



SHALL WE DANCE?

The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior; he will rejoice over you with gladness, and renew you in his love, he will sing joyfully BECAUSE of you.

Zeph. 3:14-18

“And the Father will dance as on a day of joy...” The beginning of a song by Carey Landry echoes today’s reading from Zephaniah. The joy we read about is God’s joy, God’s rejoicing over us! God rejoicing to be in our midst! How amazing is that! But that is also the cause of our joy! God is in our midst! No matter what befalls us, no matter the darkness which seems to engulf us, we do not fear, for God is in our midst.

God has always been with his people, but at the Incarnation humankind encounters a tangible presence. Our broken humanity has been made whole, and holy, by Jesus, God become man; Emmanuel, God with us. God’s love heals, renews, and makes us whole. He will “renew you in his love.”

Renewed by love, we are made whole, and holy, by our union with the Triune God. So, while we wait for Christmas, to celebrate the birth of Jesus, we also await God’s coming anew, moment by moment, in our daily lives. God dwells in us, and with Jesus, we are to restore, heal, make whole, renew by love. We are “to bring glad tidings to the poor.” We find courage and hope as we believe in God’s presence in the midst of our everyday lives. We are to proclaim this love to all, to invite others to be whole and holy, and join in the dance.

We dare to dance freely and joyfully because our Father is dancing with joy in our midst and rejoicing in his creation.

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