

***Nurturing Faith...  
Every Day in Every Way***

December 24, 2017

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16**

**Luke 1:46b-55**

**Romans 16:25-27**

**Luke 1:26-38**



***You Shall Call His Name Jesus.*** *Object: A book on the meaning of names.*

One of the most exciting times in any couple's life is when they find out that they are going to have a baby. There are many things that must be done to prepare for the birth of a new baby, but none is more important than choosing a name for the baby. A baby's name is chosen very carefully because the baby will live with that name for the rest of his or her life.

When a couple is choosing a name for their baby, they will sometimes go to a bookstore or a library and get a book like this one that I have this morning. It has thousands of names from which to choose. Not only that, but many names have a special meaning and a book like this will tell you what those names mean. Let's look up some of your names. (Look in the book to find some of the names of some of the children in your group.)

When Mary and Joseph found out that they were going to have a baby, they didn't go to the bookstore and get a book to help them choose a name for Mary's baby. In fact, they didn't choose the baby's name at all! God chose it for them! God sent an angel to tell Mary what to name her baby. The angel said to Mary, "You will have a son, and you will call his name Jesus"

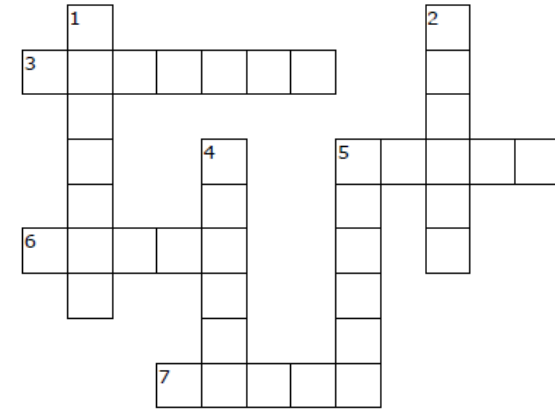
You see, the name Jesus means "the Lord saves." Was it important for Mary's baby to be named Jesus? Yes, it was, because the Bible tells us that there is no other name that can save us from our sin. (Acts 4:12)

Dear Father, thank you for sending your Son. During this season when we celebrate his birth, help us to remember that there is salvation in the name of Jesus. In his name we pray. Amen.

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**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia. Here I am, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word. Alleluia. (Luke 1:38)

# Crossword Puzzle



**ACROSS**

- 3. To be joined together as husband and wife
- 5. A heavenly being; a messenger for God
- 6. The son who was born to Mary
- 7. A very young person especially between infancy and youth

**DOWN**

- 1. The name of the angel who appeared to Mary
- 2. A young unmarried woman; a maiden
- 4. The man to whom Mary was engaged to marry
- 5. To be filled with fear

JOSEPH	MARRIED	AFRAID	VIRGIN
GABRIEL	CHILD	ANGEL	JESUS

**MANGER ART:** Let the child glue a nativity stable outline out of craft sticks on a sheet of construction paper and then glue some pieces of straw in the stable. Have the child write CALL HIM JESUS on the "roof" craft sticks of the stable.



# AN ANGEL VISITS MARY LUKE 1

