

## Scripture Reading – December 21, 2025

★ GOSPEL READING

Steve Corley

*LUKE 1:39-58*

<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup>where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup>and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup>And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup>For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." <sup>46</sup>And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, <sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, <sup>48</sup>for he has looked with favor on the lowly state of his servant. Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed, <sup>49</sup>for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name; <sup>50</sup>indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. <sup>51</sup>He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. <sup>52</sup>He has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; <sup>53</sup>he has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty. <sup>54</sup>He has come to the aid of his child Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, <sup>55</sup>according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever." <sup>56</sup>And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home. <sup>57</sup>Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. <sup>58</sup>Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Thanks be to God!**