



### 3rd Sunday of Advent, Year C: Luke 3:7-18

**7** John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? **8** Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. **9** Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." **10** And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" **11** In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." **12** Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" **13** He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." **14** Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." **15** As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, **16** John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. **17** His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." **18** So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

### 4th Sunday of Advent, Year C: Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)

**39** In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, **40** where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. **41** When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit **42** and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. **43** And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? **44** For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. **45** And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." **46** And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, **47** and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, **48** for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; **49** for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. **50** His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. **51** He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. **52** He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; **53** he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. **54** He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, **55** according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."