



In Ministry

Minister:
Scott Wagoner

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Organ:
Carmen Farlow

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Piano & Voice:
Wanda Simmons

December 3, 2023

HIGH
POINT
Friends
MEETING
336-884-1359

Luke 1:5-16

5 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 descended from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. 6 Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. 7 But they had no children because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years. 8 Once when he was serving as priest before God during his section's turn of duty, 9 he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord to offer incense. 10 Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. 11 Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. 12 When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified, and fear overwhelmed him. 13 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. 14 You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, 15 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. 16 He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God.

Message:

"New Possibilities in the Barren Places "

Open Worship: In this time of open worship, Friends take time to center down, wait on God to provide ministry to your soul and see if God wishes to use you as an instrument of grace.

Hymn: "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" #86

Benediction:

Postlude:

Thoughts for Reflection:

May the sounds of Advent stir a longing in your people, O God. Come again to set us free from the dullness of routine and the poverty of our imaginations. Break the patterns which bind us to small commitments and to the stale answers we have given to questions of no importance. Let the Advent trumpet blow, let the walls of our defenses crumble, and make a place in our lives for the freshness of your love, well-lived in the Spirit, and still given to all who know their need and dare receive it. Amen"

(Howard Thurman, *The Mood of Christmas*)

High Point Friends Meeting

Prelude: Deck the Halls with Boughs of Holly
Arr. By Bonnie Barrett

As the music begins, we invite Friends to settle into a silence that serves to prepare us for our time of worship. Welcome the music to gather us together as a faith community at worship.

Welcome & Announcements:

Centering Prayer: Advent Responsive Reading

Hymn: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" #28

Prayers & Concerns:

Offertory: Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella
Arr. By Hugh S. Livingston Jr.

Choir: Advent Gift *Arr. By Patrick M. Liebergen*

Scripture: **Luke 1:5-16**

Hymn: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" #87
