

### The Fourth Sunday in Advent

The Old Testament is written in the 40th chapter of the prophet Isaiah, beginning at the first verse.

This passage may be found in the pew Bible on page 828.

*(Pause to allow parishioners to find the page.)*

“Comfort, yes, comfort My people!”  
Says your God.

“Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry  
out to her, That her warfare is ended,  
That her iniquity is pardoned; For she  
has received from the Lord’s hand  
Double for all her sins.”

The voice of one crying in the  
wilderness: “Prepare the way of the  
Lord; Make straight in the desert  
A highway for our God.

Every valley shall be exalted And every  
mountain and hill brought low; The  
crooked places shall be made straight  
And the rough places smooth;

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed,  
And all flesh shall see it together; For  
the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

The voice said, “Cry out!”  
And he said, “What shall I cry?”

“All flesh is grass, And all its loveliness  
is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,  
Because the breath of the Lord blows  
upon it; Surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades,  
But the word of our God stands  
forever.”

O Zion, You who bring good tidings,  
Get up into the high mountain;  
O Jerusalem, You who bring good  
tidings, Lift up your voice with  
strength, Lift it up, be not afraid; Say to  
the cities of Judah, “Behold your God!”

Behold, the Lord God shall come with a  
strong hand, And His arm shall rule for  
Him; Behold, His reward is with Him,  
And His work before Him.

He will feed His flock like a shepherd;  
He will gather the lambs with His arm,  
And carry them in His bosom, And  
gently lead those who are with young.

*(Pause for a count of 5)*

This is the word of the Lord.

## The Fourth Sunday in Advent

### Psalm 80

1 HEAR, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that ledest Joseph like a flock; \* show thyself also, thou that sittest upon the Cherubim.

2 Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, \* stir up thy strength, and come and help us.

3 Turn us again, O God; \* show the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.

4 O Lord God of hosts, \* how long wilt thou be angry with thy people that prayeth?

5 Thou feedest them with the bread of tears, \* and givest them plenteousness of tears to drink.

6 Thou hast made us a very strife unto our neighbours, \* and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

7 Turn us again, thou God of hosts; \* show the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.

8 Thou hast brought a vine out of Egypt; \* thou hast cast out the heathen, and planted it.

9 Thou madest room for it; \* and when it had taken root, it filled the land.

10 The hills were covered with the shadow of it, \* and the boughs thereof were like the goodly cedar-trees.

11 She stretched out her branches unto the sea, \* and her boughs unto the River.

12 Why hast thou then broken down her hedge, \* that all they that go by pluck off her grapes?

13 The wild boar out of the wood doth root it up, \* and the wild beasts of the field devour it.

14 Turn thee again, thou God of hosts, look down from heaven, \* behold, and visit this vine;

15 And the place of the vineyard that thy right hand hath planted, \* and the branch that thou madest so strong for thyself.

16 It is burnt with fire, and cut down; \* and they shall perish at the rebuke of thy countenance.

17 Let thy hand be upon the man of thy right hand, \* and upon the son of man, whom thou madest so strong for thine own self.

18 And so will not we go back from thee: \* O let us live, and we shall call upon thy Name.

19 Turn us again, O Lord God of hosts; \* show the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.

*Glory be...*

### **The Fourth Sunday in Advent**

The New Testament is written in the fourth chapter of St. Paul's Epistle to the Philippians, beginning at the fourth verse.

This passage may be found in the Book of Common Prayer on page 95.

*(Pause to allow parishioners to find the page.)*

REJOICE in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.

Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with

thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

*(Pause for a count of 5)*

This is the word of the Lord.