

# 18. NEW CALLINGS

IN THOSE DAYS MARY SET OUT AND WENT WITH HASTE TO A JUDEAN TOWN IN THE HILL COUNTRY, WHERE SHE ENTERED THE HOUSE OF ZECHARIAH AND GREETED ELIZABETH.... AND MARY SAID...  
MY SOUL MAGNIFIES THE LORD, AND MY SPIRIT REJOICES IN GOD MY SAVIOR...  
YOU HAVE BROUGHT DOWN THE POWERFUL FROM THEIR THRONES,  
AND LIFTED UP THE LOWLY;  
YOU HAVE FILLED THE HUNGRY WITH GOOD THINGS,  
AND SENT THE RICH AWAY EMPTY.  
*LUKE 1:39-56*

## Called Through the Awakenings of Today's World

Creative God,  
in this very moment,  
you are calling each one of us  
to magnify your good news.  
Like Mary,  
you formed us to be bold,  
to lift up the lowly,  
and cast down the powerful  
in order to make the world  
a more just place for all.  
Awaken our senses as you awakened these children  
to the people and places  
most in need of our presence.  
Focus our attention  
particularly to the margins,  
those who are too-often forgotten.  
Gift us with the courage  
to go out with haste  
to embrace the new callings  
emerging from the world today.  
Amen.

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## Exploration Questions

- How do you see children responding to callings differently than adults?
- How is childlikeness a force in your own callings?
- Mary's praise is focused on issues of justice—why do you think that particular focus captured Mary?
- When you feel stirred toward a new calling, do you mostly feel excitement or mostly feel anxiety/stress? Explain.