FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

But you, O Bethlehem ... when she who is in labor has brought forth ... from you shall come forth ... the one of peace ...

Micah 5:2a, 3b, 2b, 5c
Nativity in the Snow

Church near Xavier University
In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

Luke 1:39a, 40
The Visitation -- Jacopo da Pontormo, Pfaarkirche, Carmignano, Italy
When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ...

Luke 1:41
Visitation

Church of El Sitio

El Sitio, El Salvador
and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

Luke 1:42
The Visitation

Brother Eric
Church of Reconciliation
Taize, France
And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?

Luke 1:43
For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy.

Luke 1:44
And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

Luke 1:45
The Annunciation

El Greco

Ohara Museum of Art

Kurashiki, Japan
And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

Luke 1:46-47
The Magnificat ("My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord") -- Baltimore Cathedral, Baltimore, MD
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

Luke 1:48
The Annunciation

Our Lady of Pity
Church
Swaffham, England
for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

Luke 1:49-50
Madonna of Mercy -- Domenico Ghirlandaio, San Salvatore di Ognissanti, Florence, Italy
He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

Luke 1:51
The Visitation

Father Georges Saget
Keur Moussa Abbey
Keur Moussa, Senegal
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;

Luke 1:52
The Annunciation -- Henry Ossawa Tanner, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, PA
he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

Luke 1:53
Feeding the Hungry

Biberach, Germany
He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.

Luke 1:54
Birth of Christ

Medieval tapestry created by Swiss Dominican nun Burrell Collection
Glasgow, Scotland