



The United Methodist Church of Libertyville

December 15, 2013
8:15, 9:30 & 11:00 AM



Today's Scripture Passage

In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron. Both of them were righteous in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commands and decrees blamelessly. But they were childless because Elizabeth was not able to conceive, and they were both very old. Once when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense. And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshipers were praying outside. Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. But the angel said to him: "Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John. He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born. He will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." Zechariah asked the angel, "How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is well along in years." The angel said to him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news. And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words, which will come true at their appointed time." When his time of service was completed, he returned home. After this his wife Elizabeth became pregnant and for five months remained in seclusion. "The Lord has done this for me," she said. "In these days he has shown his favor and taken away my disgrace among the people." —Luke 1:5-20, 23-25

A STEPHEN MINISTRY CONGREGATION

PASTORS

Jamie Hanna Williams • Stephen C. Williams

First Light Service ~ 8:15 AM



Gathering Music "Catalonian Carol" R. Kauffmann
Heritage Bells

Welcome & Greeting (Please pass the attendance pads at this time.)
We welcome you to our service today and invite you to greet each other with words of grace and peace. May God's blessing be upon us all as we worship together in spirit and truth.

* **Opening Hymn** "Angels from the Realms of Glory" No. 220

* Call to Worship

Leader In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

People **He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made. In him was life and that life was the light of all people.**

Leader The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.

People **The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son of God, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

Leader Out of his fullness we have all received grace upon grace.

People **May God's grace and favor fill our hearts as we prepare for Christ in Advent. Come, Lord Jesus! Make God the Father known to us through your Spirit as we sing and praise you.**

* **Musical Prayer** "Breathe on Me, Breath of God" No. 420, verse 1
Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Introduction

Scripture Reading Isaiah 12:2-6

Advent Reading

Lighting the Candle of Joy

Advent Song "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

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Quiet Reflection and Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading Luke 1:5-20, 23-25

Sermon "Zechariah's Song" Rev. Dr. Stephen C. Williams

Offering / Offertory "Mary, Did You Know" A. Page

* Doxology "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" No. 94

* Prayer of Dedication

Celebration of Holy Communion UM Hymnal, page 13
Gluten free wafers are available in the center tray.

* **Closing Hymn** "Hail to the Lord's Anointed" No. 203

* Pastoral Benediction

Postlude

Traditional Service ~ 9:30 AM



Greetings & Announcements (Please pass the attendance pads at this time.)
We welcome you to our service today and invite you to greet each other with words of grace and peace. May God's blessing be upon us all as we worship together in spirit and truth.

Prelude "Catalonian Carol" R. Kauffmann
Heritage Bells

* Call to Worship

Leader In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

People **He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made. In him was life and that life was the light of all people.**

Leader The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.

People **The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son of God, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

Leader Out of his fullness we have all received grace upon grace.

People **May God's grace and favor fill our hearts as we prepare for Christ in Advent. Come, Lord Jesus! Make God the Father known to us through your Spirit as we sing and praise you.**

* **Opening Hymn** "O Come, All Ye Faithful" No. 234, verses 1, 3, 4
(Introduction, verses 1 & 3, interlude, verse 4)

Prayer of Confession

God of the loving heart, we confess before you those places in our hearts where we have refused you entrance: people we have refused to love; habits we never get around to changing; good things we have left undone; and ways in which we hurt you, ourselves, and others. Come to us in the light of Christ. Shine on those places we have hidden from you. Sweep clean the rooms of our hearts, that Christ may find a home among us. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Sharer-Grombacher Family ~ Amy, Melissa & Mitch

Introduction

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 12:2-6

Advent Reading

Lighting the Candle of Joy

Advent Song "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.

Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

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* Those who are able are invited to stand.

** Please consider completing a "Joys and Concerns" card and placing it in the box at the back of the sanctuary. The Pastors and Prayer Team will use the cards to guide weekly prayer. Thank you!

Children's Message		Rev. Dr. Jamie Hanna Williams
First Scripture Reading	Isaiah 35:1-10	Sue Hamilton
Anthem	"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" Adult Choir	P. Bouman
Sharing Our Joys and Concerns**		
Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer		
* Hymn	"Angels from the Realms of Glory"	No. 220
Scripture Reading		Luke 1:5-20, 23-25
Sermon	"Zechariah's Song"	Rev. Dr. Stephen C. Williams
Offering / Offertory	"Mary, Did You Know"	A. Page
* Doxology	"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"	No. 94
* Prayer of Dedication		
* Closing Hymn	"In the Bleak Midwinter"	No. 221
* Benediction		
Postlude	"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"	J. Schaffner



A WARM WELCOME TO ALL!

