**N. TOWN PLAYS 2025, AUDITION PIECE 5: MARY, ELIZABETH**

MARY Now the blessed Trinity be in this house.

 Ah, cousin Elizabeth, sweet mother, what cheer?

 Ye grow great! Ah, my God, how ye be gracious!

ELIZABETH Anon as I heard of you this holy greeting,

 meekest maiden and the mother of God, Mary,

 by your breath the Holy Ghost us was inspiring

 that the child in my body rejoiced greatly

 and turned down on his knees to our God reverently.

Whom ye bear in your body this verily I ken.

 Fulfilled with the Holy Ghost thus loud I cry:

 Blessed be thou among all women.

And blessed be the fruit of thy womb also,

thou worthiest woman and wife that ever was wrought.

How is it that the mother of God me should come to,

that wretch of all wretches, a wight worse than nought,

and thou art blessed, that believed verily in thy thought

that the word of God should profit in thee.

But how this blessedness about was brought,

I cannot think nor say how it should be.

MARY To the praising of God, cousin, this said may be:

 When I sat in my little house unto God praying,

 Gabriel came and said to me ‘Ave’.

 There I conceived God at my consenting,

 perfect God and perfect man at once being.

 Then the angel said unto me

 that it was six months since your conceiving.

 This causeth my coming, cousin, you to comfort and see.

ELIZABETH Blessed be ye, cousin, for your hither coming.

MARY This holy psalm I begin here this day:

 Magnificat anima mea Dominum,

 et exaltavit spiritus meus in Deo salutari meo.

ELIZABETH By the Holy Ghost with joy God’s son is in thee come,

 that thy spirit so enjoyed the health of thy God so.

MARY Quia respexit humilitatem ancille sue.

 Ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent omnes generationes.

ELIZABETH For he beheld the lowness of his handmaid, ye.

 Lo, henceforth for that all generations bless you in peace.

MARY Quia fecit mihi magna qui potens est,

 et sanctum nomen eius.

ELIZABETH For great things he made, and also mightiest,

 and right holy is the name of him in us.

MARY Et misericordia eius a progenie in progenies

 timentibus eum.

ELIZABETH Yea, the mercy of him from mankind unto mankind in peace,

 for all that him dread now is he come.

MARY Fecit potentiam in brachio suo;

 dispersit superbos in mente cordis sui.

ELIZABETH The power in his right arm he hath made so,

 the proud to despair in the thought of their heart inwardly.

MARY Deposuit potentes de sede,

 et exaltavit humiles.

ELIZABETH The proud men from their seats put he,

 and the lowly upon high in the seat of peace.

MARY Esurientes implevit bonis,

 et divites dimisit inanes.

ELIZABETH All the poor and the needy he filleth with his goods,

 and the rich he felleth to voidness.

MARY Suscepit Israel puerum suum;

 recordatus est misericordie sue.

ELIZABETHH Israel for his child up-took he to come,

 on his mercy to think, for his that be.

MARY Sicut locutus est ad patres nostros,

 Abraham et semini eius in saecula.

ELIZABETH As he spake to our forefathers in close,

 Abraham and to all his seed of him in this world so.

MARY Gloria Patri et filio,

 et Spiritui Sancto.

ELIZABETH Praising to the Father in heaven.lo!

 the same to the Son here be so.

 the Holy Ghost also to ken.

MARY Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper,

 et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

ELIZABETH As it was in the beginning, and now is, and shall be for ever, and in this world all good works to abide then.

MARY This psalm of prophecy, said between us twain,

 in heaven is written with angel’s hand ,

 ever to be sung and also to be said

 every day among us at our evensong.