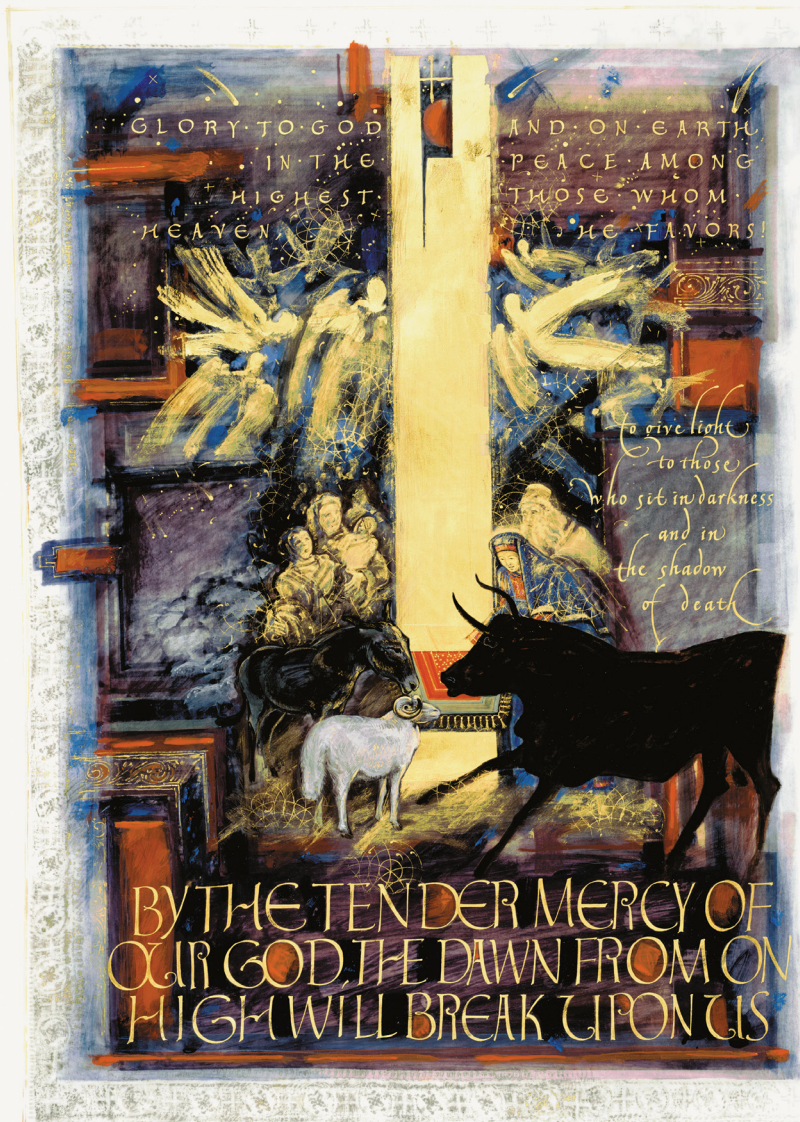


— Reflections for the —
SEASON of ADVENT

EDGEWOOD COLLEGE

2023



Reflections *for the Season of Advent* 2023

Advent, derived from Latin, means “arrival” or “coming.”

In the Catholic tradition, preparation for the Advent of God begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day. Scripture texts and prayers during the season of Advent express expectation, comfort, and hope to Christians longing for the promised Light of the World, the One whose birth we celebrate at Christmas.

This Advent Reflection booklet provides a reflection for each day of Advent, based on Advent Scripture readings in the Christian Common Lectionary. Because of space constraints, only a brief portion of the selected Scripture reading is included. We hope you draw encouragement and inspiration from these reflections contributed by members throughout the Edgewood College community.

