

Advent 2022 – First Sunday – Year of Matthew – November 27

A Reading from the Book of the prophet Isaiah (2:1-5)

This is the word which Isaiah, son of Amoz,
saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come,
the mountain of Yahweh's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains
and will be raised above the hills.

All nations shall stream toward it;
many peoples will come and say:
“Come, let us go up to Yahweh's mountain,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
*that God may instruct us to shoot God's own arrows
on God's path to their target,
and thus walk on God's path, in God's ways.*”

For from Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of God from Jerusalem.
God shall judge disputes between the nations,
and settle cases on many peoples.

*They will beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
one nation shall not take up the sword against another nation,
nor shall they train for war again.*
O house of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the God!

Hear What The Spirit is Saying to God's People...Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm **PS 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14**

R. (1b) To you, O God, I lift my soul.

O God, may I understand Your ways;
teach me your paths,
Guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God who delivers me,
and I rely on you all the day long.

R. To you, O God, I lift my very breath.

O God, remember your compassion and loving kindness,
for you have always acted in this manner.
Do not remember the wrongs of my youth or my rebellious acts.
Because of your steadfast love, extend to me your goodness, O God

R. To you, O God, I lift my life.

God is good and upright;
that is why God teaches the way to those who have missed the mark.
God guides the humble to justice,
and teaches the humble God's Way.

R. To you, O God, I lift my Self.

All the paths of God are loving kindness and truth
toward those who keep God's wisdom and guidance.
The friendship of God is with those who follow,
God's Ways, for their instruction.

R. To you, O God, I lift my very being.

LECTIONARY READING – VITAL VERSES 8-10 ADDED

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the people of Rome (13:8-14)

Owe no one anything, except to love one another,
for the one who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law.
For the commandments, “*Do not commit adultery, do not murder, do not steal, do not covet,*” (and if there is any other commandment)
are summed up in this, “***Love your very Self, and love your neighbor as you love your very Self.***”

Love does no wrong to a neighbor.
Therefore, ***love is the fulfillment of the law.***

And do this Brothers and sisters!
You know the time;
it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep.

For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed;
the night is advanced toward dawn, the day is at hand.
Let us then throw off the works of darkness
and put on the instruments of light;
let us conduct ourselves properly as in the day,
not in carousing and drunkenness and lust,
not sleeping in bed
not in rivalry and jealousy.

But ***clothe yourself in the Lord Jesus Christ,***
and make no provision for the desires of the world.

Hear What The Spirit is Saying to God’s People...Thanks be to God

God is with you always.....and also with you

A reading from the Glad Tidings according to Saint Luke (1: 5- 24)

During the reign of Herod king of Judea, there lived a priest named Zechariah

who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah, and he had a wife named Elizabeth, who was a descendant of Aaron.

They were both righteous in the sight of God, following all the commandments and ordinances of God blamelessly.

But they did not have a child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both very old.

Now while Zechariah was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the holy place of Yahweh, and burn incense. Now the whole crowd of people were praying outside at the hour of the incense offering.

An angel of God, standing on the right side of the altar of incense, appeared to him. And Zechariah, visibly shaken when he saw the angel, was seized with fear.

But the angel said to him, “***Do not be afraid***, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son; you will name him John.

Joy and gladness will come to you, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of God. He must never drink wine or strong drink, and he will be ***filled with the Holy Spirit***, even before his birth. He will turn many of the people of Israel to Yahweh, their God.

And he will go as forerunner before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers, back to their children, and the disobedient, to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared for him.”

Zechariah said to the angel, “How can I be sure of this? For I am an old man, and my wife is old as well.”

The angel answered him, “I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God. I was sent to speak to you and to bring you these *glad tidings*.

And now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will be silent, unable to speak, until the day these things take place.”

Now the people were waiting for Zechariah, and they began to wonder why he was delayed in the holy place.

When he came out, he was not able to speak to them. They realized that he had seen a vision in the holy place, because he was making signs to them, and remained unable to speak. When his time of service was over, he went to his home.

After some time, his wife Elizabeth became pregnant, and for five months she kept herself in seclusion. She said, “This is what God has done for me, at the time when God has been gracious to me, to take away my disgrace among people.”

The Good News from God...Praise to you O Jesus Christ

PAUL ON HOPE - A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the people in Rome (5:1-5; 15:13)

Beloved,

Therefore, since we have been declared justified by trust, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

through whom we have also obtained access into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in the hope of God’s grace.

Not only this, but we also rejoice in sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance, character, and character, hope.

And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in God so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Hear What The Spirit is Saying to God's People...Thanks be to God