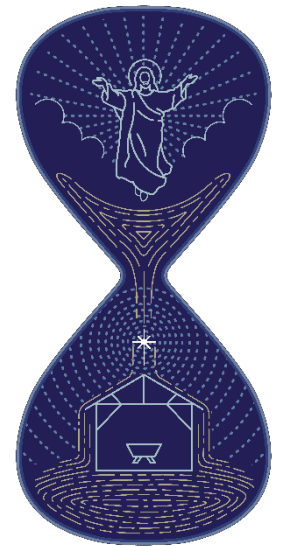


Small Group Discussion

Peace: Awakening to Life

Advent Week 4: Luke 1.46-55



Getting Started

- Have you ever experienced a “reversal?” Briefly the story; what made it so surprising?

Static Questions

- **What was the passage about?**
 - Note the key details (Who, What, When, Where, Why, etc.)
 - Pay attention to the main *points* of the passage.
- **What did you learn?**
 - What did the passage reveal about God? About people?
 - Was there a promise or command or a warning?
 - What is the big idea of the passage?
 - What lessons do you see?
- **How will you apply it?**
 - How does this passage relate to your life right now?
 - What change in your thinking or behavior is needed to align with the truths in this message?
 - How should you respond based on what you learned?

From the Teaching this Morning

- Both Elizabeth and Mary experienced a journey from shock to faith through their unexpected blessings. When have you had a similar experience?
- It is easy to fall into the trap of “making ourselves better Christians.” How does Mary’s song help reorient us to reality?
- Mary’s song highlights many attributes of God. Which ones? Notice how she doesn’t just talk about them; she describes the experience of them. Can you think of a time when you experienced an attribute of God in a way that affected your everyday life?

Application Questions

- Read Psalm 80. The lament rings true today. Reflect and consider what lands or people come to mind with such suffering. How might we be used by God in these situations?
- In the text Sunday morning the focus was on God’s action. What he has done, what he is doing, and what he has promised to do. Considering the truth of who God is, how can we express our gratitude and thankfulness to him this week? Think of a way to incorporate gratitude into your Christmas traditions. How might the focus on gratefulness change the way we normally think of what Christmas has become in our society?

