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**Anna Wiggins****December 17, 2023**

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***The Gifts of Christmas: Hope Deferred A Heart Restored***

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In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah. And he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord.

But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years. Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty, according to the custom of the priesthood, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense.

And the whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of incense. And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him. But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth,

And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years." And the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time."

**Luke 1:5-20 (ESV)**

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☐ Proverbs 13:12 (ESV)

☐ Luke 1:67-69 (ESV)

☐ Proverbs 3:11-12 (ESV)

☐ Luke 1:76-79 (ESV)

☐ Luke 1:23-25 (ESV)



# My Notes

## December Events

- 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve **Services** 10 am & 5 pm (in person / online)
- 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day (no services)
- 31<sup>st</sup> New Year's (Sunday) Service **ONLINE** only.

## January Events

- 1st-21<sup>st</sup> Corporate Prayer and Fasting
  - Prayer: Monday – Friday 6:30-7:30 a.m. in the Worship Center
  - Prayer: Wednesday 6:30 p.m.
- 7<sup>th</sup> “First” New Sermon Series
  - Communion