

ADVENT PODCAST 4

This podcast was recorded on the 22nd of December 2024

during the Sunday service at St Peter's.

These slides include the Bible readings explored in the talk by Daniel Muñoz, and two art depictions of Mary and Flizabeth you may wish to reflect and meditate on

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OLD TESTAMENT READING

Micah 5:2-5a

'But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.' Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labour bears a son, and the rest of his brothers return to join the Israelites. He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. And he will be our peace.

Gospel Reading Luke 1:39-56

At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, ⁴⁰ where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! ⁴³ But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

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- ⁴⁶ And Mary said:
- "My soul glorifies the Lord
- and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
- ⁴⁸ for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant.

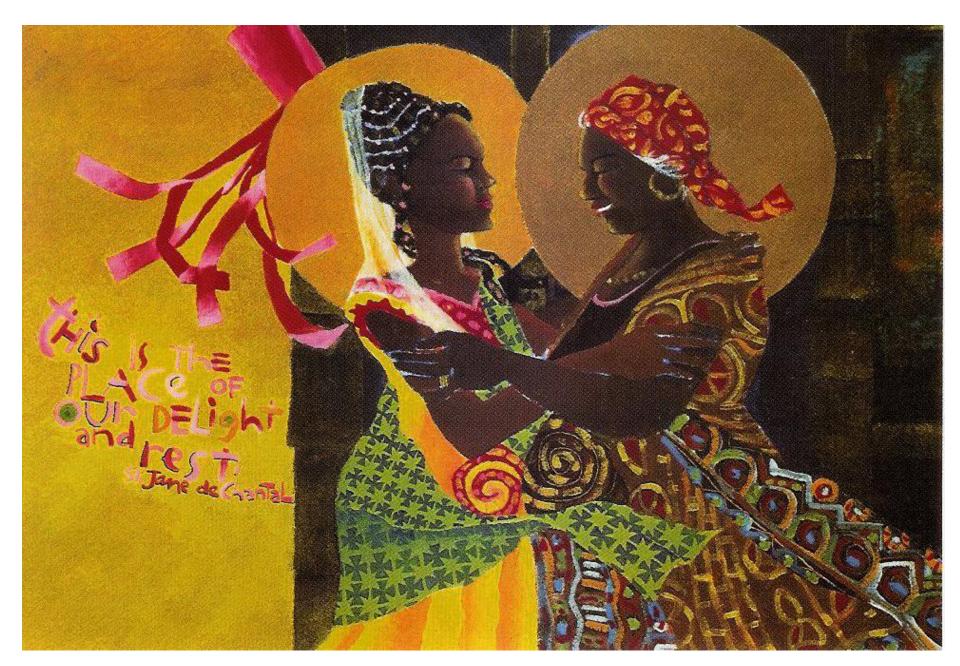
From now on all generations will call me blessed,

- for the Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is his name.
- ⁵⁰ His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation.
- ⁵¹ He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.
- ⁵² He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble.
- ⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty.
- ⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful
- ⁵⁵ to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he promised our ancestors."
- ⁵⁶ Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.

THE WONEN's song of freedom



The Visitation by Pontormo (c.16th)



Mary and Elizabeth by Mickie McGrath