

# Daily Reflections

## ADVENT

### The Divine Intervention



**December 24, 2016**

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### Scripture

#### **Luke 1:67-79**

Zechariah his father, filled with the Holy Spirit, prophesied, saying:

“Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;  
for he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty Savior,  
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his prophets he promised of old  
that he would save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers  
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham:

to set us free from the hand of our enemies,  
free to worship him without fear,  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

to give his people knowledge of salvation  
by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

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## **Our Scripture Reflection**

Zechariah does what all good people of faith in the Bible do often: Praise God! As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior, may we thank and praise Him like never before for all the wonderful things He does for us, most especially, giving us our Savior.

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## **Food for your Journey**

Zechariah never made it all the way to the manger, but after baby John was born, after he wrote the name down and made it official, after his experience of the here-and-now promise of God, from where he stood, he started to sing. It wasn't "Silent Night" or "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing." But Zechariah sang of the love of God, and the breaking in of God's light, the coming of God's peace and a mighty Savior born to the house of David. "By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace." He sang of the promise of a God who makes a difference.

—David A. Davis, "Tender mercies and the rising son," Nassau Church Worship, December 24, 2008, [nassauchurch.org](http://nassauchurch.org).

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## **Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, May my heart be humble and open as I receive You this Christmas. Amen.