

3rd Sunday of Advent B

Mismatched Shoes – Getting dressed in the dark

John says HE CAME TO TESTIFY TO THE LIGHT & light always casts out darkness

Do you have darkness in your life?

You need Jesus.

Remember the story in Luke where Christ
picked up the scroll and read ...

“The spirit of the Lord anointed me to:

- bring glad tidings to the poor
- heal the brokenhearted
- bring liberty to captives
- release to prisoners
- to announce a year of favor from the Lord

& he rolls up the scroll, takes his seat – ‘Today this reading is fulfilled’

OUR FIRST READING TODAY IS WHAT JESUS READ

This past year hardly seems like a year of favor from the Lord

Economy isn't great

2 Wars at once

Congress is divided

The truth is, with Jesus, everything in that first reading is possible:

With the Jesus – we can bring glad tidings to the poor

- we can heal the brokenhearted
- we can bring liberty to captives
- we can release to prisoners
- we are empowered to announce a year of favor from the Lord

So – **How** do we embrace the light? It's time for a reality check.

- Bernard of Clairveaux taught on self-knowledge

- We are Sinners (alone despair - darkness)

- We are God's Beloved (alone pride - darkness)

Together we have

Humility

Healthy self-knowledge happens in the light of truth, not masked by darkness

Self-deception

Without the light we are condemned to darkness, and we know what that's like

So let me ask you – If John the Baptist came to ‘prepare the way of the Lord’

(To prepare the people for the coming of Jesus in their lives)

- Who has prepared YOU – who was your John the Baptist? I'll wait.
- Who have you been John the Baptist for?
- Who do you know that needs a John the Baptist?
- What are you going to do about it?