

**Readings, Collect and Year's Mind  
for Sunday 12th December, 2021  
Advent 3**

**Hymn:** CAHON 527 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

**In our Year's Mind this week, we pray for** Lily Thompson, Jemima Nicol, Janice Gauld, Joan Gemmell, June Syme

**We also give special prayers for** Chris & Susie for their ministry in the Ukraine, Tony & Gill and family, Jan, Charlie, Glynis, Masami, Peter, Joan M., Delia, Roddy, Nancy, Jane T., Pam B., Claire A. & family, and Jenny & Colin and family.

*The Intercessions are being led by Pam Dugan*

**Collect for Advent 3**

Stir up our prayers, Lord, and hear us:  
that they who are sorrowful and suffering  
may rejoice at the Advent of your only-begotten Son;  
who lives and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, world without end .

**Amen**

**The Old Testament Reading is Zephaniah 3: 14-20** (Read by Christine Rednall)

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. 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 home, at the time when I gather you; 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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Canticle, Isaiah 12: 2-7**

2. Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,
3. for the Lord God is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.
4. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.
5. And you will say on that day: Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name;  
make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted.
6. Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.
7. Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **The New Testament Reading is 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 worry 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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **The Gospel Reading is Luke 3: 7-18**

### **Glory to Christ our Saviour.**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptised by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin 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. Even now the axe is lying at 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 should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptised, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

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 baptise you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

**Praise to Christ our Lord.**

**Hymn** CAHON 691 Thy kingdom come, O God

**Post Communion Prayer**

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;  
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit,  
that when your Christ comes again  
we may shine as lights before his face;  
who lives and reigns, now and for ever.

**Amen**

**Hymn** CAHON 695 To God be the glory!

**The Anthem** is 'Rejoice in the Lord, alway', Anon.  
It is based on the text of Philippians 4: 4-7