Division of Mission, Values, and Inclusion
Edgewood College

TABLE of CONTENTS

FIRST WEEK of ADVENT

SUN., DEC. 3: <i>Laura Hermanns</i> , Mark 13:33-37	6
MON., DEC. 4: <i>Blessing Onyefulummo</i> , Isaiah 2:1-5	6
TUES., DEC. 5: <i>Richard A. Sims</i> , Isaiah 11:1-10	7
WED., DEC 6: <i>Michael J. Meissen</i> , Isaiah 25:6-10a	7
THURS., DEC. 7: <i>Albert Nolan, O.P.</i> , Matthew 7:21, 24-27	8
FRI., DEC. 8: <i>Rosalia Johnson</i> , Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4.....	8
SAT., DEC. 9: <i>Howard Thurman</i> , Psalm 147:1-6	9

SECOND WEEK of ADVENT

SUN., DEC. 10: <i>Mary Ellen Green, O.P.</i> , Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11	9
MON., DEC. 11: <i>Alirio Romero Chacin</i> , Psalm 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14... 10	
TUES., DEC. 12: <i>Natalia Imperatori-Lee</i> , Luke 1:39-47	10
WED., DEC. 13: <i>Kate Bowler and Jessica Ritchie</i> , Isaiah 40:25-31	11
THURS., DEC. 14: <i>Chasity Collins</i> , Psalm 145:1, 9, 10-11, 12-13ab	11
FRI., DEC. 15: <i>Michelle Horton '13</i> , Matthew 11:16-19	12
SAT., DEC. 16: <i>Ed Taylor</i> , Psalm 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19	12

THIRD WEEK of ADVENT

SUN., DEC. 17: <i>Saira Ardon</i> , Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-1	13
MON., DEC. 18: <i>Pope Francis</i> , Psalm 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19.....	13
TUES., DEC. 19: <i>Atreyee Sinha</i> , Psalm 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17.....	14
WED., DEC. 20: <i>Jill Kirby</i> , Isaiah 7:10-14	14
THURS., DEC. 21: <i>Irene Ehrhart</i> , Luke 1:39-45	15
FRI., DEC. 22: <i>Maria Chacin '23</i> , Luke 1:46-56	15
SAT., DEC. 23: <i>Shay Pollard</i> , Psalm 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10, 14.....	16

FOURTH WEEK of ADVENT

SUN., DEC. 24: <i>Kathleen Phelan, O.P.</i> , '69, Luke 1:26-38	16
---	----

CHRISTMAS EVE

SUN., DEC. 24: <i>Jazzma Holland</i> , Matthew 1:18-25	17
--	----

CHRISTMAS DAY

MON., DEC. 25: <i>Andrew P. Manion</i> , Luke 2:15-20.....	18
--	----

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

Mark 13:33-37. *Jesus said to his disciples: “Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come.”*

The pace of college life can feel hectic and non-stop. My to-do list never seems to get shorter, and every week I seem repeat the same thing: “next week things should slow down.” Except that never really happens! In this verse, I hear Jesus’ command as an invitation in my own life to slow down. To be present. To pay attention. Especially during these last weeks of the semester, it’s easy to want to rush toward winter break, to finally get to rest and enjoy the celebrations of Christmas. But the gift of Jesus’ words and the gift of the season of Advent is that it asks us: What if we paid attention *now*? What if we were present now? Instead of waiting for some always-out-of-reach finish line, what gifts of grace, compassion, and kindness might we find in our lives *right now*?

Laura Hermanns, Director of Campus Ministries

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

Isaiah 2:1-5. *“The mountain of the LORD’s house shall be established as the highest mountain and raised above the hills. All nations shall stream toward it.”*

During my meditation on this reading, a question that came up for me in this passage where it says that “the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established and raised above the hills. All nations shall stream towards it” was this: Why would all nations want to stream towards the mountain of the Lord’s house and what happens in the Lord’s house? We find out that in the Lord’s house there is peace, goodness, kindness, compassion, and judgment. Given the world’s situation, where there is war and unjust maiming of people just as Isaiah had seen concerning Judah and Jerusalem. Isaiah foresees that the judgment of the Lord will come upon these nations. Today, only in the intervention of the Lord will there be an end to war, the Lord says that one nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again. This is a promise God has made. We need to remember that to be one with God, and to walk in his light, we need to reject war, oppression of the poor and turn to compassion and goodness.

Blessing Onyefulummo, Biology Major

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5

Isaiah 11:1-10. *“Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; The calf and the young lion shall browse together, with a little child to guide them...There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be filled with knowledge of the LORD, as water covers the sea.”*

To me, this passage emphasizes that the cycle of life starts and ends with the Creator, highlighting our profound ability to foster connections and unity, which is remarkably meaningful during times of disconnection. While we may incessantly examine our differences, it's fundamental to remember our shared traits, as these differences were intentionally crafted by our Creator.

