

# **Advent Devotional: "Listen to What I Say"**

**By: Pastor Paul Turbedsky Cornelius Care Pastor**

**Scripture: Luke 2:19-20 NRSV**

**"But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them."**

**Advent calls us into a season of attentive listening — to a quiet space amid the holiday rush. Luke 2 invites us to hear the voice of God in the unexpected: the angels' song, the shepherds' awe, and the humble birth of Christ.**

**Mary's heart models a deep, reflective listening. She treasures every word, pondering them silently, allowing the message of God's coming to sink into her heart and soul. There is no rush, no outward display, just a sacred receptivity that transforms from within. In her arms lay Jesus, Christ our Savior.**

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**The shepherds, however, show us another dimension of response: celebration. After hearing the angels' proclamation, they leave glorifying God, spreading the joy of what they have experienced.**

**Listening, then, finds its full expression in both contemplation and action, holding the message close and sharing its wonder with the world.**

**This Christmas, the call is the same for us: listen.**

**Let the story of God's love for humanity settle in your heart, like Mary. Treasure it. Let it shape your thoughts, your words, your deeds.**

**And then, like the shepherds, respond with praise: through gratitude, generosity, or acts of kindness.**

