

Question for Reflection

Imagine that you are in the crowd listening to John the Baptizer. You hear people in the crowd asking him, “What should we do to prepare?” How might John instruct you, or your church, to prepare for the coming of God’s reign?

Sometimes wealthy people worry that God or the church is requiring them to be poor. What is the difference between being poor and being fair? How do you feel about sharing?

For Your Study and Reflection This Week **Third Sunday of Advent**

Zephaniah 3:14-20

The LORD has taken away the judgments against you;
he has turned away your enemies.
The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more. (v. 15)

Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust and will not be afraid,
for the LORD is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation. (v. 2)

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. 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. (vv. 4-7)

Luke 3:7-18

As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. (vv. 15-16)

TWO-YEAR DAILY LECTIONARY

Year 1

Week of 3 Advent

Sunday, December 15, 2024

Third Sunday of Advent

Psalms 63:1-8 (9-11), 98 (*morning*)

Isa. 13:6-13

Heb. 12:18-29

John 3:22-30

Psalms 103 (*evening*)

Monday, December 16, 2024

Psalms 41, 52 (*morning*)

Isa. 8:16—9:1

2 Pet. 1:1-11

Luke 22:39-53

Psalms 44 (*evening*)

Tuesday, December 17, 2024

Psalms 45 (*morning*)

Isa. 9:1-7

2 Pet. 1:12-21

Luke 22:54-69

Psalms 47, 48 (*evening*)

Wednesday, December 18, 2024

Psalms 119:49-72 (*morning*)

Isa. 9:8-17

2 Pet. 2:1-10a

Mark 1:1-8

Psalms 49, [53] (*evening*)

Thursday, December 19, 2024

Psalms 50 (*morning*)

Isa. 9:18—10:4

2 Pet. 2:10b-16

Matt. 3:1-12

Psalms [59, 60] or 33 (*evening*)

Friday, December 20, 2024

Psalms 40, 54 (*morning*)

Isa. 10:5-19

2 Pet. 2:17-22

Matt. 11:2-15

Psalms 51 (*evening*)

Saturday, December 21, 2024

Psalms 55 (*morning*)

Isa. 10:20-27

Jude 17-25

Luke 3:1-9

Psalms 138, 139:1-17 (18-23) (*evening*)

Sunday, December 22, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Psalms 24, 29 (*morning*)

Isa. 42:1-12

Eph. 6:10-20

John 3:16-21

Psalms 8, 84 (*evening*)

Household Prayer: Morning

God, surely you are my salvation.

I begin this day without fear, trusting you,

for you are my strength.

Help me to meditate all day

on the thought that you are rejoicing in me!

And keep me keenly aware, as I travel through this day,

of ways that I may help others, especially those with special needs.

Then bring me home to you at the close of the day. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Thank you, God, for the gift of today

and for guarding my heart and my mind in Christ Jesus.

All that I did and all that I left undone,

I now give over to your safekeeping,

trusting in your peace that surpasses all understanding.

Be my rest as I sleep tonight,

and renew me in your love for another day. Amen.