Advent reading for the Third Sunday in Advent 2020

Joy

The third Advent candle symbolises the arrival of joy into the world.

*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called* ***Wonderful Counselor****, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

Isaiah 9:6

Jesus is called: wonderful counselor. He is the source of all true and lasting joy.

As the wonderful counselor he knows our deepest needs. He knows you better than you know yourself. He is more committed to your good than even you are! Not only does he know our needs but he meets them. When we look to the world around us for satisfaction we only find temporary happiness but the wonderful counselor leads us into eternal joy.

*Earth's joy is small, her mirth is trivial, but heaven has sent us joy immeasurable, fit for immortal minds. Of Christ's joy we cannot have too much, there is no fear of running to excess when his love is the wine we drink.*

Charles Spurgeon

As we consider the child born at Christmas, let your heart be warmed by joy as you are reminded that the God of the Universe made himself weak and helpless for you.

*The King of kings lay thus lowly manger*

*In all our trials born to be our friends*

*He knows our need, our weakness is no stranger*

*Behold your King! Before him lowly bend!*

*Behold your King! Before him lowly bend!*

O Holy Night

*Prayer:*

Wonderful Counsellor, thank you that you are my strength and my song, you fill my heart with joy. Your word says that you are near to all who call on you, to all who call on you in truth. I call on you to protect me and those I love. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

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