And now for a one minute sermon:

Your singing priest is very pleased.  Two of my favorite songs, “Comfort comfort ye thy people, speak ye peace, thus saith our God.”  and “Prepare ye the way of the Lord.” are both in Isaiah this Sunday.

We have nothing to fear, so prepare without fear. God’s grace and judgment go hand in hand. Otherwise, the grace would be cheap and the judgment would be retribution. Jesus shows in his life that the grace and judgment come from love.

Don’t worry about the waiting. God in Jesus came to dwell with us, to die for us, and to show us righteousness. The wait serves a purpose to give us time. As in Peter’s letter, as we wait we are to strive to be like Jesus, that is the point—not to play act all holy, but to BE closer to God, to BE like the sacrifical lamb, without blemish. So Listen to John, quoting Isaiah, “Prepare ye the way of the Lord.”