**Esperanza Lutheran Church Sunday Funday Advent #3**

**December 13, 2020**

**All Ages**

**Bible Story: Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth!**

**Emphasis:** Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth who is going to have a baby too. She will be John the Baptist mother.

**Bible Background:** Mary the mother of Jesus said yes to God!  She said yes to be the mother of Jesus who will love and save the world.  Mary wanted to tell her cousin Elizabeth who was having a baby too.  When Mary hugged Elizabeth her baby wiggled inside her. They were both full of joy.  Mary knew that God blessed her and her cousin with a child.  Elizabeth knew that God was doing something wonderful.  God chose Mary to bring God’s self into the world. (Emmanuel meaning God is with us). Mary stayed with her cousin for three months making plans and getting ready for the birth of Jesus.  It was a wonderful miraculous time for both Mary and her cousin Elizabeth.

**Read the Bible Story!:** (The story is from Luke 1:39-45)  Read from Spark Bible page 202-206.  Mary having the son of God was exciting news.  Mary wanted to tell her family, especially her cousin Elizabeth. Elizabeth was so excited about God choosing Mary and God giving us a Messiah, she and her baby wiggled and jumped for joy! They both could not wait for their babies to be born.

**Questions:**

**1.** What was the surprise that Mary wanted to share with her cousin Elizabeth? (Mary was going to have a baby too. Her baby was going to be God’s son.)

2. When Mary surprised her cousin Elizabeth what did the baby inside of Elizabeth do? (The baby jumped for joy and or wiggled inside Elizabeth.)

3. What was the secret that Mary wanted to tell Elizabeth?

(That an Angel told her that she was going to be the mother of God’s son)

4. How did you share with your family that you were having a baby? (Parents think of the time you shared that you were going to have your son or daughter with your family.  Share those wonderful details with your child!)

**Activity:**  Please make an old ornament into a new ornament to remember the story of Mary and Elizabeth.  You will need an old ornament, colored paper, stickers (the colored paper and stickers will be included in your envelope.) and glue.  Write Mary, Jesus Mom on a piece of paper and glue it on an old ornament.  Then decorate the ornament and put it on your Christmas tree.  This ornament will remind you and your child that Mary was chosen to be Jesus’ mom.  You can also say God chose you to be your child’s mom!

**Ehpaize: God chose Mary to give the world the greatest gift of all!  The gift of a baby that came to would save all people!**

**Hold hands and end in a Family Prayer:** Dear Jesus, we can’t wait to celebrate your birth.  Help us to be your hands, feet and voice in this season of giving.  In Jesus name, Amen