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Liturgical Date: Year C, Advent 2, 5th December 2021

****There is an Advent Welcome (in Song List 2 of DVD and in a "Seasonal" file on the website) that can be used to open the worship today.**

Presenter

Rev Warwick Cadenhead

Focus Readings Luke 3: 1-6

Message 7 minutes 55 seconds

"Making straight the way..."

Discussion Starters

- 1** What was something in the sermon you found affirming? Challenging?
- 2** How do you prepare for Christmas?
- 3** Spend a moment to imagine a gift of God coming to you that promises to transform your life in ways that lift great burdens. How does that gift feel?
- 4** How could we prepare for the coming of God's gift?

Lectionary readings for the day

Malachi 3:1-4 Malachi prophesies the coming of a messenger to prepare the way before the Lord. But his coming will be hard to endure, as he will purify Israel as a refiner's fire.

Luke 1:68-79 Zechariah, father of John, praises God who has acted to fulfill the ancient promises to Israel. He prophesies the coming work of John who will go before the "dawn from heaven" (v 78).

Philippians 1:3-11 Paul thanks God for the Philippians who have supported him in proclaiming the gospel and now in prison. He prays that their love may overflow so they may be blameless on the day of Christ.

(Excerpted from Abingdon's Theological Companion to the Lectionary, Year C. Copyright c2012 by Abingdon Press, an imprint of the United Methodist Publishing House. Used by permission. All rights reserved.)

All Age Message Catherine Beeton **"Fanfare for a King"**

Length 5 Minutes 50 seconds

Precis of AAM

Written musical Fanfares are played with trumpets and drums playing loudly are used to announce the arrival of someone very special, like a King or Queen. Sometimes it is used at a special party too. No such thing happened for the coming of Jesus, just John was there to announce his arrival. What special things do you do to celebrate his arrival each year, put up a tree, a nativity scene and prepare special food? Sing the song, "He is the King of Kings" loudly and often during this Advent.

Resources **Uniting in Worship (Blue Book).** No Psalm listed for today's readings.

Rev Warwick Cadenhead

Lives in East Maitland. Passionate about the worshipping life of the Church. Not able to ride my motorcycle enough! Fan of some obscure science fiction.