Furthermore, this passage underscores that despite the adversities we face in life, God’s sovereignty remains unshaken. Ultimately, we will all be united, regardless of our differences by a loving God who is filled with intelligence and amity.

Richard A. Sims, Interim Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

Isaiah 25:6-10a. *“On this mountain the LORD of hosts will provide for all peoples... For the hand of the LORD will rest on this mountain.”*

For years, we have traveled to the Rocky Mountains in Colorado. For me, the beauty of the mountains is inspirational, a symbol of the possibilities we have, and the challenges we encounter in life. I find happiness and peace in the mountains, and I am very aware that God has a “hand” in these places of peace and comfort, “the Lord of hosts will provide for all people.”

In late September, we were biking and hiking in the Vail Pass of Colorado. Aspen trees were in peak fall season golden colors, radiant and majestic, beautiful. In reflecting on this passage, “the web that is woven over all nations,” reminds me of the uniqueness of the aspen trees covering these mountains. Aspen trees are a ‘web’ or a collective; a common root structure forms an entire region of trees. These mountains are woven together with aspen trees by “God’s” hand. A “web” of trees can serve as a reminder we are united, a community, and dependent upon one another, each fulfilling their individual part for the benefit of the entire community.

Michael J. Meissen, Ph.D., Senior Director of PreK-20 Educational Innovation and Partnerships, Accelerated Secondary Program Coordinator

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

Matthew 7:21, 24-27. “The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house. But it did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock.”

We hope against hope. We continue to hope even when there are no visible signs. We recognize the darkness and apparent hopelessness of the present situation and put all our trust in God. Then, gradually, as our eyes adjust to the darkness of despair, we begin to see the emerging shapes or outlines of God’s great and mysterious work – the finger of God, as Jesus called it. These are the paradoxical signs of the time that only become visible once we believe that God is at work in our world, once we learn to look at life with an attitude of hopefulness. What matters in the long run, though, is not only that we are hopeful but that we act hopefully. The most valuable contribution that a Christian can make in our age of despair is to continue, because of our faith, to act hopefully and in that way to be an encouragement to those who have lost all hope.

Albert Nolan, O.P., (1934-2022), Hope in An Age of Despair (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2009), p.10, 12.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4. “Sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous deeds.”

Some words to pay attention to in this reading are justice, kindness, faithfulness, and praise. These words closely connect with the core values of Edgewood College. I invite you to think about how these words connect with your own life. Do you advocate for a just and compassionate world? Also, this reading talks about marvelous and wondrous deeds. I work a lot with children in music and theatre, and these words reminded me of how children are in wonder and awe of all the things around them. I invite you to think about the last time you were truly in wonder or awe of something or someone. Often, our focus tends to be on what may be going wrong rather than what we are blessed with. We, especially as college students, should find the time to acknowledge and appreciate the marvelous and wondrous things in our lives.

Rosalia Johnson, K-12 Music Education Major

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

Psalm 147: 1-6. “The Lord heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.”

I will light candles this Christmas.
Candles of joy, despite all sadness.
Candles of hope where despair keeps watch.
Candles of courage for fears ever present.
Candles of peace for tempest-tossed days,
Candles of grace to ease heavy burdens,
Candles of love to inspire my living,
Candles that will burn all year long.

Howard Thurman (1899-1981), Theologian and Civil Rights Leader, “I Will Light the Candles this Christmas” (1973), from The Mood of Christmas

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11. “As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.’”

Touch into the longing in your mind and heart for an answer to our search for peace and justice, for kindness and compassion. Who is speaking to us and how? Who are the prophets of our world calling out to us from the wilderness of our existence where we wait to hear that word of hope? Will God’s Kingdom ever come? Will God’s will ever be done on earth as it is in heaven?

I don’t know about you, but Advent always stirs me up spiritually. There’s something about the gladness of the season, the joy in the air, and the elation in the atmosphere that makes me happy and hopeful. I want to believe and I do believe that Jesus is the reason for the season.

How about you?

Mary Ellen Green, O.P., Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa, Excerpt from 2021 Reflection for the Second Sunday of Advent, Catholic Women Preach Website

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11

Psalm 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14. *“He proclaims peace to his people. Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him, glory dwelling in our land. Justice shall walk before him, and salvation, along the way of his steps.”*

In this time of conflict, I only keep thinking about what is going to happen. Everything going on in Israel and Palestine just makes me worried about the future, and reading these sentences I could see God telling me that everything will be fine. My dad was telling me that to find peace sometimes there must be war, and at the end of the day justice will come. I was also thinking, should I fear God? Why would I? I think what God wants me to feel is not fear as being afraid of him; God wants me to fear in a manner of respect.

