

Monday Week 1 Advent

Reflection

"I will come and cure him."

Isaiah foresaw the destiny of the people. In the vision, God set his tent on a mountain, but the mountain became the highest of all mountains and hills. The psalmist waited with hope, and his heart was filled with joy when he heard his neighbors say, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." All nations ran to the house of God, to listen to God, and to imitate God's ways. Other nations bowed down before the chosen people. The people of God imposed terms of peace on other nations. wars ceased, and there was no longer any need to train for battle. Warriors became farmers; swords were changed into plowshares, and spears into sickles. (Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122)

God was angry with his people. He sanctioned their infidelity. The sanction was meant for the purification of the people. Those who survived God's act of purification became a holy remnant. God glorified and honors the remnant; he gave them light in the night, clouds for shade against the heat of the sun, and a refuge from storm and rain. (For Year A - Isaiah 4:2-6)

Jesus said to the centurion, "I will come to your house and cure your dying servant." But the centurion was honest. He did not intend to receive Jesus in his house. Instead, he welcomed Jesus into the centurion's worldview—one shaped by obedience between a commander and his followers. He only wanted good health for his servant, "only say the word and my servant will be healed". Jesus was amazed at the faith and the honesty of the centurion. Jesus cured the servant who was sick and urged the crowd to learn from the centurion's remarkable faith. (Matthew 8:5-11)

God is present in what happens here and now. He does not leave anyone alone. Even when you say that you deserve what is happening to you, God will never leave you alone. He always finds a way to reach out to you, to welcome you as you are. He will come into your world, to keep you company.

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