The Song of Mary: "Magnificat" (Canticle 15)iv

Luke 1:46b-55

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; * for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: * the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name. He has mercy on those who fear him * in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm, * he has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, * and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, * and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel, * for he has remembered his promise of mercy, The promise he made to our fathers, * to Abraham and his children for ever.

These excerpts from Mary's song of praise, the Magnificat, echo many gospel themes stressed by Luke: the joy of salvation, the reversal of this world's values, God's option for the poor and lowly and the fulfillment of the Old Testament promises. This song of God's lowly handmaid is a foreshadowing of the way in which the Kingdom of God will transform our world.

About the canticle: Luke 1:46b-55