

## Proclamation Format

# 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY of Advent (Yr C)

## Reading 1

*Citation:* Baruch, Chap. 5, Verses 1-9  
Baruch 5: 1-9

**Baruch carries Jeremiah's excitement still further. The Messiah will indeed be a savior of Israel. Jesus' promise to return to us and escort us into a new life is this same promise. Pick up the tone of celebration and joy that Baruch has and model it to your listeners to adopt this same tone.**

### A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Baruch

Jerusalem, (urging; solicitous; [pay attention!]) (very short pause)  
take off your robe of mourning and misery; (commanding?) (very short pause)  
put on the splendor of glory from God  
forever: (short pause)

wrapped in the cloak of justice from God, (very short pause)  
bear on your head (as though giving directions)  
the miter that displays the glory of the eternal name. (short pause)

For God will show all the earth your splendor: (very short pause)  
you will be named by God forever  
the peace of justice,  
the glory of God's worship. (Pause)

Up, Jerusalem! (urging; solicitous; [pay attention!])  
stand upon the heights; (excited!) (very short pause)  
look to the east (urgent, excited)  
and see your children gathered from the east and the west (awe)  
at the word of the Holy One, (parenthetical expression)  
rejoicing that they are remembered by God. (Pause)

Led away on foot by their enemies (sad, compassionate)  
they left you: (very short pause)  
but God will bring them back to you. (be re-assuring)  
borne aloft in glory (triumphant!)  
as on royal thrones. (proud) (short pause)

For God has commanded that every lofty mountain be made low, (serious; firm)(very short pause)  
and that the age-old depths and gorges be filled to level ground,  
that Israel may advance secure in the glory of God. (short pause)

The forests and every fragrant kind of tree have overshadowed Israel (very short pause)  
at God's command; (a parenthetical expression?)  
for God is leading Israel in joy ([Hurray!], excited!)  
by the light of his glory, (awesome)  
with his mercy and justice for company. (triumphant)

### The Word of the Lord.

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**Reading 2**

*Citation:* Philippians, Chap. 1, Verses 4-6, 8-11  
Philippians 1: 4-6, 8-11

**Paul writes to his beloved community about how much he misses them and how concerned he is for their welfare as new Christians. It is similar to a letter from a father to any of his children separated from him in space and time. Be the concerned parent. Urge your listeners to take your words of advice to heart. Be the somewhat saddened yet confident father – be Paul!**

**A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians**

Brothers and sisters:

(short pause)

I pray always with joy in my every prayer  
for all of you,  
because of your partnership for the gospel  
from the first day until now.

(parenthetical expression?)  
(Pause)

I am confident of this,  
that the one who began a good work in you  
will continue to complete it  
until the day of Christ Jesus.

(very short pause)

(very short pause)  
(short pause)

God is my witness,  
how I long for all of you  
with the affection of Christ Jesus.

(firm) (very short pause)  
(supplication)  
(firm, assuring) (short pause)

And this is my prayer:  
that your love may increase ever more and more  
in knowledge  
and every kind of perception,  
to discern what is of value,  
so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,  
filled with the fruit of righteousness  
that comes through Jesus Christ  
for the glory and praise of God.

(short pause)

(very short pause)

(very short pause)  
(parenthetical expression?)  
(affirmation)

{Paul's explanation, justification}  
{ “ “ ” }

(almost a parenthetical expression OR your complete confidence)

**The Word of the Lord.**

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**Gospel**

*Citation:* Luke, Chap. 3, Verses 1-6  
Luke 3:1-6

**Luke puts the coming of John the Baptist as precursor of Jesus in story form meant to energize Luke's community. It confirms what all good Jews knew – the Messiah is coming; is at hand! This is great news! Exciting! Be as eager and enthusiastic as Luke must have been!**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar,  
when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea,  
and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee,  
and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis,  
and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene,  
during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, (slight change of tone)  
the word of God came to John (parenthetical)  
the son of Zechariah (short pause)  
in the desert.

John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan,  
proclaiming a baptism of repentance (almost parenthetical)  
for the forgiveness of sins,  
as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah: (confirming; a "true" statement)

*A voice of one crying out in the desert:*

*"Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight his paths.* (a series of promises)

*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."* (triumph!)

**The Gospel of the Lord.**