

Week of the Third Sunday of Advent 2025

Date:	December 14, 2025 (Sunday) [Year 2]	
Theme:	Joy	
Collect:	Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.	
Psalm:	Morning: 63:1-8(9-11), 98	Evening: 103
1st Lesson:	Amos 9:11-15	
2nd Lesson:	2 Thessalonians 2:1-3,13-17	
3rd Lesson:	John 5:30-47	

Reflection:

Morning Psalm 63

Laud offered to God, because he has been the reciter's helper.

Morning Psalm 98

Sing a song of joy with instruments, everyone and nature! Appropriate for the third week in Advent whose theme is "Joy!"

Evening Psalm 103

Psalm 103 starts off with "Bless the Lord, O My Soul," and it's because of so many blessings he is to us! He forgives all our sins, heals infirmities, redeems your life, and on and on! Every verse is full of what the Lord God means to us. It is beautiful. Really, all the verses are beautiful!

Amos 9:11-15

The final conclusion to Amos is on God's promise of restoration of the "fortunes of my people Israel, and they shall rebuild the ruined cities and inhabit them.." It doesn't say that he will withhold his judgment, but the ruined cities will be rebuilt.

2 Thessalonians 2:1-3, 13-17

Seems like someone tried to pretend to be Paul and deceive the believers in Thessalonica that the day of the Lord is already here, and Paul is instructing them to not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed. Paul says the "rebellion comes first, then the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction." Paul then assures them that he is proud of them, "so stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us..."

John 5: 30-47

In this passage Jesus had just healed the man by the pool of Beth-zatha (or Bethesda) who was ill for 38 years. On a sabbath. And the religious authorities were livid and Jesus was

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defending his actions. Here he is talking about his relationship with his Father and that he does nothing on his own, but only the will of the one who sent him.

Jesus also accuses the religious authorities for accepting those who come in their own names, but not when one comes in the name of the Father. He also accuses them for not believing in Moses, because if they did, they would believe in him.

Help us to understand Moses and the Covenant more and more so that we may be able to recognize you, Jesus, on your coming and accept you. Amen!

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