

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

15 December 2024

HYMNS

216 Rejoice the Lord is King

268 Joy to the World

161 Tell Out My Soul

SENTENCE

Do not fear. 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.

COLLECT

Almighty God, you sent your Son into a world where the wheat must be winnowed from the chaff and evil clings even to what is good: let the fire of your Spirit purge us of all corruption, so that, purified, we may wait eagerly for him whose coming is certain, whose Day draws near, your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

READINGS

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah:

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.

Zephaniah 3.14-20

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

We say the verses from a Song of Isaiah alternately:

‘Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust and will not be afraid;

‘For the Lord God is my strength and my song; and has become my salvation.’

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

On that day you will say: ‘Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name;

‘Make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted.

‘Sing God’s praises, who has triumphed gloriously; let this be known in all the world.

‘Shout and sing for joy, you that dwell in Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.’

A Song of Isaiah (Isaiah 12.2-6)

A reading from Paul’s letter to the Christians in Philippi:

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.

Philippians 4.4-7

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Luke
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

John said 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 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 baptized, 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 baptize 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 baptize 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.

Luke 3.7-18

This is the Gospel of the Lord,
Christ.

praise to you Lord Jesus

PRAYERS

Anglican Church: Sojourners Church, Werribee (Andrew Seedhom, Mark Tibben); The Diocese of Adelaide (Abp Geoff Smith, Asst Bps Timothy Harris, Christopher McLeod, Sophie Relf-Christopher, Clergy & People); Archdeaconry of The Yarra (Tim Johnson); The Anglican Church of Tanzania (Abp Maimbo Mndolwa); Sojourners Church Werribee - Pastoral service (Bp Kate Prowd); St John's Healesville -; St Paul's Yarra Glen - Community Carols (Bp Paul Barker); Christ Church Essendon; St John's Blackburn; St Alfred's Blackburn North; St Mary's Sunbury.

For the parish: Give thanks for those who nurture community: Torquay Craft/Social Group; the Op Shop; those who visit and who arrange meals; Hospital, School and Service Chaplains; event coordinators. Pray that they may be inspired by Jesus. Give thanks for those who use their abilities and give their time and resources in their jobs, as volunteers, in families, as neighbours, friends and to strangers.

For the sick & in need, and those who have ongoing need for strength, courage and peace of heart, mind and soul in their journey: Keiran & Paul, Deirdre B, John & Barbara B, Barry B, Lorraine D, John F, Nan L, Kaye M, Jane & Peter M, Janet N, Stephen P, Pauline R, Hadyn R, Jenny S, Susan T-J, Sharon V, Ray & Marion W and those known to us in need of our prayers

Year's Mind

16th Jim Webb (2011), Judith Todd (2000)

17th Glen Clement (2019)

20th Alec Baker (2022)

Birthdays & Anniversaries

16th David & Emma Tunley (anniv)

17th Noelene Lancaster

18th Barbara & John Bell (anniv)

19th John Morrissy