

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, Year C

Season of Advent

First Reading † Zephaniah 3:14-18

With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

Shout for joy, daughter Zion,
Israel, shout aloud!
Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter Jerusalem!
The Lord has removed your sentence;
he has turned your enemy away.
The Lord is king among you, Israel:
you have nothing more to fear.

On that Day, it will be said to Jerusalem,
'Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp.'
The Lord your God is within you,
the saving warrior.

He will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love,
he will dance with shouts of joy for you
as on a day of festival.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial † Isaiah 12:2-6

***Cry out with joy and gladness:
for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.***

See, he is the God of my salvation:
I shall trust and will not be afraid,
for the Lord God is my strength
and my power,
he has become my salvation.'
Joyfully you will draw water from the springs of salvation.

***Cry out with joy and gladness:
for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.***

'Praise the Lord
call upon his name.
Make known his deeds to the people,
declare that his name is exalted.

***Cry out with joy and gladness:
for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.***

Sing of the Lord
for his works are majestic,
make them known throughout the world.
Cry aloud and shout for joy,
you who live in Zion,
For great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.'

***Cry out with joy and gladness:
for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.***

Second Reading † Philippians 4:4-7

The Lord is near.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Rejoice in the Lord always; I say again, rejoice. Let your good sense be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything; but in every prayer and petition make your requests known to God with thanksgiving, and the peace of God which is beyond all understanding will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation † Isaiah 61:1 (Luke 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel † Luke 3:10-18

What, then, must we do?

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The crowds asked John,

‘What should we do, then?’

He answered them, saying,

‘Anyone who has two tunics must share with the one who has none,
and anyone who has food must do the same.’

Tax collectors, too, came to be baptised, and they said to him,

‘Teacher, what should we do?’

He said to them,

‘Collect no more than the rate appointed for you.’

Soldiers also asked him, ‘What about us? What should we do?’

He said to them,

‘No intimidation! No false accusation! Be content with your pay!’

There was a feeling of expectancy among the people; they were all questioning in their hearts whether John might himself be the Messiah. John answered them all by saying,

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

And he proclaimed the good news to the people with many other exhortations too.

The Gospel of the Lord.

17 December | 18 December