

All Saints' Anglican Church

“The Bible Catholic Church”

Rutland, Vermont

Lessons and Gospel

Sunday, December 12, 2021

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Morning Prayer

Michael Coburn, Officiant and Homilist

Archdeacon Michael McKinnon

Priest in Charge

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THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Collects

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and ever. *Amen.*

O Lord Jesus Christ, thou sent thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient toward the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world, we may be found a people acceptable in thy sight; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit thou liveth and reigneth, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lesson is written in the Third Chapter of the Book of the prophet Zephaniah beginning at the fourteenth verse

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the LORD.

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Psalm 85

- 1 LORD, you were favorable to your land;
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- 2 You forgave the iniquity of your people;
you covered all their sin. Selah**
- 3 You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger.
- 4 Restore us again, O God of our salvation,
and put away your indignation toward us!**
- 5 Will you be angry with us forever?
Will you prolong your anger to all generations?
- 6 Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?**
- 7 Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.
- 8 Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;
but let them not turn back to folly.**
- 9 Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,
that glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;
righteousness and peace kiss each other.**
- 11 Faithfulness springs up from the ground,
and righteousness looks down from the sky.
- 12 Yes, the LORD will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.**
- 13 Righteousness will go before him and make his footsteps a way.

The Lesson is written in Fourth Chapter of the Letter of Saint Paul the Apostle to the Philippians beginning at the fourth verse

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is

honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me--practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

Philippians 4:4-9

*The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Saint Luke*

† He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then shall we do?" And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise." Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Collect no more than you are authorized to do." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages." As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reprovved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

Luke 3:7-20