

**The Second Sunday in Advent**  
**December 9-10, 2023**  
**Divine Service, Setting Three, p. 184**

**Prelude**

**Invocation, Confession, and Absolution** (*stand*) p. 184

**Introit** *Restore Us, O God* Ps. 80:1, 8a, 9b, 7; antiphon: Ps. 80:3

Restore us, | O God;\*

**let your face shine, that we | may be saved!**

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph | like a flock!\*

**You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, | shine forth.**

You brought a vine out of | Egypt;\*

**it took deep root and | filled the land.**

Restore us, O | God of hosts;\*

**let your face shine, that we | may be saved!**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***

**and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***

**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Restore us, | O God;\*

**let your face shine, that we | may be saved!**

**Kyrie** p. 186

**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**Collect of the Day** p. 189

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** (*sit*)

**Old Testament** *Comfort for God's People* Isaiah 40:1–11

<sup>1</sup>Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

<sup>2</sup>Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and cry to her

that her warfare is ended,

that her iniquity is pardoned,

that she has received from the LORD's hand

double for all her sins.

<sup>3</sup>A voice cries:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

<sup>4</sup>Every valley shall be lifted up,

and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level,

and the rough places a plain.

<sup>5</sup>And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,

and all flesh shall see it together,

for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

<sup>6</sup>A voice says, “Cry!”

And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All flesh is grass,

and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

<sup>7</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades

when the breath of the LORD blows on it;

surely the people are grass.

<sup>8</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades,

but the word of our God will stand forever.

<sup>9</sup>Get you up to a high mountain,

O Zion, herald of good news;

lift up your voice with strength,

O Jerusalem, herald of good news;

lift it up, fear not;

say to the cities of Judah,

“Behold your God!”

<sup>10</sup>Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might,

and his arm rules for him;

behold, his reward is with him,

and his recompense before him.

<sup>11</sup>He will tend his flock like a shepherd;

he will gather the lambs in his arms;

he will carry them in his bosom,

and gently lead those that are with young.

A This is the word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### Gradual

Zechariah 9:9a; Psalm 118:26, alt.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of | Zion.\*

**Shout aloud, O daughter of Je- | rusalem.**

Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;\*

**righteous and having sal- | vation.**

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the Lord.\*

**From the house of the Lord we | bless you.**

### Epistle *The Day of the Lord Will Come*

2 Peter 3:8–14

<sup>8</sup>But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. <sup>9</sup>The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. <sup>10</sup>But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

<sup>11</sup>Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup>waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! <sup>13</sup>But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

<sup>14</sup>Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

A This is the word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**Verse of the Day** (*stand*) Luke 3:4b, 6

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his | paths straight;\*  
all flesh shall see the salva- | tion of God.

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Holy Gospel** *John the Baptist Prepares the Way* Mark 1:1-8

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

<sup>2</sup>As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

"Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way,

<sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight,'"

<sup>4</sup>John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.** (*sit*)

**Hymn of the Day** "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People" LSB 347, *soloist st. 2*

**Sermon** "Receive Double!" Isaiah 40:1-11

**Apostles' Creed** (*stand*) p. 192

**Offering** (*sit*)

**Offertory** (*stand*) p. 192

**Prayer of the Church** *congregation responds "Hear our prayer"*

**Preface** p. 194

**Distribution** (*sit*) "I Leave All Things to God's Direction" LSB 719

**Nunc Dimittis** (*stand*) p. 199

**Closing Hymn** "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" LSB 344, *soloist st. 3*

**Postlude**