

Advent Calendar: Day 21

The reflections for this week are centered around the readings for this Sunday's texts
Isaiah 61:10-62:3, Galatians 4:4-7, Luke 2:22-40

Isaiah 61:10

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,

Due to Covid and other complications, my eldest daughter and her husband exchanged Christmas gifts with the rest of the family a little early this year. Their gift for me was a black vest which can be charged up to provide additional heat while wearing it. It is a gift I am very anxious to don during this year's outdoor Christmas and Sunday services! In a few days, most of you will be gifted with something to wear: a sweater, hat, slippers, gloves, or dress shirt. However, there is another gift we receive at Christmas that we are invited to put on and wear; the salvation and righteousness of Christ. In this prophetic image, Isaiah foreshadows what will be a consistent New Testament image, to clothe ourselves in all that is Christ. It will warm your heart, direct your ways, protect you from the elements of this world, and shine forth with God's Glory.

Do you have certain clothes that remind you of people or places that are special to you? Can you remember any items that were made by someone just for you? What does it mean for you to think of the time and dedication they sacrificed in order to bless you? Consider what Jesus did to take upon Himself the rags of our sins and replace them with the garments of His salvation and righteousness? He wants you to be dressed in His Life and this robe of royal Love was made for you. Will you wear it proudly for all to see?