

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Cycle B

## ENTRANCE HYMN

Come and go with me  
to our Father's house (x3)  
Come and go with me to our Father's house  
Where there's joy, joy, joy!

Jesus is the way  
to our Father's house (x3)  
Jesus is the way to our Father's house  
Where there's love, love, love!



## FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 61:1-2. 10-11  
*I exult for joy in the Lord.*

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,  
for the Lord has anointed me.  
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,  
to bind up hearts that are broken;

to proclaim liberty to captives,  
freedom to those in prison;  
to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.

'I exult for joy in the Lord,  
my soul rejoices in my God,  
for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation,  
he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity,  
like a bridegroom wearing his wreath,  
like a bride adorned in her jewels.

'For as the earth makes fresh things grow,  
as a garden makes seeds spring up,  
so will the Lord make both integrity and praise  
spring up in the sight of the nations.'

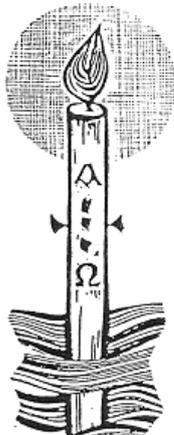
The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lk 1:46-50. 53-54. R] Is 61:10

### R. My soul rejoices in my God.

1. My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her nothingness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed. (R.)
2. The Almighty works marvels for me.  
Holy his name!  
His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him. (R.)
3. He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.  
He protects Israel, his servant,  
remembering his mercy. (R.)



## SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the  
Thessalonians 5:16-24  
*May you all be kept safe, spirit, soul and body, for  
the coming of the Lord.*

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all  
things give thanks to God, because this is what  
God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift  
of prophecy with contempt; think before you do  
anything - hold on to what is good and avoid every  
form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and  
holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless,  
spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord  
Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not  
fail you.

The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.  
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John  
1:6-8.19-28  
*There stands among you - unknown to you - the one  
who is coming after me.*

A man came, sent by God.  
His name was John.  
He came as a witness,  
as a witness to speak for the light,  
so that everyone might believe through him.  
He was not the light,  
only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the  
Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to  
ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but  
he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well  
then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said.  
'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they  
said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an  
answer to those who sent us. What have you to say  
about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah  
prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness:  
Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees,  
and they put this further question to him, 'Why are  
you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not  
Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise  
with water; but there stands among you - unknown

