

Week of the Third Sunday of Advent 2025

Date:	December 16, 2025 (Tuesday) [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: 45	Evening: 47, 48
1st Lesson:	Zechariah 2:1-13	
2nd Lesson:	Revelation 3:14-22	
3rd Lesson:	Matthew 24:32-44	

Reflection:

Morning Psalm 45

The Psalm is a song of praise to the King and his bride's at their wedding. It is a bit confusing with just two verses – 7 and 8 – that addresses to God. Would be beautiful at a wedding!

Evening Psalm 47

A song of joy in praise of the Lord Most High, who is the God of all the earth and all the nations on the earth.

Evening Psalm 48

Another song of praise to the God, full of justice, with reaches to the world's end. Last verse is notable: "This God is our God for ever and ever; he shall be our guide for evermore."

Zechariah 2: 1-13

In Zechariah chapter 2 we see all the promise of deliverance for the people of Judah and restoration of Jerusalem as the dwelling place for the Lord. This is definitely in a poetic format.

Revelation 3: 14-22

The final letter to the seventh church is addressed to the church in Laodicea. They seem to think themselves rich, and sufficient, but the letter states that they don't realize they are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. And the Lord is ready to spit out the lukewarm-ness out of His mouth. There is a whole counsel to buy from Him gold refined by fire so that they may be rich, and white robes to clothe, and finally salve to anoint the eyes so they may see, but the actual command is to repent. Promise is that he is standing at the door, knocking, and they open the door, He will come in and sup together.

Week of the Third Sunday of Advent 2025

Matthew 24: 32-44

As a conclusion to Jesus' description of the end times, He brings up an example of the fig trees to illustrate how you will know when the leaves come out that the summer is near. Similarly you will know and understand the signs of the end time when you see one. Just to beware – no one knows the exact time when this will happen. Just be ready at all times!

As we continue our time in Advent, let us keep in mind that no one knows exactly when the end time will come. We have been warned in other parables that our souls might be required of us unexpectedly. So let us use this season of Advent in 2025 to get serious about preparing our lives for a long-term wait for our Lord's coming. On a shorter term, Christmas is just nine days away!

Shoji Mizumoto, Seminary Intern; December, 2025