

Thursday, November 27

Read Luke 3:1-18. John the Baptist certainly had an incredibly spirit-led passionate calling as a prophet preparing the way for Jesus to be introduced into the world. When he baptized Jesus, there was a heavenly affirmation of Jesus as the Anointed One sent by God (Luke 3:21-22). Jesus passed by John one day and John proclaimed Jesus as the Lamb of God (John 1:29-34). John definitely made Jesus visible to the people living 20 centuries ago.

In the message, we discussed four ways in which we can make Jesus visible today: 1) by practicing mercy, 2) by speaking hope into despair, 3) by living peaceably with other and 4) showing up in faith, even when filled with doubt. These ideas come from the scripture for this past Sunday. Can you think of other ways in which we can make Jesus visible in our world today? Meditate on these ideas and on that question. Write your ideas here praying for God's guidance to make Jesus visible and real to others.

Friday, November 28

Read once again Luke 1:67-79. The message concluded with the idea that the bottom line of the message, the primary take away is that we must remember the kind of King Jesus was and is today. Not one who takes power, but who lays it down. Not one who demands loyalty, but who offers love. Not one who seeks revenge, but forgives them even when he is dying. Not one who punishes sinners, but who dies for them. We can choose how to live our lives in this world, just as Zechariah did. This next Sunday, November 30, we will celebrate Holy Communion and Pastor Jack will, as always, announce that anyone can receive Holy Communion, if only they seek to be in communion with God and others. We are to remember Christ in the receiving of bread and juice. We should also remember Jesus as the King of Kindness! Rejoice and write about your joy here.

Message Notes November 23, 2025

*The King of Kindness**

- I. This final Sunday of the Christian year is meant to mark the culmination of God's history of _____.
 - A. Today connects the beginning of Jesus' life as the _____ of Bethlehem to his role as the _____ one of God, our hope and salvation.
 - B. In today's reading, Zechariah speaks into a world not so different from ours — nations against nations, _____ disillusionment and generational _____.
- II. Our scripture for today is the record of Zechariah's first words after months of being _____.
 - A. What pours out is not _____ or regret.
 - B. The first word from Zechariah's mouth is a _____.
 - C. Zechariah's experience often _____ our own.
 - 1. We have all faced _____ at some point and wondered how the _____ we're in is going to play out.
 - 2. If we are people of faith, dare we say it? We wonder where in the world is _____ in all this mess.
 - D. The heartbeat of this passage, the truth that after silence comes a _____; after darkness comes a _____; and after waiting comes the _____.
- III. Zechariah is a _____ father as he sings this song of praise, singing of the coming, the arrival, the _____ of the long-awaited _____.
 - A. Here's the key friends: Zechariah doesn't just bless his _____.
 - B. He names the role we all share. We, too, are _____ to be forerunners of Christ — _____.

*Luke 1:67-79

the way, _____ the light and _____
others into the way of _____.

C. This doesn't mean that we are all called to be
_____ in the biblical or vocational sense.

IV. Every one of us is _____ to live in a way that
makes Jesus _____. And here's how we do it!

A. First, by practicing _____.

B. We make Christ visible by speaking _____ into
_____.

C. We make Christ visible by living _____
with others.

D. We make Christ visible by showing up in _____,
even when filled with _____.

V. All we have to do friends is simply _____ what
kind of _____ we follow in Jesus the Christ.

A. Not one who takes _____, but who lays it down.

B. Not one who demands _____, but who offers
_____.

C. Not one who seeks _____, but _____
them even when he is dying.

D. Not one who _____ sinners, but who _____
for them.

E. After months of being mute, Zechariah's first word
was "_____." Maybe ours should be, too

Daily Devotional Guide

The following is a daily devotional and study guide meant
to enhance your understanding of the message
and grow as a Christian.

It is offered for your personal reflection or to share with others.

Monday, November 24

As mentioned in the message, this past Sunday was the last
Sunday of the Christian Liturgical Year. The purpose of the
scriptures on this Sunday is to connect the crowning glory of Jesus
the Christ's resurrection with the humble yet notable beginning of
that history with Jesus' birth. This is the fullness of God's
Salvation History. The term "Salvation History" describes the

universal offering of God's love and mercy for all. As individuals
we are meant to experience that mercy as forgiveness and a
restoration to God's intended wholeness for us. Salvation means
wholeness. In what ways have you experienced this "Salvation
History?" How would you describe your level of "wholeness?"
Meditate on these questions and write your reflections here.

Tuesday, November 25

Read Luke 1:67-79. Pastor Jack shared that Zechariah spoke into
a world not so different from ours; nations against nations,
religious disillusionment and generational fatigue. The Roman
Empire loomed large, and the people of Israel longed for
deliverance. Hopes were diminished, and people looked for
leadership that would conquer their oppressors and usher in a
reign of peace. They wanted to feel free, unafraid and safe. How
does our nation and world reflect these same desires? How are we
like the people of Zechariah's time? What do you want from our
leaders at all levels and arenas of life; political leaders, religious
and spiritual leaders, from our closest and most beloved leaders?
Meditate on these questions and write your thoughts here.

Wednesday, November 26

Read again, Luke 1:67-79. Our scripture for today is the record of
Zechariah's first words after months of being mute. What pours
out is not bitterness or regret. He doesn't say, "I'm glad that's
over," or "Let me tell you what I've been through." The first word
from Zechariah's mouth is a blessing. This implies that Zechariah
had a choice in how he responded to the angel-imposed silence
that he experienced before the birth of his son. This is a deeply
important observation of this scripture. We all have a choice in
how we respond to the challenges and demands upon our lives.
The question is do we choose a path of bitterness or blessing?
Think about that question and write your reflection here.