. Zechariah and Elizabeth are two normal people. They had a serious problem. They were childless. Barrenness was considered a curse in that day. Whose fault was it that they had no children? Someone needed to take the blame, or was that the case? People who wish to know the joy of God's presence are not focused on fixing blame. They had another problem that was not so serious. But it, too, could create a strained relationship. Zechariah's job required him to be gone for lengthy periods during his term in the Temple. Despite all these problems Zechariah and Elizabeth remained faithful in their commitment to God and each other.

There are many blessings that come from being faithful. God blesses those who keep the faith with Him and with each other. Their problem of barrenness was solved (1:11-14). God knew their desires and their problem and promised to give them a son. God wants us to have an unshakable faith so that He can help us. God kept His promise (1:23-24, 57) and gave them a son. Zechariah and Elizabeth had learned their lesson. The angel said, "Call him John" (v.13). They were obedient to God and they were blessed as a result (vv. 59-66). What kind of child was John? One like Elijah (John 1:21). One who introduced the Messiah (v.29). One who understood his role in life (3:27-30). One who earned the respect of kings (Matthew 14:1-12).

Friends, to know the joy of living and to experience the peace that Jesus came to give, remain faithful to God despite your circumstances. God will always be faithful and will keep His promises. John came to pave the way for God's promised Savior.