Come
Now,
Breath
Of God

41st Annual
Augsburg University
Advent Vespers, 2020

Advent Vespers Devotional 2020

Thursday, December 10
Luke 1:46-55

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. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

Let us remember that
        Mary was a nobody,
        a simple girl,
        poor, meek, mild,
        anonymous to the empire.
                God chose what no power could have or would have chosen. God knew what was otherwise unknown: the simple and the human and the feminine could and would hold the divine.
While history is quick to forget the women, Mary has not been forgotten. She remains near the center of the story of God's redemption: the woman who contained and delivered the divine. In Mary, God turned the whole world upside down.
        Or was it right-side up?
        In the year when time turned the world over, God turned Mary's life inside out. Of course these events are related, bound together by cords and cells. The boy in her belly would change the direction of the world. Time would turn around him.
        Her life would turn around him. Each kick, each punch, each hiccup, drummed the heartbeat of redemption. In her, the fullness of love was growing. In her, God was being born. In her, healing and hope were being knit together in the Christ child.

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