



**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)**

**With these gifts, dear God, accept the praise and thanksgiving of our hearts, which rejoice in your goodness and love. Let our gifts point to your presence in the world, and further your dream for the world through Jesus, Emmanuel, God-with-us. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON                      Luke 1:39-56                      Bruce Kinney

SERMON:                                      Mary and Elizabeth                      Rev. Kevin Pleas

\*CLOSING HYMN NO. 150      *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

**BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE                                  *Praeludium in d minor* – D. Buxtehude

\*You are invited to stand if you wish.

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 1:39-56 (New Revised Standard Version)

Pew Bibles: New Testament page 52

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

**First Congregational Church**

United Church of Christ ▪ 508 Union Street ▪ Manchester,  
New Hampshire ▪ FCCManchesterNH.org ▪ 603-625-5093

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