

## Wednesday – 3<sup>rd</sup> Week of Advent B

### **First Reading: Isaiah 45: 6-8,18,21-25**

Apart from me, all is nothing.  
I am the Lord, unrivalled,  
I form the light and create the dark.  
I make good fortune and create calamity,  
it is I, the Lord, who do all this.

Send victory like a dew, you heavens,  
and let the clouds rain it down.  
Let the earth open  
for salvation to spring up.  
Let deliverance, too, bud forth  
which I, the Lord, shall create.

Yes, thus says the Lord,  
creator of the heavens,  
who is God,  
who formed the earth and made it,  
who set it firm,  
created it no chaos,  
but a place to be lived in:

‘I am the Lord, unrivalled:  
there is no other god besides me.  
A God of integrity and a saviour:  
there is none apart from me.  
Turn to me and be saved,  
all the ends of the earth,  
for I am God unrivalled.

‘By my own self I swear it;  
what comes from my mouth is truth,  
a word irrevocable:  
before me every knee shall bend,  
by me every tongue shall swear,  
saying, “From the Lord alone  
come victory and strength.”  
To him shall come, ashamed,  
all who raged against him.  
Victorious and glorious through the Lord shall be  
all the descendants of Israel.

## **Psalm 84(85):9-14(Advent)**

*Send victory like a dew, you heavens, and let the clouds rain it down.*

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,  
a voice that speaks of peace,  
peace for his people.  
His help is near for those who fear him  
and his glory will dwell in our land.

*Send victory like a dew, you heavens, and let the clouds rain it down.*

Mercy and faithfulness have met;  
justice and peace have embraced.  
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth  
and justice look down from heaven.

*Send victory like a dew, you heavens, and let the clouds rain it down.*

The Lord will make us prosper  
and our earth shall yield its fruit.  
Justice shall march before him  
and peace shall follow his steps.

*Send victory like a dew, you heavens, and let the clouds rain it down.*

## **Gospel: Luke 7:19-23**

John, summoning two of his disciples, sent them to the Lord to ask, 'Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?' When the men reached Jesus they said, 'John the Baptist has sent us to you, to ask, "Are you the one who is to come or have we to wait for someone else?"' It was just then that he cured many people of diseases and afflictions and of evil spirits, and gave the gift of sight to many who were blind. Then he gave the messengers their answer, 'Go back and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind see again, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life, the Good News is proclaimed to the poor and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'