

SERMON NOTES

3rd Sunday of Advent, Year B * December 13, 2020

Sermon by the Reverend Tom Rutherford

Isaiah 61:1-11 * Psalm 126 * 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 *

John 1:6-8, 19-28

Baptism

The Spirit of the LORD is upon me because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoner, to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor.

Isaiah 61:1-2

The Good News: God L_____ you and wants you in his F_____.

and he's done E_____ necessary for that to happen, except...

A sacrament is something we do on the O_____

that represents something God does on the I_____.

The Outward Sign: W_____ The Inward Grace: N___ B_____

Thanksgiving over the Water

Book of Common Prayer, 306

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation.

Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise.

In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection.

Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit.

Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Next Week's Lessons

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 * Canticle 15, BCP 91 * Romans 16:25-27 *

Luke 1:26-38

Chewing on Our Daily Bread

Questions for conversation with your family, Home Group, or a friend

1. What do you remember about your baptism? Or what have you been told about it?
2. What's a part of the Baptism service you like? Why?
3. Baptism is a symbol of God's cleansing us from sin. What selfishness or sin has God cleansed from you in your past?
4. If you've not yet been baptized, would you like to be? Why or why not?
5. PRAY:
 - ✦ Thanking God for inviting you into his family.
 - ✦ For grace to respond to his love.
 - ✦ For any needs in your group.

If you have not been baptized and would like to be, please contact Tom Rutherford or one of our other clergy SOON.

