



APC Advent Devotional – December 13th, 2020
The Third Sunday of Advent

“Here am I, the servant of the Lord...” (Luke 1:38)

Today’s Scripture: Luke 1:26-38 (NIV)

This Bible passage is a beautiful portion of the Scripture which contains promising words in a situation of confusion and disturbance. As we read this portion of the Scripture, we too are situated in a world which is confused and disturbed – caused by Corona. The angel greeted Mary, a young woman who had no clue that she would listen to the greatest news a woman would ever hear, that is, she would be mother of our Lord and Savior of the world.

We should not think Mary as a grown woman here, but as a young woman in her teenage years – mostly shy and timid. Even though the angel twice emphasized to Mary that she was favored by God, her mind could not feel happiness, but only trouble (v.28, 30). Even when the angel assured Mary, “the Lord is with you” (v.28) and “fear not” (v.30), she was still gripped with fear. This shows the fragile nature of Mary. Not only Mary, we (humans) all are fragile, confused, broken, troubled, and hopeless.

When the angel was revealing the greatest truth to her in v.31-33, Mary could think only one thing: ‘how could this happen?’ Often times, we too have a similar thought. Our brokenness leads to a hopeless state, and may shatter our belief, so that we get stuck. The angel responded to Mary, “For with God, nothing shall be impossible.” Upon hearing this, Mary surrendered to God’s will, saying, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord.” The fundamental truth that one should learn here is to surrender oneself to God, accept the will of God, and obey the Word of God. Mary thus prepared herself to become the mother of our Savior, as an instrument to carry the Good News to the world.

May we prepare ourselves by surrendering to God, to welcome the Messiah. May this Advent, the Season of the Coming of the Lord be a blessing to come nearer to God, Amen!

By Rev. Sam Sunny Anand S.