

December 7, 2025

2nd Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10

1 A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
2 The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
3 His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see
or decide by what his ears hear,
4 but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
5 Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
6 The wolf shall live with the lamb;
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
the calf and the lion will feed together,
and a little child shall lead them.
7 The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
8 The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
9 They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

10 On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the
peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be
glorious.

Romans 15:4-13

4 Whatever was written in former days was written for our
instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of
the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness
and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another,
in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with
one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed

you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a
servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order
that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors ⁹ and
that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles
and sing praises to your name";

¹⁰ and again he says,

"Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people";

¹¹ and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him";

¹² and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the gentiles;
in him the gentiles shall hope."

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 3:1-12

¹ In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of
Judea, proclaiming, ² "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come
near." ³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he
said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.' "

⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around
his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then
Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were
going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the River
Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming
for his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned
you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Therefore, bear fruit worthy of
repentance, ⁹ and do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have
Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these
stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the ax is lying
at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear
good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ "I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is
coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to
carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and
fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his
threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the
chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."