

The Third Sunday In Advent

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah, chapter 35, beginning at the 1st verse.

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

[Pause] The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;

the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;

2 it shall blossom abundantly

and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.

3 Strengthen the weak hands,

and make firm the feeble knees.

4 Say to those who have an anxious heart,

“Be strong; fear not!

Behold, your God

will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God.

He will come and save you.”

5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,

and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

6 then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

7 the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,

the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

8 And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;

the unclean shall not pass over it.

It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.

9 No lion shall be there,

nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;

they shall not be found there,

but the redeemed shall walk there.

10 And the ransomed of the LORD shall return

and come to Zion with singing;

everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;

they shall obtain gladness and joy,

and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

[Pause] This is the word of the Lord.

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The Psalter – Benedictus BCP p. 14

BLESSED be the Lord God of Israel; * for
he hath visited and redeemed his people;

And hath raised up a mighty salvation for
us, * in the house of his servant David;

As he spake by the mouth of his holy
Prophets, * which have been since the
world began;

That we should be saved from our
enemies, * and from the hand of all that
hate us.

TO perform the mercy promised to our
forefathers, * and to remember his holy
covenant;

To perform the oath which he sware to our
forefather Abraham, * that he would give
us;

That we being delivered out of the hand of
our enemies * might serve him without
fear;

In holiness and righteousness before him,
* all the days of our life.

And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet
of the Highest: * for thou shalt go before
the face of the Lord to

prepare his ways; To give knowledge of
salvation unto his people * for the
remission of their sins,

Through the tender mercy of our God; *
whereby the day-spring from on high hath
visited us;

To give light to them that sit in darkness,
and in the shadow of death, * and to guide
our feet into the way of peace.

The Third Sunday In Advent

A reading from St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians, chapter 4, beginning at the 1st verse.

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

[Pause] LET a man regard us in this manner, as 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 judgement: yea, I judge not mine own self. For I know nothing by 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] This is the word of the Lord.