

Deacon's Beacons

January 7, 2022

The LORD your God is in your midst,
a mighty one who will save;
he will rejoice over you with gladness;
he will quiet you by his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing. Zephaniah 3:17

Zephaniah is not one of the prophets that we hear about very much. He is writing about the time of King Josiah (circa 600 BC) and addressing specific corruptions of religious practices. This verse comes almost at the end of his writing. Although the commentators say that the original manuscript is hopelessly corrupt, the image here is that God does not know whether to be silent or to sing. His love is so great for us. While the warnings of Zephaniah are specific to the time and the circumstances, standing guard against the corruption of religious practices is always appropriate. We need to know why we worship and why we do it in the way that we do.

Blessed Christmas to all our Orthodox sisters and brothers.

Go raibh síocháin Chríost a bheith in éineacht leat.

Deacon Mike