

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, Year A

Season of Advent

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, Year B

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, Year C

First Reading † Isaiah 11:1-10

He judges the poor with justice.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

A branch will spring from the stock of Jesse,
a shoot will grow from his roots.

On him will rest the spirit of the Lord,
the spirit of wisdom and insight,
the spirit of counsel and power,
the spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord:
his delight will be in fear of the Lord.

His judgement will not be by appearances,
his verdict not given on hearsay.
He will judge the weak with righteousness
and give fair sentence for the poor of the land.

He will strike the violent with the rod of his mouth
and with the breath of his lips bring death to the wicked.
Righteousness will be the belt around his waist
and truth the belt about his hips.

The wolf will live with the lamb,
the leopard lie down with the kid,
calf, lion and fat-stock beast together,
with a little boy to lead them.

The cow and the bear will graze,
their young will lie down together.
The lion will eat hay like the ox.
The infant will play over the hole of the adder;
the baby will put its hand into the viper's lair.

No hurt, no harm will be done on all my holy mountain,
for the land will be full of knowledge of the Lord,
as the waters cover the sea.

That day, the root of Jesse,
standing as a signal for the peoples,
will be sought out by the nations
and its dwelling will be glorious.

The word of the Lord.

***Justice shall flourish in his time,
and fullness of peace for ever.***

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your righteousness,
that he may judge your people in righteousness,
and your poor in right judgement.

***Justice shall flourish in his time,
and fullness of peace for ever.***

In his days shall righteousness flourish,
and peace in abundance till the moon is no more.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the river to the bounds of the earth.

***Justice shall flourish in his time,
and fullness of peace for ever.***

For he shall save the needy when they cry,
the poor, and those who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak and the needy,
and save the lives of the needy.

***Justice shall flourish in his time,
and fullness of peace for ever.***

May his name endure for ever,
his name continue like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations shall call him blest.

***Justice shall flourish in his time,
and fullness of peace for ever.***

Second Reading # Romans 15:4-9

Christ, the hope of all people.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Everything that was written earlier was written for our instruction so that we should have hope through perseverance and through the encouragement of the scriptures. May the God of perseverance and encouragement give you all the same purpose, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that, united in heart and mind, you may together give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ with one voice.

Accept one another, then, as Christ accepted you, for the glory of God. I tell you that Christ became a servant of the circumcised for the sake of God's truth, to confirm the promises made to our fathers, and so that the gentiles should give glory to God for his mercy, as it is written: *Therefore I shall praise you among the nations and sing praise to your name.*

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation † Luke 3:4.6

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:

all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel † Matthew 3:1-12

Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

In those days, John the Baptist came, proclaiming in the desert of Judaea, saying,

‘Repent, for the kingdom of Heaven has drawn near.’

This was the man spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said:

*A voice of one crying in the desert,
‘Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.’*

John himself wore a garment of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole region around the Jordan district kept going out to him, and they were baptised by him in the River Jordan as they confessed their sins. But seeing many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them,

‘Brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Produce fruit worthy of repentance, and do not be satisfied with saying to yourselves, “We have Abraham as our father,” for I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones.

‘Even now the axe is being laid to the root of the trees, so any tree failing to produce good fruit is cut down and thrown on the fire.

‘I baptise you with water for repentance, but the one who comes after me is more powerful than I, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that never goes out.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Monday of the second week of Advent