

Devotion, Week of December 28, 2025
Rev. Jeanne Simpson

Luke 2:19 says that after the shepherds had visited, telling her and Joseph what the angels had proclaimed to them in the fields, “Mary treasured all these things, pondering them in her heart.”

The baby has been born, the shepherds have arrived, and later, the wise men will come. In the meantime, this little family, still away from Nazareth and staying in Bethlehem, deals with a newborn who they know to be holy. Mary treasures what she has been told about this child, and she continues to wonder what his life will be like, and hers as well. We know that as Jesus becomes an adult, life becomes hard for him, and for her. It’s an overpowering thought, that a beautiful birth over thirty years later would result in a crucifixion. That is why Simeon, when he meets the family in the temple, warns Mary that although this child is a Savior, a sword will pierce her heart. She doesn’t know that yet though. She is resting in this period of several years of enjoying her baby with Joseph and his relatives.

As we sit in this time before the wise men come and Joseph is told in a dream to flee to Egypt, let us remember to treasure the birth, as we ponder what God’s gift to us of a holy child means to us today.

Jeanne