We are delighted to have all of you sharing with us in worship! If you are visiting for the first time, please stop by the Welcome Table in the foyer to pick up a Visitor Packet and meet our Welcoming Ministries Coordinator, Joyce Bedell (joycebedell@sbcglobal.net), for more information about our church family. All are invited to join us in the Fellowship Hall for coffee, refreshments, and community sharing from 9:00-11:00 AM. We look forward to seeing you there!

*Many thanks to the following people for helping
with our services this morning:*

Sound Tech: Bert Kibbler **Acolyte:** (9:30) Chris Randall
December Ushers: (8:15) Pat Conn, Larry Pfederer
(9:30) Jay Hazlett, Charles Hetzel, Larry Leon, Jesse Michmerhuizen,
Steve Neil, John Oberrieder, Tom Plohr, Ted Zeng
Special Coffee Fellowship: (9:00—11:00) Please join us for coffee
and refreshments served in Fellowship Hall in honor of **James and Mary Hill**
and their many years of wonderful service and ministry in this community.

Contemporary Service ~ 11:00 AM



Countdown

Welcome & Announcements

We welcome you to our service today and invite you to greet each other with words of grace and peace. May God's blessing be upon us all as we worship together in spirit and truth.

* **Song** "Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)" Tomlin

* **Song** "Angels We Have Heard on High" Barnes

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Taranowski Family ~ Bill, Diane, Claire, Laurie & David

Introduction

Scripture Reading Isaiah 12:2-6

Advent Reading

Lighting the Candle of Joy

Advent Song "Emmanuel" Morgan

Children's Message Rev. Dr. Jamie Hanna Williams

Scripture Isaiah 35:1-10

Pastoral Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

Scripture Luke 1:5-20, 23-25

Sermon "Zechariah's Song" Rev. Dr. Stephen C. Williams

* **Closing Song** "Joyful, Joyful" Van Dyke

* **Benediction**



Service Notes

The Offering we give is both an act of thanks and faith – a way to offer back to God some of the blessings we have received and a response of trust that God will take care of us as we rely upon him. You are invited to place your gifts in the Offering Plate on the back table as you leave.

Please fill in the registration sheet that is passed around so you will be kept informed about what's happening at the church. Remember to include your email address.

We welcome you to Holy Communion to experience the grace and love of God. We celebrate Communion on the first Sunday of the month. All who are seeking the grace of God through the presence of Jesus Christ are welcome to the table.

Worship Team: Julie Bakus, Woody Bedell, Jeff Brown, Jeff Davis,
Jeanette Frisbey, Tim Tonon, Jamie Twedell

Multimedia Coordinators: Mark & Janet Mason

Refreshments: Emma and Jeanette Frisbey

UMCL News & Notes ~ December 15, 2013

SEASONAL EVENTS

Second Annual Live Nativity ~ 6:00 PM Tonight

Join us tonight in Cook Memorial Park for a Live Nativity present by our children and youth at 6:00 PM. Cocoa and cookies will be served at the church following the performance. Don't miss this opportunity to experience the Christmas Story!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

Celebrate the birth of Christ by coming to worship on Christmas Eve!

- * 4:00 PM ~ Family Service
- * 7:00 PM ~ Traditional Service
- * 10:00 PM ~ Traditional Service with Communion

Nursery Care available for 4:00 & 7:00 PM Services.

MANY THANKS to the Congregation for your support in regard to the loss of my father. Your thoughts and prayers, along with the \$200 gift in memory of my Dad to Harmony, Hope and Healing, a Chicago ministry of music and song to those who live on the margins, is very much appreciated. If you would like to see the video presentation celebrating my Dad which was created for the service, you can view it on youtube at Robert W. Hanna Memorial. — Thanks again, Pastor Jamie

THANK YOU for "Lifting Up Christ and Ministering to All Through Our Gifts to Help Others!" Donations to our three recent special offerings came close to \$10,000 and will be given as follows: \$4,617 to the Northern Illinois Food Bank; \$3,462 to UMCOR for Typhoon relief; \$1,489 to the Illinois Great Rivers Conference for Tornado relief. Your incredible generosity will help our neighbors near and far in many important ways.

LIVE NATIVITY COOKIES AND HELP NEEDED! If you are able to provide 3-4 dozen small cookies for our **Live Nativity tonight**, please sign up on the sheet in the foyer or contact Mary Ann Burson (847-270-0633) or Judy Awe. Please label any cookies containing nuts and deliver cookies to the kitchen today. Volunteers are still needed to help with set-up, serving, and clean-up!

DON'T GET LEFT IN THE DUST! Heifer International gift cards are on sale today in the foyer between all 3 worship services. The cost of the cards is \$10 each. Please make checks payable to UMCL.

COFFEE HOSTING OPPORTUNITY! If you are willing to host coffee time on **Dec. 22**, please contact Joannie Foley at foleyszoo@aol.com.

