



December 23, 2020

*The shepherds went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. **But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.** Luke 2:16-19*

While the shepherds are spreading the word about the amazing night they have had since the angel first appeared to them, Mary is quiet. She is treasuring the words she has heard – words of amazement and joy, words of comfort and hope – and she is pondering them in her heart.

Mary teaches us to treasure the words that we hear, and, by implication, the people behind the words.

Treasure the words of the scriptures and carols.

Treasure the Christmas card from a far-off friend.

Treasure the story told to you on the phone by an uncle or grandchild.

Treasure the strangers who deliver packages, keep the streets clear of snow, and stock the grocery aisles.

Treasure the people you struggle to understand.

Treasure those who care for the sick and dying among us.

I'm sure that you will have other words and people to include here as well.

At Christmas, we join Mary to ponder how God came to be known in human life, and how easy it would be to miss it.

Merry Christmas,

Rev. Matthew Wooster
Senior Minister

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