K E Y	Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and late rains.
	James 5:7
R E A D I N G S	Preparing for Sunday, December 14th  Day 1— Isaiah 35:1-10  Day 2— Psalm 146:5-10  Day 3— Luke 1:46b-55  Day 4— James 5:7-10  Day 5— Matthew 11:2-11
	Day 6— John 1:6-8  *Sunday readings in bold.
A P P L Y	Patience a very difficult human trait to maintain. Every generation seems to want instant gratification. I wondered what an expectant woman felt about patience. So I asked my wife what her feelings were during our pregnancies. Among the feelings caused by hormonal changes and others, her main feelings were anticipation, hope and excitement. Can't you just imagine the feelings expressed by Mary & Elizabeth during their visit. They knew that peace, redemption, and salvation were at hand. Well worth the wait!!!
	Stir up the trust of all who look to you, Lord God and strengthen our faith in your coming that transformed by grace, we may walk in your way. Through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.







## Advent III: The Gift of Love

Luke 1:46-48

And Mary said, I'm bursting with God-news; I'm dancing the song of my Savior God. God took one good look at me, and look what happened—I'm the most fortunate woman on earth! What God has done for me will never be forgotten, the God whose very name is holy, set apart from all others.

The Message

## Matthew 11:4-5

Jesus told them, "Go back and tell John what's going on: The blind see, The lame walk, Lepers are cleansed, The deaf hear, The dead are raised, The wretched of the earth learn that God is on their side. "Is this what you were expecting? Then count yourselves most blessed!"

The Message

Mary was thrilled to be pregnant with Jesus. She was a teenager with no idea what this really meant. The feelings of joy that was experiencing sent her dancing. Her heart was overflowing. Sometimes on Christmas Eve at worship do you ever feel some of this warmth of emotion run through your heart? Whether it be through a carol, a retelling of the Christmas story or maybe the candle lighting. This is connecting with Jesus. This is what we are called to share with our neighbor.

