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# H TABLELIFE C H U R C H

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE



Order of Worship
5 December 2021
The Second Sunday of Advent

#### We Gather to Worship God

Welcome
Worship in Song
Lighting of the Advent Wreath
Worship in Song

#### We Listen to the Scriptures

Prayer

Sermon Series: Illuminate Sermon: "Reflecting the Light"

#### We Come to the Table

Prayer of Confession and Consecration
The Lord's Prayer
We Eat and Drink Together
We Celebrate the Eucharist in Song

#### We Go to Live in the Reign of God

Community Life
Doxology
Blessing and Sending







# Our mission is to learn the way of Jesus together as we invite others to join us at His Table.

#### **Our Common Practices**

#### We Gather

- We gather for worship more often than not.
- We gather in smaller groups to connect, learn, and grow.
- We create hospitable space for one another.

#### We Grow

- We attend the means of grace daily. (i.e. We attend to the presence of God through Scripture reading and meditation, prayer on behalf of others and myself, breath prayer, spiritual reading and study...).
- We nurture our faith.
- We attend to relationships that promote growth.
- We develop and learn as human beings made in the image of God.

#### We Give

- We are a generous people who give our time and resources to the mission of God and the world.
- We tithe as the means through which our community enjoys fiscal health so as to minister generously.

#### We Go

- We follow Jesus into the world as His healing presence.
- We help the vulnerable among us.
- We go into the world offering Jesus' invitation to gather at His Table.

# Illuminate "Reflecting the Light"

# "Reflecting the Light" Pastor Kris Beckert

# Do you feel that grace is in short supply? Why or why not?

John 1:5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Matthew 1:18-25. This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us"). 24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. <sup>25</sup> But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

. The Story of
Receives news Mary is
<ul> <li>Lev. 20:10. "If a man commits adultery with another man's wife—with the wife of his neighbor—both the adulterer and the adulteress are to be put to death"</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Mary's assumed behavior deserves</li> </ul>
• v.19 "righteous" (dikaios)—
<ul> <li>Offered to Mary not be cause he was righteous but in spite of his righteousness</li> </ul>
I. The Story of
1. Grace is
2. Grace is
3. Grace recognizes a
4. Grace is a
Big Idea:
Jig 1404.

### Doggy Bag: Something to take home and chew on!



- 1. God speaks to us in many ways. Have you ever received a message from God that led to a change of heart?
- 2. Why is grace so hard to accept? Why is it so hard to offer?
- 3. Do you know someone for whom grace (or the absence of it) has impacted their receptivity to Jesus and/or Church?
- 4. Has grace ever been costly for you? How did you see God at work despite the cost?
- 5. Have you ever reacted to, judged, or punished someone, only later to find out more of their story or what was going on? How did that impact you?
- 5. How has God shown grace to you? To whom might God be calling you to reflect a bit more grace than you have been this Advent season?

If you'd like to talk personally and confidentially w/ Pastor Kris about your relationship with Christ, please email pastorkris@tablelifechurch.org or call 717-774-6444 to set up an appointment.

# **New Here? Need Prayer?**



Please fill out a connection card located in the seats in front of you or online

