

The Third Sunday in Advent

The Old Testament is written in the 35th chapter of the prophet Isaiah, beginning at the first verse.

This passage may be found in the pew Bible on page 822.

(Pause to allow parishioners to find the page.)

The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them, And the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose; It shall blossom abundantly and rejoice, Even with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, The excellence of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, The excellency of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, And make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are fearful-hearted, "Be strong, do not fear! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, With the recompense of God; He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then the lame shall leap like a deer, And the tongue of the dumb sing. For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, And streams in the desert.

The parched ground shall become a pool, And the thirsty land springs of water; In the habitation of jackals, where each lay, There shall be grass with reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there, and a road, And it shall be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean shall not pass over it, But it shall be for others. Whoever walks the road, although a fool, Shall not go astray.

No lion shall be there, Nor shall any ravenous beast go up on it; It shall not be found there. But the redeemed shall walk there,

And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, And come to Zion with singing, With everlasting joy on their heads. They shall obtain joy and gladness, And sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

(Pause for a count of 5)

This is the word of the Lord.

The Third Sunday in Advent

Psalm 99

1 THE Lord is King, be the people never so impatient; * he sitteth between the Cherubim, be the earth never so unquiet.

2 The Lord is great in Sion, * and high above all people.

3 They shall give thanks unto thy Name, * which is great, wonderful, and holy.

4 The King's power loveth judgment; thou hast prepared equity, * thou hast executed judgment and righteousness in Jacob.

5 O magnify the Lord our God, and fall down before his footstool; * for he is holy.

6 Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among such as call upon his Name: * these called upon the Lord, and he heard them.

7 He spake unto them out of the cloudy pillar; * for they kept his testimonies, and the law that he gave them.

8 Thou heardest them, O Lord our God; * thou forgavest them, O God, though thou didst punish their wicked doings.

9 O magnify the Lord our God, and worship him upon his holy hill; * for the Lord our God is holy.

Glory be...

The Third Sunday in Advent

The Epistle is written in the fourth chapter of St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians, beginning at the first verse.

This passage may be found in the Book of Common Prayer on page 94.

(Pause to allow parishioners to find the page.)

LET a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man's judgment: yea, I judge not mine own self. For I know nothing against myself;

yet am I not hereby justified: but he that judgeth me is the Lord.

Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.

*(Pause for a count of 5)
This is the word of the Lord.*