Alirio Romero, Music and Media Production Major

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Luke 1:39-47. *“Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.”*

This is the perfect reading for [Our Lady of] Guadalupe. For those of you who are familiar with the story of the Guadalupan apparition, you know that two of the most important things she tells Juan Diego are “do not be afraid” and “am I not here with you?” Guadalupe makes God present in the Americas, to dispel fear amid violence and trauma, and she does it through the virtue of solidarity with those in need. Guadalupe is still a locus of solidarity for women in travail, and as the patroness of the Americas she reminds us not to be afraid, even though our situations seem hopeless, and that she is here—accompanying us, rejoicing with us, hearing us into speech, encouraging our confrontations with the powerful, preparing a place where we might rest and rejoice in one another.

Natalia Imperatori-Lee, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Religious Studies, Manhattan College, Excerpt from 2018 Reflection for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Catholic Women Preach Website

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

Isaiah 40:25-31. *“They that hope in the LORD will renew their strength, they will soar as with eagles' wings; They will run and not grow weary, walk and not grow faint.”*

God, show us your heart,
how you seek out the broken.
Lift us on your shoulders,
and carry us home—no matter how strong we think we are.
God, seek us out, and find us, we your tired people,
and lead us out to where hope lies,
where your kingdom will come,
and your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

....

P.S. Open your hands as you release your prayers.
Then take hold of hope. As protest.

Kate Bowler and Jessica Ritchie, The Lives We Actually Have (NY: Convergent Books, 2023), p. 215.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

Psalm 145:1, 9, 10-11, 12-13ab. *“The Lord is gracious and merciful; slow to anger, and of great kindness.”*

God is understanding and he knows that we all fall short of his kingdom, but I have learned that it is important to always know and understand that he is forgiving and slow to anger. He will show you kindness through our trials, but it is our job to come to him and ask for help or forgiveness. Being a college student, it is easy to fall into temptations but it's essential to remember what's important.

Chasity Collins, Nursing Major

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

Matthew 11:16-19. *“Jesus said to the crowds: “To what shall I compare this generation? It is like children who sit in marketplaces and call to one another...”*

This metaphor Jesus uses identifies the adults as children who stand divided shouting at one another to prove their perspective. One side critical of Jesus, one side critical of John the Baptist. Each side holding tight to an either/or, “I’m right, you’re wrong” mindset.

An unwillingness to be open to a both/and mindset and learning the difference and value of both the lives of Jesus and John leads a community to disregard compassion and live in the tension of division, hatred, and war.

As adults we have the capacity to understand and gain wisdom from an open both/and mindset. John, the prophet, preached forgiveness to prepare the people for Jesus, whose whole mission was to preach God’s mercy and love for all. In their diversity John and Jesus preach values that create a safe, thriving community that appreciates and celebrates the diversity of one another.

How do you show compassion to those you disagree with? What new culture would you like to learn about?

Michelle Horton '13, Dominican Associate, Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

Psalm 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19. *“...look down from heaven, and see; Take care of this vine, and protect what your right hand has planted, the son of man whom you yourself made strong.”*

This passage is talking about Jesus, asking God to protect what has been ‘planted.’ Even as we ask God for protection, we too are asked to take ownership of what has been planted. Both literally by caring for our common home – thank you Laudato Si - and by living lives of compassion, suffering with all who are less fortunate. In this season let’s ask ourselves how we can use our own good fortune and strength to brighten the days and take care of those who need it most. When we do that, we engage with the divine, and truly take care of ALL of this vine.

Ed Taylor, Chief of Staff/Chief Communications Officer

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11. *“The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners.”*

As we meditate on God's word, it becomes evident that Jesus Christ is speaking to us in Isaiah 61:1. However, sometimes we fail to recognize the profound force these words hold. The Bible is the book of life; it is given to us so that we can read, reflect, and live by it. We are God's cherished children, and, like Jesus, we have also been anointed. God is even more familiar with us than we are with ourselves; He is aware of everything about us, including our hidden secrets, our loves and dislikes, and our joyful and unhappy moments. God knows us even from the womb of our mother and chose us to be light in the darkness. Jesus already won the battle for us on the cross, when we submit our whole life to God and allow him to do as he pleases, he frees us from all forms of imprisonment, mends our hearts, and grants us freedom, abundant life, and joy.