ONE SERVICE ONLY ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 9:30 AM. Please join us for Christmastide Worship on Sunday, December 29, when we will all worship together at our 9:30 AM service.

SING WITH THE CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS EVE! The Adult Choir invites you to sing with us for the 7:00 and 10:00 PM Christmas Eve Services. If you would enjoy a short term commitment to the choir during the holidays, begin attending rehearsals now on Thursday evenings from 7:30-9:00 PM to learn the music. Please contact Jeff Brown or Jim Grace for more information.

FINAL WEEK FOR CHRISTMAS TREE & WREATH SALE! Help support Boy Scout Troop 72, Lake County ministries sponsored by United Methodist Men, and our youth by getting your tree at UMCL! The sale runs daily through **December 21**. Our youth also have **wreaths and greenery** available to purchase! If you can help with the sale, please contact Bert Kibbler at 847-367-4894. **Sale Hours: Monday-Friday: 6:00—9:00 PM; Sat., 9:00 AM—5:00 PM; Sunday, 11:30 AM—8:00 PM.**

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED for our Sunday School and Kids Own Worship programs, and also to help with our Special Children and Family Events this winter, including Family Game Night, Valentine's Day Dance, Family Mission Nights and the Easter Egg Hunt. We will have a training event on **Sunday, January 5, 2014 at noon**. Lunch will be provided but you must RSVP in advance. If you cannot make the meeting but are interested in volunteering please contact Amanda Seibert at AmandaSeibertUMCL@gmail.com.

UMCL News & Notes Continued

PAJAMA SUNDAY—January 5, 2014! Back by popular demand! All children and youth are invited to wear their pajamas to worship and Sunday School on January 5. We will serve breakfast treats and have a special activity during Sunday School. Don't hibernate! Come and join us!

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED! We are hosting the Nebraska- Wesleyan Choir for dinner, a concert and an overnight stay in host homes on **Friday, January 10, 2014!** Please plan to attend the concert, and let Jim Grace know (847-362-3116) if you are willing to host two students overnight. We need 25 homes to host two young women or men overnight and then bring them back to the church on Saturday morning after a light breakfast.

PRISCILLA CIRCLE will meet **December 17, 11:30 AM** for our annual Christmas Potluck Lunch in Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish of whatever you want to share. Any questions call Shirley Mason 847-362-0523.

RUTH CIRCLE will meet **December 18, 6:00 PM** at the home of Sandy Palmer (920 Bedford Lane, Libertyville, 847-680-3026) for a potluck dinner. Please call Sandy to let her know you will attend and what you will be contributing for the meal.

BOOKS AND BRUNCH ADVANCE NOTICE—Save **February 22** for Books and Brunch, featuring Neta Jackson, author of Yada Yada Prayer Group series and others (most recent title Derailed). For information, contact Mary Ann Burson or Terry Johnson.

SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES CLASS, taught by Woody Bedell, will meet on Monday evenings at 7:00 PM, beginning January 20. Please call the church if you are interested.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY will begin 2014 with an 18-week study of Exodus in preparation for a study of the Book of Revelation. During the holidays, think about joining this Bible Study. Call Joyce Jeffries for more details at 847-566-6944. Join before December 30 and take advantage of the group discount on study materials.

2013 CONTRIBUTIONS will be accepted through December 31, 2013. This includes any additional cash or check contributions received in the office through the end of the day. Again in 2013, the extension of the Pension Protection Act allows anyone over 70 ½ to make church contributions directly from their IRA account. Under the Act's provisions, gifts under \$100,000 can be transferred directly to the Church and will not be considered part of your taxable income. Contact your IRA administrator for the details on how to make this type of contribution

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, during their December 3, 2013, meeting discussed the forthcoming Illinois Public Act 98-63 and its effective date of January 1, 2014. Public Act 98-63 will allow trained and licensed gun owners to carry a concealed gun. It has been decided by unanimous vote of the Board, that in accordance with ACT 98-63, UMCL will be a GUN FREE zone. Signage will be posted at the entrances and in the parking lot indicating that concealed guns are not allowed in the Church building.

PADS HELP NEEDED—We are called by Jesus to feed the hungry and shelter the homeless. Please consider serving with PADS! Volunteers are ALWAYS needed for **overnight shifts** (11 PM—3 AM or 3-6:30 AM) or **clean-up** (5:30-7:15 AM). We are also in need of new women's underwear and socks for men and women. The PADS sign-up book is in Fellowship Hall during coffee time and in the foyer for our third service, or call Cathy O'Brien at 847-367-8062.

