**Reflecting on the Word as a Family**

**12.11.22**

***The Third Sunday of Advent***

**Readings** <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/121122.cfm>

**Reading 1** Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God…he comes to save you.

 Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared;

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10: Lord come and save us.

**Reading 2** James 5:7-10: Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord.

**Gospel** Mt 11:2-11

When John the Baptist heard in prison of the works of the Christ, he sent his disciples to Jesus with this question, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Jesus said to them in reply, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me."

As they were going off, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John, "What did you go out to the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind? Then what did you go out to see? Someone dressed in fine clothing? Those who wear fine clothing are in royal palaces. Then why did you go out? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you. Amen, I say to you, among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

**Reflect and Share Together**

Jesus asks the disciples what they expected when they went to the desert to see John the Baptist. Did they expect to see fine clothing and wealth? We can ask ourselves the same question about home we expect to see Jesus.

* Do we expect God or his prophets to be like an earthly king?
* Do we see Jesus in each other? In others?
* Do we see God in the beauty of everyday creation?
* How can we help each other see God in our daily lives?

**Pray together:**

 Heavenly father, you sent John the Baptist

 To prepare the people for the coming of your Son, Jesus.

 Send your Holy Spirit to help us see Jesus in others

 and you in all of creation.

 As Christmas draws closer, help us to prepare, too,

 So that we may be ready for Christmas Day and when Jesus comes again.