

# THE MESSAGE

## The Wait of Christmas

P2

Mark Pickerill

**Luke 1:26-38** - <sup>26</sup> In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup> Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup> and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end." <sup>34</sup> "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup> The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. <sup>36</sup> Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. <sup>37</sup> For no word from God will ever fail." <sup>38</sup> "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

**Mark 6:1-3** - Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. <sup>2</sup> When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed. "Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing?" <sup>3</sup> Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.

**Luke 2:10-14, 18-19, 29-32, 34-35, 41-52** - <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup> Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup> Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in

# MESSAGE NOTES

the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."...<sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. <sup>29</sup> "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss[c] your servant in peace. <sup>30</sup> For my eyes have seen your salvation, <sup>31</sup> which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: <sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel."<sup>34</sup> Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, <sup>35</sup> so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."<sup>41</sup> Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. <sup>42</sup> When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. <sup>43</sup> After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. <sup>44</sup> Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup> When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. <sup>46</sup> After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup> Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup> When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."<sup>49</sup> "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" <sup>50</sup> But they did not understand what he was saying to them. <sup>51</sup> Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup> And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

**Mark 3:21, 33-35** - <sup>21</sup> When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, "He is out of his mind."...<sup>33</sup> "Who are my mother and my brothers?" he asked. <sup>34</sup> Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! <sup>35</sup> Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother."

**John 19:25** - Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

# MINISTRIES

Visit **CAchurch.com** for info on available ministries or email us: **info@cachurch.com**

**Men | Women | Fusion 18-35yrs | Life Groups**  
**CA Students (6th-12th) | Kids Church**  
**Thrive Growth & Recovery**  
**Counseling at The Relationship Center**  
**Kingdom & Evangelism**

# WAYS TO GIVE

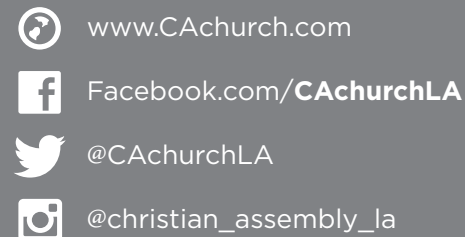


Go to **CAchurch.com** or use the envelope in the seat backs at our services.

## Financial Update

2015 General Budget:  
**\$5,250,000**  
 YTD 11.30.15 - Requirement:  
**\$4,846,154**  
 YTD 11.30.15 - Offering:  
**\$5,345,524**

November Kingdom (Blue Bucket) Offering: **\$31,864**  
 YTD Kingdom Offering: **\$432,643**



2424 Colorado Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90041  
 Phone: 323.255.1421

# WELCOME

December 12 & 13, 2015

**Worship God**  
 Become part of His **Family**  
 Extend His **Kingdom**



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Dear Christian Assembly,

We want to share some good news with you. This year has been our most generous year together on record. In fact, we have given more in the first 11 months of 2015 than we did in all 12 months of 2014! Thank you for trusting God in greater ways with the finances that God entrusts each of us to manage. We noticed this trend earlier in the year and felt confident it would continue. So we actually have been making decisions in accordance with your increased giving, including the recently announced full-time college pastor position to help us reach even more young adults for Christ. Likewise, in June, we will be adding a full-time position to our 345 and 678 ministry teams to invest in our kids and families in even greater ways. In addition, your generosity is allowing us to make important enhancements to our facilities to allow us to continue to maximize the space God has given us to impact every generation here at CA.

Our Kingdom giving is also on track to be our most generous year of Kingdom offerings in our history. It allows us to be even more generous in our efforts to extend God's kingdom both near and far. This has included the \$75,000 we were able to give to Juli McGowan Boit and The Living Room (announced at our Thanksgiving Weekend Services) as the ministry expands in Kenya. It also includes other items such as a special one-time gift we gave to help the Syrian Refugees earlier this year. We also are planning to give one-time gifts to other Kingdom Partners which will be announced in the new year at our weekend services.

Wise and generous financial stewardship is an essential part of keeping the work of the ministries of CA thriving and healthy. Every penny that is given is making a difference both among us, through us locally, and among the nations.

We encourage you to keep it up and make December 2015 our strongest December on record so we can continue to strengthen the work of leading spiritually convinced and unconvinced people to complete commitment to Christ. You are living out what the Scriptures teach us, "You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God." (2 Cor. 9:11)

With Hope and Gratitude in Christ,  
Tom, Mark, and The CA Council

## INFORMATION



Kids Church invites your children to our rootin' tootin' Christmas services as we celebrate Christmas cowboy style at our Lone Star Ranch. Toddlers and Preschoolers will be experiencing a live nativity along with other fun Christmas crafts and games.

## OPPORTUNITIES

**Christmas Celebration Services**  
**December 19 & 20**

We encourage you to bring friends and family with you to the candlelight services next weekend!

**Saturday**  
6 PM NORTH + SOUTH  
**FULL FULL**

**Sunday**  
9 AM NORTH + SOUTH  
**FULL FULL**

11:30 AM NORTH + SOUTH  
**FULL FULL**

4 PM SOUTH ONLY  
**OPEN**

6 PM SOUTH ONLY  
**OPEN**

Please help accommodate all our guests by filling out a green RSVP card in the seatbacks and turning it in with the offering, if you haven't already done so. Thank You!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Women's Retreat - Registration Open

**2016 Women's Retreat is March 4-6** and registration is open! Don't miss out as the women here at CA get away to the beautiful California mountains to build their faith and their friendships. Cost is \$170, scholarships may be available. Register online at [cachurch.com/womensretreat](http://cachurch.com/womensretreat)

### Worship CDs

As a way of saying thanks, the worship department would like to give one Christmas CD to each family as you exit service today. Other books and CDs from our worship team will be available for purchase in the lobby after service. Merry Christmas!

### Baby Dedications

Our next Baby Dedications are Jan. 10/11. If your baby is under one, or you have currently adopted, fill out a Baby Dedication Request Form by Jan. 4. Forms available in the lobby at the Info Board or online at [cakidschurch.com](http://cakidschurch.com)

### Parking - Thanks!

**We would love to thank all of those who park at one of our other lots:** Target (two blocks West) for all our services or Seventh Day Adventist (one block South) for our services on Saturday at 6pm, Sunday at 11:15am and Sunday Fusion at 6pm. Thanks for helping accommodate our guests!

### Men's Retreat 2016 - Save the Date

**Save the date for our Men's Retreat 2016 happening May 13-15.** If you'd like to help fund men in need attend the retreat, donate to our scholarship fund online at [cachurch.com/mensretreat](http://cachurch.com/mensretreat)

### 2015 Year-End Contributions

If you've moved, changed your number or email, update your contact information online at [cachurch.com/connection-card](http://cachurch.com/connection-card) or fill out a connection card in service and turn it in with the offering. This ensures we can send your 2015 giving statement to a correct address.