

Tuesday Tidings of Grace



This Tuesday is December 12, 2023

This past Sunday was:

2nd Sunday in Advent

[Sunday Worship on YouTube](#)

[Sunday Sermon on Website](#)

This past Sunday we learned about patience and God's timing in 2nd Peter chapter 3. While it may seem like God waits forever to answer prayers and to send Jesus to return, we are reminded that God's "slowness" as we perceive is really just His desire to wait and bring about His desire that all would come to repentance and so be saved.

Next Sunday, December 17 is:

3rd Sunday in Advent

The 3rd Sunday in Advent brings us a fantastic trio of readings. Together, these readings bring about the theme of this day that we have every reason to rejoice. We can rejoice always for our Savior has come, and will come again soon bringing with Him salvation and new life.

The readings are:

[Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11](#)

[1 Thessalonians 5:16-24](#)

[John 1:6-8, 19-28](#)

The Hymn of the Day is:

"Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding" (LSB #345)

Grace Events This Week

Wed 12/13 - Advent Midweek Service
(11a/7pm)

This season's theme is "The Clothing of the King". This week we will hear of the story of Joseph and how his story, wrapped around clothing in many parts, points us forward to Jesus.

Early reminder: we will have one combined service at **10:00am** on the morning of Sunday December 24. In the afternoon we will have our Christmas Eve services at **4pm** and **7pm**.

Daily Bible Readings

<https://bit.ly/gracedailybible>

3rd Sunday in Advent

December 17, 2023

Psalm: Psalm 126

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The first verses of Isaiah 61 point us to the saving work of the Messiah when He comes. We hear classic lines such as “to bring good news to the poor” and “to proclaim liberty to the captives.” As the Savior has come and died on the cross, paying the price of man’s sin, we indeed have a most amazing good news and liberty to proclaim to all who have been poor in spirit or who are captive and slaves to sin. The latter half of Isaiah 61 would be fitting for our Advent series in 2023, “The Clothing of the King.” In verse 10 we are told “he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness.” These words reminds us of our baptism and how we have “put on Christ” and wear his righteousness when we live in saving faith.

Epistle Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

We read most of this same passage on Thanksgiving this year noting especially the obvious line “give thanks in all circumstances.” Today we could shift focus to the line “rejoice always.” This 3rd Sunday in Advent has long been know as “Gaudete”, which means “rejoice” in Latin. This is the Sunday of the pink Advent candle and the Sunday of joy and rejoicing in this season. What we learned from Isaiah 61 gives us reason enough to rejoice, that our King and Savior comes and brings with Him good news and salvation.

Gospel Reading: John 1:6-8, 19-28

From the Gospel of John the Apostle, we get another deeper look at the work and purpose of John the Baptist. He came to bear witness about the “Light”, that is Jesus. Everything John did was not about himself, but to bear witness to and point to Jesus. What an amazing job of humility and service and sacrifice John performed preparing the way of the Lord and not worrying about his own glory or self well-being. It would have been easy for John to claim all the fame and fortune directed his way but he was always clear on his duty in fulfilling Old Testament prophecy and pointing people to Jesus through his baptism of repentance.