

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Romans 16:25-27 & Luke 1:26-38

Read Romans 16:25-27

1. In the close of his letter to the Romans, how does Paul summarize or encompass the entirety of the Bible in these few verses?
2. To God alone be glory! Where else in the church has this phrase appeared, and what lessons can we learn from it?

Read Luke 1:26-38

3. In Luke we see the beginning of, as Paul described it “the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages.” The angel Gabriel comes to Mary to reveal the plan that God had been making all along. Fulfilling what had been spoken to King David, that One from his house would reign forever!
4. How is Gabriel’s appearance to Mary echo every other angelic visit recorded in the Bible?
5. What does it mean that the Holy Spirit will “overshadow” Mary?
6. How does Elizabeth’s barrenness point towards the miracle of the Virgin Birth?
7. Can we fully understand the Virgin Birth? How does it affect what we confess about Christ?
8. How is Mary’s response, that she is the servant of the Lord, prefiguring a theme found in her song a few verses later?