Hymns, Lessons, Gradual 3 Advent 2020

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- 1. On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry Announces that the Lord is nigh; Come, then, and hearken, for he brings Glad tidings from the King of kings.
- 2. Then cleansed by every Christian breast And furnished for so great a Guest. Yea, let us each our hearts prepare For Christ to come and enter there.
- 3. For Thou art our Salvation, Lord, Our Refuge, and our great Reward. Without Thy grace our souls must fade And wither like a flower decayed.
- 4. Lay on the sick Thy healing hand And make the fallen strong to stand; Show us the glory of Thy face Till beauty springs in every place.
- 5. All praise, eternal Son, to Thee Who advent sets Thy people free, Whom, with the Father, we adore And Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

LESSON: MALACHI 3.1-6

Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts. 2 But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: 3 And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness. 4 Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD, as in the days of old, and as in former years. 5 And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the LORD of hosts. 6 For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 4.1-5

1 Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. 2 Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful. 3 But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man's judgment: yea, I judge not mine own self. 4 For I know nothing by myself; yet am I not hereby justified: but he that judgeth me is the Lord. 5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.

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Thou that dwellest between the cherubim, shine forth: stir up Thy strength and come. Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel: Thou that leadest Joseph like a Flock. Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Stir up Thy strength: and come and save us. Hallelujah.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 11.2-10

2 Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, 3 And said unto him, Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another? 4 Jesus answered and said unto them, Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see: 5 The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them. 6 And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me. 7 And as they departed, Jesus began to say unto the multitudes concerning John, What went ye out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken with the wind? 8 But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? behold, they that wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. 9 But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? yea, I say unto you, and more than a prophet. 10 For this is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

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1. Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes, the Savior promised long; Let every heart prepare a throne And every voice a song.

- 2. He comes the prisoners to release, In Satan's bondage held. The gates of brass before Him burst, The iron fetters yield.
- 3. He comes from thickest films of vice To clear the mental ray And on the eyeballs of the blind To pour celestial day.
- 4. He comes the broken heart to bind, The bleeding soul to cure, And with the treasures of His grace To enrich the humble poor.
- 5. Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, Thy welcome shall proclaim And heaven's eternal arches ring With Thy beloved name. Amen.

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Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.