

PROJECT RECONNECT

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Liturgical Date: Year C, Advent 4, 19th December 2021

**There is an Advent Welcome (in Song List 2 of DVD and in a "Seasonal" file on the website) that can be used to open the worship today.

Presenter Rev Tom Stuart

Focus Readings Luke 1: 39-55

Message 9 minutes 15 seconds "Choosing What to Magnify!"

Discussion Starters

- 1 What can you do in your life in response to what you heard today?
- 2 Describe your sense of, or experience of, God's divine work in the ordinary?
- 3 In your own words "magnify the Lord" in your congregation's role in God's plan.
- 4 From what negativity and fear could your community be released?

Lectionary readings for the day

Micah 5:2-5a The prophet declares that one who will rule Israel will come from little Bethlehem. All will live secure, for he is great to the ends of the earth and is the 'one of peace' (v5).

Luke 1:46b-55 Mary praises God who has done great things for her and who has acted for Israel, in fulfillment of ancient promises. God acts for the poor and powerless and against the rich and powerful.

Hebrews 10:5-10 Christ ends the sacrifice of animals by doing God's will and offering himself as sacrifice. As a consequence, we are made holy before God.

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All Age Message Maria Williams "No one is Outside the Love of God."

Length 5 Minutes 5 seconds

Precis of AAM

God does not see us as we often see ourselves. Those whom others exclude God embraces. Those who others put down, God lifts up and includes as family and fellow workers in the kingdom. Mary's Song proclaims that God stands with the poor and insignificant. No one is outside of the Love of God. God's love draws together people who never dream are connected.

Resources Uniting in Worship (Blue Book). No Psalm listed for today's readings.

Rev Tom Stuart

These days I am spending more time doing spiritual practices, which gives me greater opportunity of seeing what God wants me to see rather than having my sensibilities consumed by day-to-day life.