

# RESOUNDING

## *Songs of Advent*

### *Zechariah*

- Christmas music seems to stick with us. What are your favourite Christmas songs and why?
- Read Luke 1:67-80. What stands out for you?
- Throughout the first few chapters of his Gospel, Luke frequently mentions how people were filled with awe and were praising God (see Mary, Zechariah, angels, Simeon). Why is Luke Emphasizing this?
- Zechariah's song is sometime called the Benedictus ("praise be" are the first words of the song). What is the focus of Zechariah's praise? How might that inform our praise?
- What might make praising God difficult?
- Before Zechariah spoke, he endured a season of silence. How does it appear that he used that season? Why was this important?
- We live in a world of constant noise and distraction. Rarely do we enjoy silence and solitude. Rarely do we take time to really reflect. Is this your experience? How might you build more times of silence of solitude into your schedule?
- What does it mean that "God has visited his people"? Does God still visit us? If so, in what ways have you experienced this?
- Zechariah claims that God has rescued us from our enemies. In his day, this might have meant rescue from the Romans or out of poverty. What do you think holds people captive today? What do people need rescuing from?
- How does the coming of John (and Jesus) address this need?