**Series: Redeeming Christmas**

**Speaker: Ronnie Norman, Senior Minister**

**Today: It Happened Like This**

***Matthew 1:18-25***

***18****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 faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.*

***20****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.”*

***22****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.* ***25****But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.*

***Matthew 16:15-16***

***15****“But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”*

***16****Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”*

**John 1:4-5**

*4 Jesus Christ gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone.  
 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it.*