

Feast of the Assumption



*My soul flowers in the light of your love, my God
and my spirit sings Alleluia in the reality of your joyful
presence, because you have chosen my kinswoman and me
with the summons of your eyes.*

*Yes, we are known now and for all time. We are known as women,
blessed.*

Holy is your name.

*The tenderness of your hand rests on us as we journey in your way.
Your power in my life has led me into the embrace of loving arms.
You have exposed my lonely pride that I might turn my head to your
nurturing breast.*

*You have revealed the hollowness of achievements and have opened in
my heart a space filled with simple, loving moments.*

*My hunger you have satisfied,
my excess you have ignored.*

*You are my help as I remember your tender love for me,
...for we have touched each other you and I
and we have made promises....*

*I remember your tenderness for all that you have begun in me
and in those with whom I walk
and I respond with all that I am becoming
in this hour and in all times to come.*

Ann Johnson based on Luke 1:39-56

Mary said “Yes” to God and so Jesus, the Incarnate one, came into our world. Mary can be portrayed as meek and mild, but when we look at her life, we see just how wrong this notion is. Mary is the gentle mother, the one who brings peace, yes, but she is the strong woman who

trusts in God no matter what, who sees her son being misunderstood, who stands by him on the cross and who accompanies the disciples in their doubt before the resurrection.

When Mary visits Elizabeth, as described in today's Gospel, Elizabeth says, "Of all women you are the most blessed." This is spoken in the Carey Landry hymn:



*Gentle woman, quiet light,
morning star, so strong and bright,
gentle Mother, peaceful dove,
teach us wisdom; teach us love.*

*You were chosen by the Father;
you were chosen for the Son.
You were chosen from all women
and for woman, shining one.*

*Gentle woman, quiet light,
morning star, so strong and bright,
gentle Mother, peaceful dove,
teach us wisdom; teach us love.*

*Blessed are you among women,
blest in turn all women, too.
Blessed they with peaceful spirits.
Blessed they with gentle hearts.*

We ask Mary to show us the way to make the Incarnate Jesus live in our hearts and minds. We pray that we may each have the spirit of Mary, the virtue of Mary, the strength and power of Mary. Amen.