PROJECT RECONNECT
CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH GOD, EACH OTHER AND THE COMMUNITY

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Advent 3, Year B, December 13th
Presenter: Rev Alan Robinson
Focus Reading: Luke 1:46-55

Message: 7 minutes 10 seconds "Mary's Song"

Discussion Starters

1. Who do you call when you receive very good news?
2. How does Mary's faith serve as a model for you?
3. How does the life of your congregation reflect God's concern for "justice", "mercy" and "deliverance".
4. In our time, who are the "proud", the "rulers" and the "rich"? Who are the "humble" and the "hungry"?

Readings for this day

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 God has anointed the prophet to proclaim good news of release, favor, and justice to those who mourn or experience captivity or oppression. The Lord will act on behalf of the covenant community. The prophet responds to divine favour in joy.
Psalm 126 The psalmist rejoices in God's acts of Zion, and implores God to act again on behalf of the community. God displays willingness to heal and restore.
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 God works in the community and within individuals (body, soul and spirit) to sanctify. The church can rejoice, give thanks, pray, resist evil, and draw on the Spirit.
Abingdon Theological Companion to the Lectionary, Year B. Copyright c2014 by Abingdon Press, an imprint of the United Methodist Publishing House. (Used by permission. All rights reserved.)

Intergenerational Talk: Rev Alan Robinson
Length 3 minutes 48 seconds "Be Joyful Always"
Precis of IT:
There is a difference between 'happiness' and 'joy'. Few qualities are more universally desired than joy. Joy comes when hard things happen to us and are resolved or finalised. Complete joy is not about "always looking in the bright side of life" – as the saying goes! The key is really in Jesus Christ who gives purpose to our lives, sins are forgiven, friendship with God, purpose for our lives, with the Holy Spirit as our helper.

Uniting in Worship (Blue Book). Psalm 126 - page 342

Rev Alan Robinson
Is a retired Uniting Church minister living in Orange NSW and has become a creative writer of Children's stories in his retirement, veggie grower and enjoys time with the family, especially the grandies.