

## ADVENT 3

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Rejoice in the Lord always;  
again I say, rejoice. Indeed,  
the Lord is near.

### COLLECT

O God, who see how your  
people faithfully await the  
feast of the Lord's Nativity,  
enable us, we pray, to attain  
the joys of so great a  
salvation and to celebrate  
them always with solemn  
worship and glad rejoicing.  
Through our Lord Jesus  
Christ, your Son, who lives  
and reigns with you in the  
unity of the Holy Spirit,  
One God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

### FIRST READING

*Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10*

The wilderness and the dry  
land shall be glad; the desert  
shall rejoice and blossom  
like the crocus; it shall  
blossom abundantly  
and rejoice with joy and  
singing. The glory of  
Lebanon shall be given to it,  
the majesty of Carmel and  
Sharon. They shall see the  
glory of the Lord, the  
majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,  
and make firm the feeble  
knees. Say to those who  
have an anxious heart,  
'Be strong; fear not!

Behold, your God will come  
with vengeance, with the  
recompense of God. He will  
come and save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind  
shall be opened, and the  
ears of the deaf unstopped;  
then shall the lame man leap  
like a deer, and the tongue  
of the mute sing for joy.

And the ransomed of the  
Lord shall return and come  
to Sion with singing;  
everlasting joy shall be upon  
their heads; they shall obtain  
gladness and joy, and sorrow  
and sighing shall flee away.

### PSALM

*Ps 146(145):6c-7. 8-9a.  
9b-10. R Matthew 5:3*

**R Come, Lord, and save  
us**

It is the Lord who preserves  
fidelity for ever, who does  
justice to those who are  
oppressed. It is he who gives  
bread to the hungry, the  
Lord who sets prisoners free.  
**R**

The Lord who opens the  
eyes of the blind, the Lord  
who raises up those who are  
bowed down. It is the Lord  
who loves the just, the Lord  
who protects the stranger. **R**

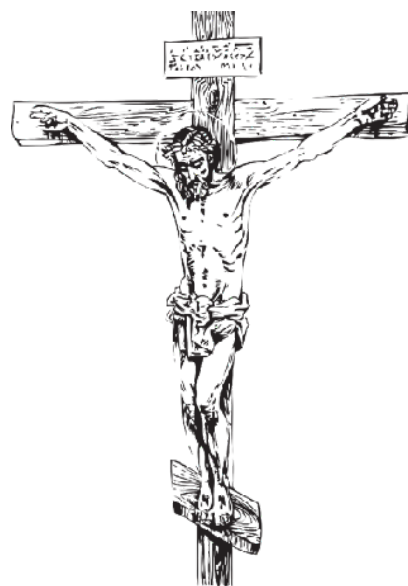
The Lord upholds the  
orphan and the widow,

but thwarts the path of the  
wicked. The Lord will reign  
for ever, your God, O Sion,  
from age to age. **R**

### SECOND READING

*James 5:7-10*

Be patient, brothers and  
sisters, until the coming of  
the Lord. See how the  
farmer waits for the precious  
fruit of the earth, being  
patient about it, until it  
receives the early and the  
late rains. You also, be  
patient. Establish your  
hearts, for the coming of the  
Lord is at hand. Do not  
grumble against one  
another, brothers and sisters,  
so that you may not be  
judged; behold, the Judge is  
standing at the door. As an  
example of suffering and  
patience, brothers and  
sisters, take the prophets  
who spoke in the name of  
the Lord.



## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### **Alleluia, alleluia...**

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor. **Alleluia...**

## GOSPEL

*Matthew 11:2-11*

At that time: When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?'

And Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.'

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses.

'What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written,

'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'

'Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord  
Jesus Christ.**

## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May the sacrifice of our worship, Lord, we pray, be offered to you unceasingly, to complete what was begun in sacred mystery and powerfully accomplish for us your saving work. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We implore your mercy, Lord, that this divine sustenance may cleanse us of our faults and prepare us for the coming feasts. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

