

Advent Devotional - Day 15

2025

December 15th



Scripture: Luke 2:19 Verse: *"But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart."*

Reflection:

After the angelic fanfare and the steady stream of visitors, Mary does something quiet and rare—she holds the moment close and turns it over in her heart. The Christmas season is not all motion and checklist; it is also a season for holy pause. Treasuring the mystery of God with us means stopping long enough to let the wonder settle, to notice how a single truth changes the shape of everyday life.

That discipline of pondering guards against a faith that skims the surface. When we slow down, the story grows roots in us and shapes what we do next. A hurried faith stacks up good deeds and parties that leave little lasting change, but a practiced stillness produces decisions and commitments formed by insight rather than impulse.

In church life this looks intentional and simple: set aside testimony evenings where people tell how God moved with them, offer regular times of reflective prayer, and encourage families to keep short, steady devotions at home. Those small pauses let the season do its work, turning holiday feeling into permanent faith that guides how we live, give, and love all year long.

Prayer:

God of quiet wonders, slow our rushing hearts and teach us to hold your mystery gently; help us make room to listen, ponder, and let your presence shape how we live, give, and love. Amen.

Today's Mt Hope Mindful Response Challenge:

Weekly/Daily Five-Minute Pause — End each week/ day with five minutes of silence, allowing time for you to reflect on where and how God is at work in your life.



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