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**Scripture:** Luke 1:46-55

**Reflection:** You know what it's like to have good news, don't you? Good news that you CAN'T WAIT to share! You know what I'm talking about ... the kind of news that won't let you sit still, burns a hole in your pocket, and makes your heart feel like it is about to explode.

Known as "The Song of Mary" or the Magnificat, you can almost HEAR bells ringing as Mary dances and lilt with the good news she has just received!

Imagine how life-changing this would be!

Can you imagine how your role as a ringer would change if there was this much joy in every note? If every mallet and mart was merry, every damp was delightful, every gyro was jubilant, and, yes, every pluck was prized? If your page turns were treasured and every chord was indulgent, envision the possibilities for transformation, not just of your ringing, but of your spirit, your stand partner, and your whole bell choir! Mary was so full of joy her song could not be contained.

We have Good News to share too, which cannot be contained. Why even try?! Ring it out! Let joy escape! Shower your world with the uncontainable song!

**Prayer:** Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, Good Shepherd, Gate, Bread of Life, Light of the World, The Way, The Truth, The Life, Rock of Ages, Holy Comforter, Almighty God, Fathomless Mystery, Indescribable, Uncontainable, Holy One, Elohim, Adonai, YHWH.

We confess we are not as joyful as we should be. We harbor grudges that keep us from ringing "Joy to the World, the Lord is Come" with a full heart. Help us release our ill will, and be peacemakers once again. We may have suffered devastating losses: loved ones, health, financial security and happiness. Broken relationships with family, with friends, with Thee have left us feeling empty and alone. For us, the phrase "let heaven and nature sing" does not burst with joy, but instead rings hollow and gray. Help us to rediscover the joy of a simple Christmas: a world filled with promise, a night sky filled with angel song, and a rude stable sighing with a baby's first breath. A baby sent for us. A baby who brings hope, peace, love and joy to all people!

"For unto us is born this day, in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord." That is the ultimate in good news! This day, may our ringing erupt with joy, spring forth with peals of peace, love, and hope, that You, Joy-bringer, may be honored and glorified in our ringing. Amen.



**RECOMMENDED RINGING >>**

**Level 1-2:** ["Repeat the Sounding Joy,"](#) arr. Sandra Eithun; 3-5 oct., Level 2; Alfred; code 27056

["Joy to the World,"](#) arr. Alan Lohr; 2 oct.; Level 1; SoundForth; code 202003SF

**Level 3:** ["Joys of Mary,"](#) arr. Sondra Tucker; 3-6 oct.; Level 3, Casa Publications; code HB 024

["How Great Our Joy,"](#) arr. Douglas Wagner and Lloyd Larson; 3-5 oct.; Level 3; Lorenz; code LC201365L; full orchestration, MLC302102L; full score and keyboard part, MLC201366L

**Level 4:** ["The Joy of Christmas,"](#) Michael Joy; 3-5 oct.; Level 4-; Red River; code RRBL5046; 6 oct., RRG5014

["Tidings of Comfort and Joy,"](#) arr. Brian Childers; 3-5 oct. with opt. 3-5 oct. handchimes; Level 4-; GIA; code G7930

**Solo/Ensemble:** ["Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring,"](#) arr. Sue Garton; 2 oct. bell tree and handchime duet; From the Top, code 1064D

["Christmas Rejoicing,"](#) arr. Christine Anderson and Anna Laura Page; handbell solo with piano accompaniment; Hope; code 1541