STEPHEN MINISTRY MINUTE—Christmas happens everywhere every time someone reaches out to touch another life with love. If you would like to talk with a Stephen Minister, please contact Kevin Garren, Mary Spooner or the Pastors.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

As of 12/10/13

	Month-to-Date	Year-to-Date
Offerings/Revenues	\$28,042.40	\$754,070.66
Expenses	\$26,990.92	\$781,974.17
Difference	\$1,051.48	(\$27,903.51)

Just as in November, December is off to a good start. We're even more hopeful that we can end the year with no spending gap and results "in the black." Your continued support can make that happen! Thank you!

Church Calendar

Sunday, December 15, 2013

8:00 AM—Adult Sunday School Class
 8:15 AM—First Light Worship Service
 (Nursery care available for ages 0-5 years)
 9:00 AM—Coffee Time
 9:15 AM—Adult Sunday School Class
 9:30 AM—Traditional Worship Service
 (Nursery care available for ages 0-2 years)
 9:30 AM—Sunday School for all ages
 (Children begin in service and leave
 after Children's Message)
 10:30 AM—Coffee Time
 11:00 AM—Contemporary Worship Service
 (Nursery care available for ages 0-2 years)
 11:00 AM—Kids' Own Worship (Children begin in
 service and leave after Children's Message)
 4:00 PM—Live Nativity Rehearsal
 6:00 PM—Live Nativity in Cook Park

Monday, December 16, 2013

7:00 PM—Monday Night Study Group
 7:00 PM—Boy Scout Troop #72

Tuesday, December 17, 2013

9:30 AM—Women's Spiritual Growth
 11:30 AM—Priscilla Circle
 12:00 & 7:30 PM – Living Free/AA
 1:45 PM—Disciple 4 Bible Study
 7:00 PM—TNT (Senior High Group)
 7:15 PM— Pray!
 7:00 PM—Troop #72 Committee

Wednesday, December 18, 2013

9:00 AM—Staff Meeting
 9:00 AM—MEMOS
 9:45 AM—Lectio Divina
 9:45 AM—Faith Study
 6:00 PM—Ruth Circle (off site)
 7:00 PM—Heritage Bells
 7:00 PM—Jr. High SYNERGY

Thursday, December 19, 2013

12:00 PM—Living Free/AA
 6:30 PM—Resource Committee
 7:00 PM—20-Somethings @ Ben's
 7:30 PM—Disciple 2 Bible Study
 7:30 PM—Adult Choir

Friday, December 20, 2013

6:00 PM—Intimate Evenings

Saturday, December 21, 2013

8:00 AM—Men's Study
 8:30 AM—Praise Band
 4:30 PM—PADS Set up & PADS

Sunday, December 22, 2013

8:00 AM—Adult Sunday School Class
 8:15 AM—First Light Worship Service
 (Nursery care available for ages 0-5 years)
 9:00 AM—Coffee Time
 9:15 AM—Adult Sunday School Class
 9:30 AM—Traditional Worship Service
 (Nursery care available for ages 0-2 years)
 9:30 AM—Sunday School for all ages
 (Children begin in service and leave
 after Children's Message)
 10:30 AM—Coffee Time
 11:00 AM—Contemporary Worship Service
 (Nursery care available for ages 0-2 years)
 11:00 AM—Kids' Own Worship (Children begin in
 service and leave after Children's Message)

Monday, December 23, 2013

No Scheduled Events

Tuesday, December 24, 2013

~ Christmas Eve ~
 12:00 & 7:30 PM – Living Free/AA
 4:00 PM—Family Christmas Eve Service
 7:00 PM—Traditional Christmas Eve Service
 10:00 PM—Traditional Christmas Eve Service

Wednesday, December 25, 2013

~ Christmas Day ~
 ~ Office Closed ~

Thursday, December 26, 2013

~ Office Closed ~
 12:00 PM—Living Free/AA

Friday, December 27, 2013

6:00 PM—Young Life Capernaum

Saturday, December 28, 2013

8:00 AM—United Methodist Men
 8:30 AM—Praise Band
 4:30 PM—PADS Set up & PADS

UMCL Staff

Pastor Stephen C. Williams	pastorscwilliams@sbcglobal.net
Pastor Jamie Hanna Williams	pastorjwilliams@sbcglobal.net
Business/Operations Manager: Ruth Ross	ruthaross@sbcglobal.net
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Youth Director: Ben Hallett	BenHallett@sbcglobal.net
Junior High: Sarah Mitchell	sarahmhartley@yahoo.com
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Director of Adult Choir & Contemporary Worship: Jeff Brown	jeffbrown418@yahoo.com
Children's Choir Director: Blair Brockman	texasbrockman@sbcglobal.net
New Member/Ministries Coordinator: Joyce Bedell	JoyceBedell@sbcglobal.net
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