

Advent Reflection
December 13, 2020
JOY
Luke 1:46-55 NRSV

And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

Reflection by Merle and Kayla L.

This scripture is often called Mary's song, and also the Magnificat. This young, poor girl, Mary, was humbled that she was chosen to bear the Son of God. Mary magnifies God for His greatness and feels blessed to be chosen to be the mother of the messiah. In our culture blessed has come to mean living a life of privilege and comfort. This is in stark contrast to Mary's background and situation. She is a peasant girl from a small village and people see her as a disgrace because she is unmarried and pregnant. Yet her faith in God prevails and she rejoices in being chosen to bring God's son into the world. In today's culture we should all remember Mary's willingness to follow God's will and know he is in control. With so many people in need today, because of the pandemic and economic downturn, we can find comfort in the scripture that tells us the humble will be lifted up and the hungry will be filled with good things. Let us all magnify God in our daily lives, just as Mary did so long ago.