

## While I Ponder

“In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, ‘Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.’ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.” Luke 1:26-29



My hand speaks first.

Yes, I am afraid.

I must put some distance between myself and this stranger.  
He welcomes me warmly,  
but the motives behind his words are not clear.

My open palm also signals receptivity.  
For while I am leery,  
intuition assures me  
that this messenger seems somehow worthy of trust,  
even welcome.

Prophetic blessing is embodied in my gesture too,  
a promise of the “Yes” that will be uttered and lived.

Mystified, as I am--  
puzzled, and confounded—  
my body communicates  
while my mind quickly composes a verbal response.