

Monday 21st December 2020

Advent, Monday of 4th week

Reading: Lk.1,68-79

V.78 "because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven."

Zechariah sees the marvel that God is doing. It is best seen in the light of Ps.130, which stands behind these words of Zechariah's song of praise:

"Out of the depths I cry to you, LORD; Lord hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.

If you, LORD, kept a record of sins, Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you.

I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope. I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning.

Israel, put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption. He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins."

Zechariah knows the sun is rising: morning is here!

Lord God, the miserable darkness of sin and guilt dissipates when your light comes; the Saviour who comes from you and is for us is your greatest gift, for he is your tender mercy. Amen