

Year B - Second Sunday of Advent

Luke 1:26-38

You will conceive and bear a son.



God sent the angel Gabriel to the town of Nazareth in Galilee with a message for a virgin named Mary.

She was engaged to Joseph from the family of King David.

The angel greeted Mary and said, "You are truly blessed! The Lord is with you."

Mary was confused by the angel's words and wondered what they meant.

Then the angel told Mary, "Don't be afraid! God is pleased with you, and you will have a son. His name will be Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of God Most High. The Lord God will make him king, as his ancestor David was. He will rule the people of Israel forever, and his kingdom will never end."

Mary asked the angel, "How can this happen? I am not married!"

The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come down to you, and God's power will come over you. So your child will be called the holy Son of God. "Your relative Elizabeth is also going to have a son, even though she is old. No one thought she could ever have a baby, but in three months she will have a son. Nothing is impossible for God!"

Mary said, "I am the Lord's servant!

Let it happen as you have said."

And the angel left her.



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Let it happen!



Message

- Mary loved God so much that she was ready to do whatever God asked of her. Trusting God completely and always ready to do God's will, Mary agreed to become the mother of the son of God, Jesus.
- This week we light the fourth and last candle of the Advent wreath - the candle of LOVE
- This week's gospel of the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary about the birth of Jesus is only found in Luke's gospel.
- Jesus is the fulfilment of the promise God made to Abraham and Sarah centuries ago!
- We call the announcement by the angel Gabriel to Mary that she would conceive a son by the power of the Holy Spirit, the Annunciation. It also marks Mary's acceptance of God's will. With the Annunciation we see the great things that God can bring when we, like Mary, say "Yes" to God.

Discussion questions

- Begin by checking with the children if there are any words or phrases that they don't understand. Also check if there are any words or phrases that stood out for them.
- Has anyone ever heard of angels? What can you tell me about them? (Angels are usually considered to be messengers of God.)
- I wonder how Mary felt when the angel appeared to her. What message did the angel have for her?
- How did Mary react to the angel's message?
- I wonder how you can be a sign of LOVE for others in the coming week

