Make Room for Love



²⁶ In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰ But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. ³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High.

The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

³⁴ "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

³⁵The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. ³⁷ For no word from God will ever fail."

³⁸ "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her. ³⁹ At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, 40 where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. 41 When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

⁴² In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! 43 But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? 44 As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

⁴⁶ And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸ for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, ⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me holy is his name.

- ⁵⁰ His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation.
- ⁵¹He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.
- ⁵²He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble.

- ⁵³He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty.
- ⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful ⁵⁵ to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he promised our ancestors."
- ⁵⁶ Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.

Make Room for Love





Love
Makes
Room

Love Makes Room

• For Birth

Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus.



This is no time for a child to be born, With the earth betrayed by war & hate And a comet slashing the sky to warn That time runs out & the sun burns late.

Madeleine L'Engle, "The Risk of Birth"

That was no time for a child to be born, In a land in the crushing grip of Rome; Honor & truth were trampled to scorn— Yet here did the Savior make His home.

Madeleine L'Engle, "The Risk of Birth"

When is the time for love to be born? The inn is full on the planet earth, And by a comet the sky is torn—Yet Love still takes the risk of birth.

Madeleine L'Engle, "The Risk of Birth"

Love Makes Room

- For Birth
- For Limits

How will this be, since I am a virgin?



The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.



I am the Lord's servant. May your word to me be fulfilled.





Love Makes Room

- For Birth
- For Limits
- For Others

MARY & ELIZABETH

Blessed are you among women and blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?



MARY & ELIZABETH

As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!



Love Makes Room

- For Birth
- For Limits
- For Others
- For WrongsMade Right

MARY'S SONG

My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior...



GOD HAS:

- Been mindful of Mary
- Done great things
- Performed mighty deeds
- Scattered the proud
- Brought down rulers from their thrones
- Lifted up the humble
- Filled the hungry with good things
- Sent the rich away empty
- Helped Israel



How Can We Make Room...

- For Birth?
- For Limits?
- For Others?
- For WrongsMade Right?