

**GOSPEL PEARLS**

## **Canticle of Zechariah**

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24\_12\_2022

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.”

(Lk 1:67-79)