

# ADVENT 2017

## ELIZABETH IN JUDEA: ENCOURAGEMENT

### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT Luke 1:39-45



Adam Hamilton reminds us that one of the most important things Elizabeth did for Mary was to remind her that she was blessed, that she had the joy of being a part of God's work in our world. The Good News is that you, too, are blessed by the redeeming love of Jesus Christ and have a share in work of the Kingdom.

***On a piece of paper, write down all the blessings of your life.***

***Do we equate being blessed with good fortune?***



List three ways you will seek to lift the lowly and feed the hungry in our community. Carry this list as a reminder that you have been called to be a blessing and offer encouragement.

**39** In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, **40** where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. **41** When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit **42** and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed is the fruit of your womb. **43** And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? **44** For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. **45** And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.



### THE MAGNIFICAT (Luke 1:46-53)

And Mary said,  
My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his  
servant

Surely, from now on all generations will call me  
blessed;

for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him  
from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of  
their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their  
thrones,  
and lifted up the lowly;

he has filled the hungry with good things,  
and sent the rich away empty.