



December 13, 2020. 3rd Sunday of Advent. Narrative Lectionary week 14 of year 3.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

Prelude

Greeting

Lighting of the Advent Candle of JOY

We remember the prophet Isaiah who spoke Truth to a lost and confused people. In a precarious time he spoke of the God of Justice and Steadfast Love. In the midst of disappointment and broken promises, Isaiah called the people to a deeper Truth. He stood among the ancient ruins, surveyed the ruined cities, and declared that God would rebuild and renew. We hear God calling us to this new Truth. We hear the call to be a people of Promise and to embrace the mystery of joy that transcends our current disposition. Joy is deeper than how we feel right now. Isaiah embraced the mystery of Joy in the midst of broken dreams. On this Third Sunday of Advent God meets us in the mystery of Joy. Thanks be to God.

Hanging of the Chrismon

Hymn #57

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”
vs. 1,4,5,6

Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer

Musical Offering

“Go, Tell it on the Mountain”

- Afro-American spiritual –arr. Mark Hayes
Nancy Schwegler, piano

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Isaiah 61:1-11 (CEB)

Joseph

Durham

The Lord God’s spirit is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me.
He has sent me
to bring good news to the poor,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim release for captives,
and liberation for prisoners,
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor
and a day of vindication for our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
to provide for Zion’s mourners,
to give them a crown in place of ashes,
oil of joy in place of mourning,
a mantle of praise in place of discour-



EMBRACE
MYSTERY

HOPE
PEACE
JOY
LOVE

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agement.

They will be called Oaks of Righteousness,
planted by the Lord to glorify himself.

They will rebuild the ancient ruins;
they will restore formerly deserted places;

they will renew ruined cities,
places deserted in generations past.

Foreigners will stay and shepherd your
sheep,

and strangers will be your farmers and
vinedressers.

You will be called The Priests of the Lord;
Ministers of Our God, they will say
about you.

You will feed on the wealth of nations,
and fatten yourself on their riches.

Instead of shame, their portion will be
double;

instead of disgrace, they will rejoice over
their share.

They will possess a double portion in their
land;

everlasting joy will be theirs.

I, the Lord, love justice;

I hate robbery and dishonesty.

I will faithfully give them their wage,
and make with them an enduring covenant.

Their offspring will be known among the
nations,

and their descendants among the peoples.

All who see them will recognize
that they are a people blessed by
the Lord.

I surely rejoice in the Lord;
my heart is joyful because of my God,
because he has clothed me with clothes
of victory,
wrapped me in a robe of righteousness
like a bridegroom in a priestly crown,
and like a bride adorned in jewelry.

As the earth puts out its growth,
and as a garden grows its seeds,
so the Lord God will grow righteousness and
praise before all the nations.

Sermon "Turn to God" - Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Hymn #246 "Joy to the World"

Invitation to Embrace Peace

Hymn #249 "There's a Song in the Air"

Postlude



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WEEKLY GPS

GROW

PRAY

STUDY

Coming Next:

Dec. 20	Annunciation	Luke 1:26-45
Dec. 24	Christmas Eve	
Dec. 27	Anna and Simeon	Luke 2: 8-20
Jan. 3	Child Jesus in the Temple	Luke 2:41-52
Jan. 10	John Baptizes Jesus	Luke 3:1—22

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK: Isaiah 61:8

For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday Isaiah 63:7-14
Tuesday Isaiah 63:15-64:12 & Isaiah 12:2-6
Wednesday Isaiah 65:17-25 & Isaiah 11:1-9
Thursday Obadiah 1:17-21 & Amos 9:11-15
Friday Zephaniah 3:9-13
Saturday Zephaniah 3:14-20

Joy
Creating Righteous People
Isaiah's Vision
... and the kingdom shall be the Lord's
Zephaniah ben Cushi
Light for the Journey

CARING CONVERSATIONS or REFLECTIONS

- **Thinking About This Week's Story:** God's people had been exiled, and now were returning to Jerusalem, their homeland. Moving forward, God promised to be their faithful leader by helping understand what was right and just. When did you act fairly today? When did you act unfairly?
- **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Mary gets a surprise visit from an angel, who tells her she is going to have a baby. How have you been surprised today?