Saira Ardon, Psychology Major

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

Psalm 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19. *“Justice shall flourish in God’s time, and fullness of peace forever.”*

Lord, God of Abraham, God of the Prophets, God of Love, you created us and you call us to live as brothers and sisters. Give us the strength daily to be instruments of peace; enable us to see everyone who crosses our path as our brother or sister. Make us sensitive to the plea of our citizens who entreat us to turn our weapons of war into implements of peace, our trepidation into confident trust, and our quarreling into forgiveness. Keep alive within us the flame of hope, so that with patience and perseverance we may opt for dialogue and reconciliation. In this way may peace triumph at last.

Excerpt from Pope Francis’s “Prayer for Peace”

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

Psalm 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17. “O God, I will tell of your singular justice. O God, you have taught me from my youth, and till the present I proclaim your wondrous deeds.”

These above lines from the Responsorial Psalm speak to me about God’s singular justice, which is always based on absolute truth, fairness, and righteousness. It also highlights the psalmist’s relationship with God as their ultimate source of wisdom and lifelong learning. They also commit to continually sharing and proclaiming the remarkable and extraordinary deeds of God.

This message fits perfectly with our core value of compassion at Edgewood College, as God’s justice and actions are fair, just, and driven by compassion for all humanity. So, proclaiming God’s deeds till the present also affirms our commitment to the COR question of how we can make this world a just and compassionate place for all. This is a way of sharing God’s compassion with others.

In conclusion, this is a beautiful prayer of trust and deep reverence that is relevant for us today, and it reminds us of the importance of compassion.

Atreyee Sinha, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Computing and Information Science

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

Isaiah 7:10-14. “Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign: the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel.”

Isaiah 7:14 speaks of a young woman bringing forth life, and in her vulnerability and hope she is all of us. The prophecy of Immanuel encapsulates God’s profound compassion for humanity, choosing to be with us in our weakness. As we anticipate Christmas, let this verse inspire us to extend compassion to the vulnerable around us, reflecting the divine love we’ve received.

Jill Kirby, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Religious Studies

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

Luke 1:39-45. “And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?”

How did I get so lucky? Sometimes, I look around at my life and ask myself this question, and lately I’ve been trying to focus it on the more mundane moments. How did I get so lucky to have this person in my life? To live in a beautiful place? To wake up this morning? There is extraordinary in the ordinary. God chose the ordinary vessel of humanity to deliver Himself to us. Elizabeth and Zechariah, like many figures in Scripture, bear no greater strength than faith alone. These people weren’t moving mountains; they practiced witnessing through their own mundane moments. God works through this “ordinary.” In our individual experiences, we can take comfort in knowing that God’s plan for us is intentional; just as the Holy Spirit moved Elizabeth, so too may it move us to recognize God’s hands in our lives.

Irene Ehrhart, Environmental Studies and Psychology Major

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

Luke 1:46-56. “My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my savior. From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is God’s Name.”

Amongst all the other women in the world who might have been more powerful, or might have had more resources, Mary was chosen by God to carry Jesus, God’s only son. This passage helps us understand why. She accepts God’s mission for her willingly, in gratitude and feeling so blessed that she vocalizes it. We all have struggles and challenges that we must go through every day, and sometimes these can make it difficult for us to trust God or to feel seen by God. Mary never doubted God; and in her prayer, she shared how she was rewarded with the greatest gift, how God had seen her and sees everyone, and will lift those suffering.

Maria Chacin '23, Mission, Values, and Inclusion Coordinator and Administrative Assistant

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

Psalm 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10, 14. *“Your ways, O LORD, make known to me, teach me your paths, the friendship of the LORD is with those who fear him.”*

What if we adopted the mindset of the one who transgresses? Not in a way that undervalues or reprimands us but in a way that keeps our desire for God's counsel anew. How would this change our encounter with other created beings? How would this change how we perceive local/global issues? How would this change our perception of situations where we think we know the answer? Would it affect how we teach, love, and laugh? Would it enrich the spiritual personhood of the Christian? If God is Mystery, then our friendship with Mystery is ever-evolving, ever-shifting to meet different needs and circumstances, ever-altering, to keep us unassuming and humble, and ever-growing as wisdom is a lover of age. Seeking is a responsibility fastened to our friendship with God, and seeking is reflexive of the student's adoration for the One they hold in high regard.

