Space for God The Impossible



PREPARATION

• IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, THE SON, AND THE HOLY SPIRIT •

O Lord, our Lord, your majestic name fills the earth!

Your glory is higher than the heavens. Psalm 8:1

...what are mere mortals that you should think about them, human beings that you should care for them? Psalm 8:4

WORSHIP

I have called you back from the ends of the earth, saying, 'You are my servant.' For I have chosen you and will not throw you away.

Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand.

Isaiah 41:9-10

CONFESSION

My hands have made both heaven and earth; they and everything in them are mine. I, the Lord, have spoken!

"I will bless those who have humble and contrite hearts, who tremble at my word.

Psalm 66:2

MEDITATION Luke 1:26-38*

n the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!"

Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. "Don't be afraid, Mary," the angel told her, "for you have found favor with God! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end!"

Mary asked the angel, "But how can this happen? I am a virgin."

The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the baby to be born will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God. What's more, your relative Elizabeth has become pregnant in her old age!

IN SOLITUDE AND/OR COMMUNITY

Read Slowly, several times.

Reflect What does the text say?

Respond How does it relate to my life?

Rest I welcome God's healing and renewal.

People used to say she was barren, but she has conceived a son and is now in her sixth month. For the word of God will never fail."

Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true." And then the angel left her.

ANCHORING PRAYER

I humble myself before You, I am Your servant.

REVIEW OF THE HEART

In what way has humility drawn me closer to God? In what way have my own fears driven me away from God?

WISDOM

All right then, the Lord himself will give you the sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel (which means 'God is with us').

Isaiah 7:14

Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices shouting in heaven: "The world has now become the Kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign forever and ever."

Revelation 11:15

May God be merciful and bless us. May his face smile with favor on us. Psalm 67:1

TESTIMONY What is God saying to me?

INTERCESSION Prayers for the Church, for others, and for me.

BENEDICTION

You have told me, 'I know you by name, and I look favorably on you.'

If it is true that you look favorably on me, let me know your ways

so I may understand you more fully and continue to enjoy your favor.

Amen.

Exodus 33:12b-13a

SPACE FOR GOD DAILY

Be still and quiet before God.

Seek the Holy Spirit's filling and guidance.

Speak and act from a listening heart.

Actively serve in community with others.

PermaneSED (Abide) Kurt D. Peters. **Bold** portions to be read in unison. *Lectionary, Year B Scripture Quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2007 by Tyndale House Foundation.