

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 12:1–6

¹You will say in that day:

“I will give thanks to you, O LORD,
for though you were angry with me,
your anger turned away,
that you might comfort me.

² “Behold, God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid;
for the LORD God is my strength and my
song,
and he has become my salvation.”

³With joy you will draw water from the
wells of salvation. ⁴And you will say in that
day:

“Give thanks to the LORD,
call upon his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that his name is exalted.

⁵ “Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done
gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.

⁶ Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of
Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of
Israel.”

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 5:16–21

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no
one according to the flesh. Even though we
once regarded Christ according to the flesh,
we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷Therefore, if
anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The
old has passed away; behold, the new has
come. ¹⁸All this is from God, who through
Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the
ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ
God was reconciling the world to himself, not
counting their trespasses against them, and
entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.
²⁰Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ,
God making his appeal through us. We implore
you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.
²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew
no sin, so that in him we might become the
righteousness of God.

Holy Gospel: Luke 15:1–3, 11–32

¹Now the tax collectors and sinners were all
drawing near to hear [Jesus]. ²And the Pharisees
and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man
receives sinners and eats with them.”

³So he told them this parable: . . .

¹¹“There was a man who had two sons. ¹²And

the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father,
give me the share of property that is coming
to me.’ And he divided his property between
them. ¹³Not many days later, the younger son
gathered all he had and took a journey into
a far country, and there he squandered his
property in reckless living. ¹⁴And when he had
spent everything, a severe famine arose in that
country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he
went and hired himself out to one of the citizens
of that country, who sent him into his fields to
feed pigs. ¹⁶And he was longing to be fed with
the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him
anything.

¹⁷“But when he came to himself, he said,
‘How many of my father’s hired servants have
more than enough bread, but I perish here with
hunger! ¹⁸I will arise and go to my father, and
I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against
heaven and before you. ¹⁹I am no longer worthy
to be called your son. Treat me as one of your
hired servants.”’ ²⁰And he arose and came to
his father. But while he was still a long way off,
his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran
and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹And the
son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against
heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy
to be called your son.’ ²²But the father said to
his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and
put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and
shoes on his feet. ²³And bring the fattened calf
and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴For
this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was
lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵“Now his older son was in the field, and as
he came and drew near to the house, he heard
music and dancing. ²⁶And he called one of the
servants and asked what these things meant.
²⁷And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come,
and your father has killed the fattened calf,
because he has received him back safe and
sound.’ ²⁸But he was angry and refused to go in.
His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹but he
answered his father, ‘Look, these many years
I have served you, and I never disobeyed your
command, yet you never gave me a young goat,
that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But
when this son of yours came, who has devoured
your property with prostitutes, you killed the
fattened calf for him!’ ³¹And he said to him,
‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is
mine is yours. ³²It was fitting to celebrate and
be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is
alive; he was lost, and is found.’”