Second Sunday of Advent

Reading I

<u>Bar 5:1-9</u>

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:

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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.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6.

R. 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 gospel |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| R. The Lord has done great things | | from the first day until now. |
| for us; we are filled with joy. | | I am confident of this, |
| Then they said among the | | that the one who began a good |
| nations, | | work in you |
| "The LORD has done great | | will continue to complete it |
| things for them." | | until the day of Christ Jesus. |
| The LORD has done great things | | God is my witness, |
| for us; | | how I long for all of you with the |
| we are glad indeed. | | affection of Christ Jesus. |
| R. The Lord has done great things | | And this is my prayer: |
| for us; we are filled with joy. | | that your love may increase ever |
| Restore our fortunes, O LORD, | | more and more |
| like the torrents in the southern | | in knowledge and every kind of |
| desert. | | perception, |
| Those who sow in tears | | to discern what is of value, |
| shall reap rejoicing. | | so that you may be pure and |
| R. The Lord has done great things | | blameless for the day of Christ, |
| for us; we are filled with joy. | | filled with the fruit of |
| Although they go forth weeping, | | righteousness |
| carrying the seed to be sown, | | that comes through Jesus Christ |
| They shall come back rejoicing, | | for the glory and praise of God. |
| carrying their sheaves. | | |
| R. The Lord has done gre | at things | Alleluia Lk 3:4, 6 |
| for us; we are filled with joy. | | R. Alleluia, alleluia. |
| Reading II | <u>l 1:4-6, 8-11</u> | Prepare the way of the Lord, make |
| Brothers and sisters: | | straight his paths: all flesh shall |
| I pray always with joy in my every | | see the salvation of God. |
| prayer for all of you, | | R. Alleluia, alleluia. |
| because of your partnership for | | |
| | | |

Gospel

<u>Lk 3:1-6</u>

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar,

when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea,

and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, *desert:* and his brother Philip tetrarch of *"Prep* the region *ma*

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."