

CHRISTMAS -- Dawn

Year A-B-C

Reading 1

Citation: Isaiah, Chap. 62, verses 11-12
Isaiah 62:11-12

Isaiah is practically shouting his praise of God for what Isaiah sees as the future of Israel when God fulfills His promises. You must be as excited.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

See,
the LORD proclaims to the ends of the earth:
say to daughter Zion,
your savior comes!

(short Pause) (Urgent)
 (short Pause)
 (Pause)
 (Excited)

Here is his reward with him,
his recompense before him.

} (Excitement continues)
}

They shall be called the holy people,
the redeemed of the LORD,

(short Pause) (Confident)
 (Confident)

and you shall be called “Frequented,”
a city that is not forsaken.

(short Pause) (Proud)
 (Proud)

The Word of the Lord.

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Reading 2

Citation: Titus, Chap. 3, verses 4-7
Titus 3:4-7

Paul is pointing out that what God has done for those who love Him is a free gift, not dependent on anything we, as mere humans, can or cannot do to merit His Mercy and Love of us. In a sense, Paul is trying to explain just why we must always be thankful and grateful for Jesus' coming. It is almost unbelievable!

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to Titus

Beloved:

When the kindness and generous love of God	(very short pause)
our savior	
appeared,	(short pause)
not because of any righteous deeds <u>we</u> had done	(apologetic) (short pause)
but because of <u>his</u> mercy,	(confirmed) (Pause)
<u>he</u> saved us	(dumbfounded) (short pause)
through the bath of rebirth	
and renewal by the Holy Spirit,	(short pause)
whom he richly poured out on us	(grateful)
through Jesus Christ	
our savior,	(short pause)
so that <u>we</u> might be <u>justified</u> by his grace	(very short pause)
and become <u>heirs</u> in hope of <u>eternal life</u> .	(convinced)

The Word of the Lord.

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GOSPEL

Citation: Luke, Chap. 2, Verses 15-20
Luke 2: 15-20

Luke is attempting to relate the excitement and great joy experienced by the shepherds as they visit Bethlehem and confirm for themselves the announcement of the angel delivered to them. One quiet moment, though – Mary’s unnoticed reflection on their visit. Change your voice tone to reflect this. Then, resume the level of excitement and joy the shepherds have as they return to share the good news with their compadres.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

When the angels went away from them to heaven,
the shepherds said to one another,

(very short pause)

"Let us go, then,
to Bethlehem
to see this thing that has taken place,
which the Lord has made known to us."

(committed; excited)

“ “

(almost parenthetical)

So they went in haste
and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger.

(very short pause)

When they saw this,
they made known the message
that had been told them about this child.

(short pause)

All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds.

(voice down a bit)

And Mary kept all these things,
thoughtful
reflecting on them
in her heart.

(gentle,

Then the shepherds returned,
glorifying and praising God
for all they had heard and seen,
just as it had been told to them.

(almost parenthetical)

The Gospel of the Lord.