



**Monday, December 4, 2023**  
**Monday of the Thirty-Fifth**  
**Week in Ordinary Time**



*Good morning!*

Happy Advent! We celebrate Saint John Damascene. We read Isaiah 2:1-5, Psalm 22, and Matthew 8:5-11. Advent, the coming of the Lord, we wait in hope, anticipation, and joy. Isaiah offers an image of nations streaming to the highest mountain, "That he may instruct us in his ways, and we may walk in his paths." "They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; One nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again." A centurion approaches Jesus and asks for healing for one of his servants. Jesus states he will go and cure him. The centurion responds, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you enter under my roof; only say the word, and my servant will be healed." Who will be at the banquet with us? Who will we meet on our journey to the mountain? Are we open to letting the "other" pray with us, draw us deeper into faith, and welcome us? What can we learn from the prophet Isaiah today? This Advent season, "Let us walk in the light of the Lord."

*Peace,*

*RevKev*

*"Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord!"*

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