Then they said among the nations,
  “The LORD has done great things for them.”
The LORD has done great things for us;
   we are glad indeed.
**The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.**

Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
   like the torrents in the southern desert.
Those who sow in tears
   shall reap rejoicing.
**The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.**

Although they go forth weeping,
   carrying the seed to be sown,
They shall come back rejoicing,
   carrying their sheaves.
**The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

**St. John the Apostle Catholic Church**

**December 5th, 2021, 10:30 am Mass**

**The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy**.

When the LORD brought back the captives of Zion,
   we were like men dreaming.
Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
   and our tongue with rejoicing.
**The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.**

**Responsorial Psalm** [**Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6.**](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/psalms/126?1)

Jerusalem, take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on the splendor of glory from God forever: wrapped in the cloak of justice from God, bear on your head the mitre that displays the glory of the eternal name. For God will show all the earth your splendor: you will be named by God forever the peace of justice, the glory of God’s worship. Up, Jerusalem! stand upon the heights; look to the east and see your children gathered from the east and the west at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that they are remembered by God. Led away on foot by their enemies they left you: but God will bring them back to you borne aloft in glory as on royal thrones. For God has commanded that every lofty mountain be made low, and that the age-old depths and gorges be filled to level ground, that Israel may advance secure in the glory of God. The forests and every fragrant kind of tree have overshadowed Israel at God’s command; for God is leading Israel in joy by the light of his glory, with his mercy and justice for company.

The word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God**

**First Reading** [**Bar 5:1-9**](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/baruch/5?1)

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**3:** A voice shouts: “Cry!” O what shall I cry?

All flesh is like grass and its flowers:

The grass may wither, the flowers may fade,

But the Word of the Lord is forever. **Refrain**

**1:** Console my people, the ones dear to me;

speak to the heart of Jerusalem:

the time of your mourning is ended now,

the Lord of life will come.

**Refrain:** A voice cries out in the wilderness:

“Prepare a way for the Lord!”

A voice cries out in the wilderness:

“Make straight a highway for God!”. **Refrain**

**2:** Ev’ry valley is made a plain,

ev’ry mountain is leveled;

the glory of God shall then be revealed,

And the nations will sing in praise. **Refrain**

1

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the desert. John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan,
proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah:
    *A voice of one crying out in the desert:
    “Prepare the way of the Lord,
        make straight his paths.
    Every valley shall be filled
        and every mountain and hill shall be made low.
    The winding roads shall be made straight,
        and the rough ways made smooth,
    and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”*

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Gospel**  [**Lk 3:1-6**](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/luke/3?1)

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia**

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia**

**Gospel Acclamation:**  [**Lk 3:4, 6**](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/luke/3?4)

### **Second Reading** [**Phil 1:4-6, 8-11**](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/philippians/1?4)

Brothers and sisters: I pray always with joy in my every prayer for all of you, because of your partnership for the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this,
that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus. God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value, so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

The word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

2

**Entrance Song: A Voice Cries Out**

**Please recycle the worship aid or you can take the copy with you.**

**Communion Song 3: Come to Us**

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**Prayer to St. Joseph:**

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust;

with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life.

Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.

My beloved father, all my trust is in you. Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain, and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary, show me that your goodness is as great as your power.

Text based on Isaiah 35:1-6; 40:1-5, 9-11; Ezekiel 11:19-20; Bob Hurd, b. 1950 Music: Bob Hurd

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**1: “**Ready the way of the Lord!” “Ready the way of the Lord!”

A voice cries out in the wilderness. “Ready the way of the Lord!”

**2:** “Let ev’ry valley be filled. Let ev’ry valley be filled.

Let ev’ry mountain be humbled. Let ev’ry valley be filled.

**Refrain:**

Here is your God, coming with your vindication. Look and behold the saving power of God.

**3:** Desert and wasteland will bloom. Desert and wasteland will bloom.

Glory and splendor will fill the land. Desert and wasteland will bloom.

**4:** Those who are blind will then see. Those who are deaf will then hear.

Those who are lame will then leap for joy. Those who are mute will then sing. **Refrain**

**Sending Forth Song: Ready the Way**

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**Refrain:** Come to us, Jesus, come to us. Come to us, Jesus. Jesus, come.

**1:** For a world filled with darkness, longs to see your light. For a world of despair awaits that hopeful night. **Refrain**

**2:** We know not where this journey leads, we follow just our dreams. We travel far that we might kneel before a newborn king. **Refrain**

**3:** Unto us a shining star, a sign for all to see:

That unto us a child is born, born to set us free. **Refrain**

4

**Refrain:** Come and be filled here at this table.

Food for all who hunger and drink for all who thirst.

Drink of his love, wine of salvation.

You shall live forever in Jesus Christ the Lord.

**1:** You who labor for justice, you who labor for peace,

You who steady the plow in the field of the Lord. **Refrain**

**2:** You with lives full of pain, you who sorrow and weep,

You, beloved of Christ, come to him, come to him! **Refrain**

**3:** Children of every color in every land,

You are his own, he gathers you gently.

Don’t you grow weary, for when you run, you run with the Lord! **Refrain**

**4:** You, the aged, among us, holy, faithful and wise,

May the wisdom you share form our lives and our world! **Refrain**

**5:** Let each woman and man learn from the stranger;

We’re not so different and so much unites us.

For we are one, blest with the Spirit and the power of love! **Refrain**

**Communion Song 1: Here at This Table**

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**1:** You are higher than all of our questions, you are deeper than all of our needs.

Wider than all that we can imagine; you are greater than anything.

**2:** You are stronger than all of our burdens, you are sweeter than all of our dreams.

Closer than all the air that surrounds us; you are greater than anything. **Refrain**

**Refrain:** You are holy, holy, God almighty, God with us.

You are holy, holy, God almighty, God with us. God with us.

**3:** You bring joy into all of our sadness, you bring peace into all of our pain.

Shining light into all of our darkness; you are greater than anything. **Refrain**

**Bridge:** Ever before us and ever beside us. Ever above us and ever behind us.

Ever around us and ever within us, and always God with us. **Refrain**

**Refrain:** Come, Lord Jesus, come. Come and fill my heart with your life.

Hold me close, Lord, hold me tight, and come, Lord Jesus, come.

**1:** Where there’s despair in life, Lord, let me be your voice of hope.

Where there’s injury, Lord, let me be your voice of peace. **Refrain**

**2:** Where there is sadness let me be your comfort and your joy.

When there’s fear in our hearts let me be a sign of faith. **Refrain**

**Communion Song 2: Come, Lord Jesus**

**Offertory Song: God with Us**

3