

Sunday, December 8, 2024  
Second Sunday of Advent, Year C

**First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4**

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Word of God. Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: Luke 1:68-79**

Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel, you have come to your people and set them free.

**You have raised up for us a mighty Savior, born of the house of your servant David.**

Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us,

**to show mercy to our forebears, and to remember your holy covenant.**

This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

**free to worship you without fear, holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.**

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,

**to give God's people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

**to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

## **Second Reading: Philippians 1:3-11**

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Word of God. Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**