

Dec 13 2020 – Advent 3 communion 10.45am

The (un)expected Spirit

-1, 0, Last week – Isaiah 43

1 The (un)expected Spirit

All through history, the HS at work – the scripture tells us that

2 Isaiah 61:1-3

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me,
because the Lord has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor...

Luke 1:30-38

... ‘The Holy Spirit will come on you, ...³⁷For no word from God will ever fail.’

³⁸‘I am the Lord’s servant,’ Mary answered. ‘May your word to me be fulfilled.’

3 he’s active in creation,

4 and until the coming of Jesus he’s active to equip particular people for particular tasks.

Bezalel Ex 31:1-5.
art

Gideon Judges 6:14, 34.
leadership

Samson Jdg 15:14;
strength

Isaiah ch61
prophecy

an anointing of the HS. Isaiah – “The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me...”

5 but a new thing promised: Jer 31:33-34 all will know – “I will put my law within them, write it on their hearts.... they shall all know me”

Promised by the father

6 Ezek 36:26 – “ a new heart within you, a new spirit in you, heart of stone x, heart of flesh v),

7 Ezek 47 (river), Joel 2:28-9 (pour out ...)
soft hearts.

8 a whisper, a promise , God is going to do something new...
300 years of waiting

9 & then, when Jesus born – a flurry of activity
J the B – Luke 1:14,15, Mary v 35, Eliz v 41, Zech v 67, Simeon 2:25, Anna
...
but still a few particular people

10 **JC, the messiah born**

11 **J the B links him (HS) w Jesus – Mark 1:8**
I baptise you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.

Luke 3:16 – baptizdo – drench, plunge, immerse ...
Jesus – spirit-filled man – power @ baptism – anointing of HS – Luke
3:22, 4:1, 14, 18

12 **Jesus predicts his presence**

John 7:37-39 –

13 but wait in city until clothed ... (Lk 24:49, Acts 1:4,5,8)
Pentecost – filled – new languages Acts 2:4-12, new boldness (14), new
power (37-41)

This is the age we now live in

14 God promises to give his HS to every Xn Acts 2:38,39 “repent &
be baptised ... you will receive the gift of the HS”

15 This is the nature of the HS. He is in us, empowering us. He urges us to listen, to be open to God's love and power, to do what he asks of us – never beyond us, always uncomfortable. But with that sense of holy terror that tells you “this is of God.” e.g. starting TCAD.

The Spirit comes to work in us, to bring us comfort and joy, and to enable us to bring that comfort and joy to those around us.

16 Challenge this week (who read Isaiah 43?):
pray. ask him to open your mind & heart's eye – invite someone to the carol service next week. Tell them it's zoom. Share the link. Tell them if they don't like it, they can leave, no one will know or mind.

Pray:

Lord HS, come anew to us; fill us, refresh us, give us courage, open our eyes, hearts, minds to your prompting. Give us power to live for you each day. Amen.