

Luke 1:26-38

The Common English Bible

²⁶When Elizabeth was six months pregnant, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a city in Galilee, ²⁷to a virgin who was engaged to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David's house. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸When the angel came to her, he said, "Rejoice, favored one! The Lord is with you!" ²⁹She was confused by these words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said, "Don't be afraid, Mary. God is honoring you. ³¹Look! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great and he will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of David his father. ³³He will rule over Jacob's house forever, and there will be no end to his kingdom." ³⁴Then Mary said to the angel, "How will this happen since I haven't had sexual relations with a man?" ³⁵The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come over you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the one who is to be born will be holy. He will be called God's Son. ³⁶Look, even in her old age, your relative Elizabeth has conceived a son. This woman who was labeled 'unable to conceive' is now six months pregnant. ³⁷Nothing is impossible for God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "I am the Lord's servant. Let it be with me just as you have said." Then the angel left her.

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm of Praise

The Common English Bible

Our souls magnify the Lord.

Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.

The Mighty One has done great things for us.

Holy is God's name.

God's mercy is ever near, from generation to generation.

God's strength scatters the proud, but lifts the humble of hearts.

God's love fills us up, nourishing our hungry souls.

God's grace has called us here, strengthening our lives of faith.



Luke 1:46-55

The Common English Bible

⁴⁶Mary said, “With all my heart I glorify the Lord! ⁴⁷In the depths of who I am I rejoice in God my savior. ⁴⁸He has looked with favor on the low status of his servant. Look! From now on, everyone will consider me highly favored ⁴⁹because the mighty one has done great things for me. Holy is his name. ⁵⁰He shows mercy to everyone, from one generation to the next, who honors him as God. ⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm. He has scattered those with arrogant thoughts and proud inclinations. ⁵²He has pulled the powerful down from their thrones and lifted up the lowly. ⁵³He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty-handed. ⁵⁴He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, remembering his mercy, ⁵⁵just as he promised to our ancestors, to Abraham and to Abraham’s descendants forever.”

The Lord’s Prayer

United Methodist Hymnal 895

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.