

1. Hospitality to family, friends, strangers and enemies as a way of entertaining the gods, angels and God unawares is valued in many religions. The Old Testament narrates God's fatherly desire to restore family unity among all the nations of the World. Luke's gospel narrates how that reality has been accomplished through Jesus (Gen 12:1-3; Luke 1:1).
2. The birth stories of John and Jesus promise and celebrate that those who patiently pray and converse with God will see and hold Salvation (Luke 1-2; 11:1-13).
3. The songs which celebrate these births declare the blessing that comes to those who visit and help family and friends in need, especially those with children (Luke 1:39-45).
4. When Jesus launched his mission by proclaiming release to the oppressed, he used the scriptures to highlight that this work entails feeding the hungry, bringing the poor into one's home, clothing the naked, and not hiding from one's kin (Luke 4:18-19; Isa. 61:1-2; 58:6-7).
5. Jesus' controversial mercy to lepers, paralytics, and sinners taught that "repentance is not a precondition for God's acceptance but that feeling such acceptance makes the former possible, giving preachers a lesson in how to "catch people alive" (Luke 5-6:11).
6. In his Sermon on the Plain, Jesus taught the value of having a lack that God can fill, and commended his disciples to ground their life on fostering vulnerability centered on love of enemies (Luke 6:20-49).
7. Jesus' Parables explained that by hospitality to God's word, by hearing and doing it, his disciples can become his "mother" (Luke 8:4-21). Jesus later encouraged a woman who praised His mother to enter into this mystery of spiritual maternity through the Holy Spirit herself by also keeping and doing the Word as Mary did (Luke 1-2; 11:27-28).
8. Jesus' Galilean ministry culminates by the teaching to take up our cross "daily," to lose the life of superficial desire so as to live a life that attains the self's deepest longing (Luke 9:18-27).
9. On his Journey to Jerusalem Jesus strengthens his disciples to follow him. His words to Martha, that "only one plate is necessary" guide us to skirt the temptation of frenetic service and attend to what the guest really wants. The Parable of the Friend at Midnight teaches that we should be "shameless" in our efforts to help those in need.
10. Prayerful engagement with the Scriptures that nurtures hospitality can be nurtured by the traditional practices of *Lectio Divina* and *Visio Divina*. We used Rublev's icon of the *Holy Trinity*, Da Vinci's painting of *The Last Supper* and Dali's *Crucifixion* to reflect on how Luke presents the events of Jesus Final Week in Jerusalem to dramatize how Jesus as Messiah brings God's love and life to all the nations.