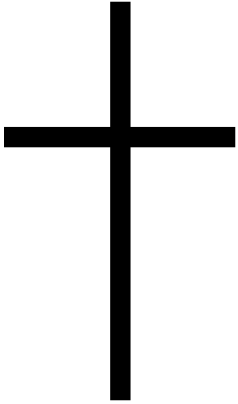


Mary's Magnificat



My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;
my spirit rejoices in God my savior.

For he has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness;
behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed.

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

His mercy is from age to age to those who fear him.

He has shown might with his arm, dispersed the arrogant of mind and heart.
He has thrown down the rulers from their thrones but lifted up the lowly.

The hungry he has filled with good things; the rich he has sent away empty.

He has helped Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy,
according to his promise to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.

Match these references from the Old Testament with Mary's Magnificat:

1 Samuel 1:11

1 Samuel 2:1

1 Samuel 2:8

Psalms 126:3

Isaiah 41:8-9



The Kingdom of God

1. The Kingdom/Reign of God (or “the Kingdom of Heaven,” as Matthew calls it) predicts the advancement of God’s power and love into all areas of life where it has not been previously recognized.
2. The coming of the Kingdom signals not only the ultimate sovereignty of God, but also the ultimate freedom of human beings.
3. God’s Kingdom is not burdensome, but uplifting; it is never destructive, only life-giving.
4. God’s Kingdom does not banish or destroy all evil in the world, but it does reconcile the whole of creation to its Creator.
5. Jesus teaches that the Kingdom of God is present and is to come. While active here and now, it reaches fullness in the future.
6. The Kingdom is open to all—no one is excluded.
7. For those who accept citizenship—who repent and believe—in the Kingdom, the future is endless, and the present is clothed in hope.

What are some attitudes of the Kingdom of God? Read Matthew 5:1–11.

List and describe three “Kingdom attitudes” you can make part of your life:

Jesus in the Gospels

In the Gospels, we . . .

- . . . meet Jesus.
- . . . hear good news.
- . . . are challenged to believe.

Read each of the Gospel passages below.

- Describe the picture or image of Jesus the passage presents.
- Say what the good news is.
- Tell what you feel the passage challenges you to believe and do.
- State what you can do to accept that challenge.

Mark 9:33-37

Matthew 5:14-16

Luke 10:39-42

John 15:9-17

The Easter Sermon of St. John Chrysostom

- ◆ Christ rises and life is set free.
Christ rises and graves are emptied of dead.
- ◆ Oh yes, for he broke from the tomb like a flower, a beautiful fruit:
the first fruit of those already gone.
- ◆ All glory be his, all success and power, forever and ever.
Let everybody, therefore, crowd into the exhilaration of our Savior.
- ◆ You the first and you the last: equally heaped with blessings.
You the rich and you the poor: celebrate together.
- ◆ You the careful and you the careless: enjoy this day of days.
You that have kept the fast and you that have broken it,
be happy today.
- ◆ The table is loaded. Feast on it like princes.
The milk-fed veal is fat. Let no one go hungry.
And drink, all of you: drink the cup. The vintage is faith.
- ◆ Feed sumptuously, all: feed on his goodness, his sheer abundance.
No one need think he is poor,
for the universal empire is emblazoned, wide open for all.
- ◆ No one need mourn uncountable falls, be they over and over.
For forgiveness itself has reared from the tomb.
No one need fear death: for our Savior himself has died
and set us free.
He confronted death in his own person, and blasted it to nothing.
- ◆ He made it defunct by the very taste of his flesh.
This is exactly what Isaiah foretold when he declared:
“Hell is harrowed by encounter with him.”
- ◆ Of course it is harrowed.
For now hell is a joke, finished, done for.
Harrowed, because now taken prisoner.
- ◆ It snatched at a body and—incredible—lit upon God.
It gulped down the earth, and gagged on heaven.
- ◆ It seized what it saw, and was crushed by what it failed to see.

Poor death, where is your sting?
◆ Poor hell, where is your triumph?
Christ steps out of the tomb and reduces both to nothing.
◆ Christ rises, and the angels are wild with delight!

Jesus' Miracles

Look up and read each of the following Gospel references to the miracles of Jesus. In one sentence, describe the miracle. Then determine what type of miracle it is. Mark **N** for nature, **H** for physical healing, **E** for exorcism, or **R** for raising from the dead.

<i>Miracle</i>	<i>Type</i>
1. Matthew 9:18, 23–26	_____
2. Mark 1:23–26	_____
3. Matthew 21:18–19	_____
4. Matthew 8:14–15	_____
5. John 21:3–6	_____
6. Mark 5:1–20	_____
7. Luke 18:35–43	_____
8. Luke 7:11–16	_____
9. John 9:1–11	_____
10. Matthew 9:32–33	_____
11. Mark 6:47–52	_____
12. Mark 2:1–12	_____
13. Matthew 15:32–38	_____
14. John 11:43–44	_____
15. Luke 5:12–13	_____
16. John 2:1–11	_____
17. Luke 11:14	_____

It Would Have Been Enough

Opening

R1: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

R1: May our prayer come before you, O God.

All: And may your grace come upon us and all the world.

R1: Gracious Creator, we offer you praise for all your gifts to us. We celebrate your love today and always.

The Word of God

Philippians 2:5–11

The Dayenu

R2: If you, O God, had given us the Law to teach us how to come to you . . .

All: Dayenu! It would have been enough.

R3: If you, O God, had sent us the Prophets to show us the way to you . . .

All: Dayenu! It would have been enough.

R4: If you, O God, had simply sent your Son to us in order to save us from sin . . .

All: Dayenu! It would have been enough.

R5: If you, O God, had sent us your Son, but he had not become one of us—a human being like us . . .

All: Dayenu! It would have been enough.

R6: If Jesus your Son had become a human being like us, but had not called us to a change of heart . . .

All: Dayenu! It would have been enough.

R7: If Jesus had called us to a change of heart, but had not revealed the coming of your Kingdom . . .

All: Dayenu! It would have been enough.

R8: If Jesus had revealed your Kingdom, but had not shown us how to live as its citizens . . .

All: Dayenu! It would have been enough.

R9: If Jesus had shown us the lifestyle of Kingdom living, but had not suffered and died for us . . .

All: Dayenu! It would have been enough.

R10: If Jesus had suffered and died for our sakes, but you had not raised him to new life . . .

All: Dayenu! It would have been enough.

R11: If you, O God, had raised Jesus to new life, but had not promised that we, too, would rise from death . . .

All: Dayenu! It would have been enough.

R12: But as it is, O God, you have done all these things for us! How much doubled and redoubled are our thanks!

All: Dayenu! We thank you, loving God.

R13: God of kindness everlasting, fill our hearts with your love. By your Son's Paschal Mystery you give us hope. Increase our faith in you. This we ask in the name of Jesus, our Savior, and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

All sing a closing song.