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#### Americana Christmas



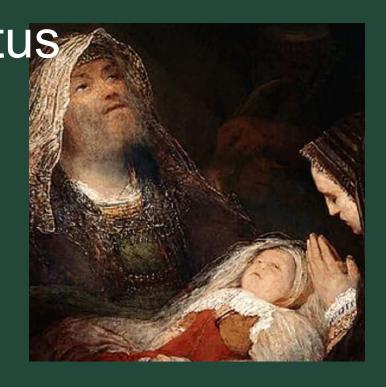
#### **Advent Christmas**



So God imparts to human hearts the blessing of His heav'n No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin, where meek souls will receive Him still the dear Christ enters in

### The





#### "Benedictus Dominus Deus Israel"

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel

Now his father Zacharias was filled with The Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying: "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, For he has visited and redeemed His people, and has raised up a horn of salvation for us. In the house of His servant David,

As He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets, Who have been since the world began, that we should be saved from our enemies, and to remember his holy covenant. The oath which He swore to our father Abraham

To grant us that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve Him without fear. In holiness and righteousness before Him all the days of our life.

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Highest; For you will go before the face of the Lord to prepare His ways. To give knowledge of salvation to His people by the remission of their sins, through the tender mercy of our God, with which the dayspring from on high has visited us.

To give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1:67-79



Luke

1

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## The Plan



"Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is 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.

For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine or strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God.

He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, 'turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,' and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.

Luke 1:13-17

#### The Pushback



And Zacharias said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is well advanced in years."

Luke 1:18

#### The Predicament



"But behold, you will be mute and not able to speak until the day these things take place, because you did not believe my words which will be fulfilled in their own time."

Luke 1:20





#### The Pause

#### The Pause

"the come to Jesus (before Jesus was born) moment"

So it was, on the eighth day, that they came to circumcise the child; and they would have called him by the name of his father Zacharias. His mother answered and said, "No; he shall be called John."

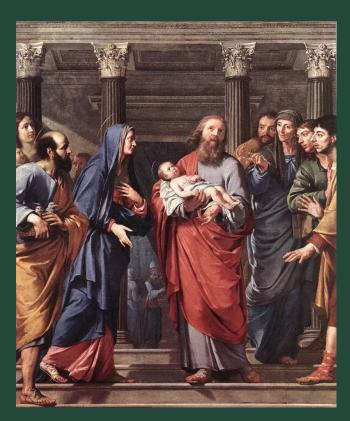
But they said to her, "There is no one among your relatives who is called by this name." So they made signs to his father – what he would have him called.

and he asked for a writing tablet, and wrote, saying "His name is John." So they all marveled. Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he spoke, praising God. Then fear came on all who dwelt around them;

And all these sayings were discussed throughout all the hill country of Judea. And all those who heard them kept them in their hearts, saying, "What kind of child will this be?" And the hand of the Lord was with him.

Luke 1:61-66

#### The Praise ~ Benedictus



Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, he has come to his people to redeem them"

Luke 1:68

O come, O come, Emmanuel And ransom captive Israel That mourns in lonely exile here, Until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free Thine own from Satan's tyranny; From depths of hell Thy people save, And give them victory o'er the grave Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel

# He has raised up a horn of salvation for us

Luke 1:69

To save us all from Satan's power When we were gone astray, Oh, tidings of comfort and joy

#### Sit with the Advent story

#### Sit with the Advent story

Embrace the Advent's impact on you

Sit with the Advent story

Embrace the Advent's impact on you

Share the Advent meaning with someone