

Isaiah 12:2-6

In your midst is the Holy One of Israel. (Is. 12:6)

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

³ **With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation. R**

⁴ And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on God's name;
make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations; proclaim that this
name is exalted.

⁵ **Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.**

⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. **R**

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Zephaniah 3:14-20

¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

¹⁵ 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.

¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion;

do not let your hands grow weak.

¹⁷ 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
¹⁸ as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

¹⁹ I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.

And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,



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and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.

²⁰ 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.

Philippians 4:4-7

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say,
Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to
everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry
about anything, but in everything by prayer and
supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the
peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your
minds in Christ Jesus.

Luke 3:7-18

⁷ 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? ⁸ 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. ⁹ Even now the ax 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."

¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" ¹¹ In reply he said to them,
"Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food
must do likewise." ¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him,
"Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³ He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount
prescribed for you." ¹⁴ 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."

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts
concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ 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."

¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

**Third Sunday of Advent
December 15, 2024**