Shay Pollard, English Major

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

Luke 1:26-38. *“Mary said, ‘Behold, I am the handmaid of our God. May it be done to me according to your word.’ Then the angel departed from her.”*

For the last 25 years, as Advent approaches, I pull out a well-worn book entitled, *Night Visions*, by Jan Richardson. I recommend it for the development of your prayer life and for delight of your heart's imagination.

In relating the story of the Annunciation: the sacred meeting of the angel Gabriel and Mary, it becomes clear that by Mary's "Yes," she becomes a revolutionary! Mary knows in her soul, in her womb, that radical hope is found at the boundary where the outrageous gives way to the possible.

Do we, as members of the Edgewood College community, need to respond with Mary's same radical hope and compassion to the junctures of our daily meetings?

An invitation: take some quiet time to discover and savor the courage and grace found in this blessing from Jan Richardson:

“Guardian of the seasons,
Keeper of every time,
Tune us so to your rhythms

That we may know
The occasion for stillness
And the moment for action.
May we be so prepared
So aware
So awakened
In our waiting
That when you prompt us
Into motion,
Our hands may be your hands
And our purposes
Your own.”

Kathleen Phelan, O.P. '69, Trustee

CHRISTMAS EVE, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

Matthew 1:18-25. *“Behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, ‘Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her; All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means ‘God is with us.’”*

~Matthew 1:20, 22-2

Sometimes when things happen in life, at first glance, they seem like a burden, a hindrance, something to cause harm to you. I can imagine during this time, Joseph felt unappreciated, lost maybe. Joseph didn't know that this was a blessing in disguise.

Isn't God's timing marvelous? A child born from a virgin was all a part of God's plan! This is a reminder that during times of distress and worry, we must stay the course, because who knows, your blessing might be on the other side. God is with us through it all.

Today, in the world, there are countless moments that may, due to our differences, make us want to flee from one another. We must remember that compassion is an action word, and that we all deserve it, regardless of the journeys we have taken. This season, pass compassion on as the Father gives us.

Jazzma Holland, Assistant Director for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Programming

CHRISTMAS DAY, MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

Luke 2:15-20. “When the angels went away from them to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go, then, to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.’”

Today’s scripture tells the very familiar story of how the shepherds learned of Jesus’ birth directly from the angels, and how they reacted. I think it is an important detail of the story that the shepherds discussed what they had seen and decided to act: “they said to one another, ‘let us go...to see this thing that has taken place’...” As is often the case, scripture leaves out a lot of details. Surely, there was some hesitation about leaving their sheep unguarded from predators and thieves. We don’t know exactly how far a journey this would have been for them. I imagine there was considerable discussion about the angels themselves...not something shepherds would typically encounter in the middle of the night. Luke simply reports on the conclusion of their discussion. That decision to act made them the first people outside the Holy Family to witness the incarnation of God! We’re left to wonder how that encounter with holiness changed them. I don’t think it is a coincidence that the first witnesses of God on Earth were common folks, not powerful royalty or influential celebrities...they don’t arrive until later in the story. God appeared to those without status first. My hope this Christmas—for myself and everyone—is to be like these shepherds: to recognize God’s words when a messenger delivers them, to act on them accordingly, and to encounter holiness as a result.

Andrew P. Manion, Ph.D., President

Thank you

*On behalf of the Division of Mission, Values,
and Inclusion, thank you for sharing this
Advent Journey with us*

— to all who contributed reflections, and to you who have taken the time to pause, read, reflect, and pray during this Season. We wish you God’s holy gifts of joy, hope and peace in this sacred season.

*Gretchen M. Baumgardt
Interim Chief Mission and Ministry Officer*

Reflections available at:
edgewood.edu/reflections



EDGEWOOD COLLEGE

1000 Edgewood College Drive

Madison, WI 53711-1997

WWW.EDGEWOOD.EDU

COVER ART: *Birth of Christ*, Donald Jackson, Copyright 2002,
The Saint John's Bible, Saint John's University, Collegeville,
Minnesota USA. Used by permission. All rights reserved.