

## SECOND READING: Philippians 1:3-11

I THANK MY GOD every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

### GOSPEL: Luke 3:1-6

IN THE FIFTEENTH YEAR of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

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## 2 ADVENT

### Second Sunday of Advent



Revised Common Lectionary

Sunday, December 8, 2024

### COLLECT

#### *Traditional*

MERCIFUL GOD, who didst send thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
*Amen.*

#### *Contemporary*

MERCIFUL GOD, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
*Amen.*

### FIRST READING: Baruch 5:1-9

TAKE OFF THE GARMENT of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

or

**FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-4**

SEE, I AM SENDING my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

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**Refrain**

Prepare the way of the LORD.

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**Canticle 4: The Song of Zechariah  
(Luke 1:68-79)**

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 dayspring 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.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \* as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

or

**Canticle 16: The Song of Zechariah  
(Luke 1:68-79)**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \* he has come to his people and set them free.  
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, \* born of the house of his servant David.  
Through his holy prophets he promised of old, that he would save us from our enemies, \* from the hands of all who hate us.  
He promised to show mercy to our fathers \* and to remember his holy covenant.  
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \* to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
Free to worship him without fear, \* holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.  
You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \* for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,  
To give his people knowledge of salvation \* by the forgiveness of sins.  
In the tender compassion of our God \* the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, \*  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \* as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.