

The Second Sunday of Advent

December 6th, 2009

Celebrant: The Reverend Janet Fullmer

Deacon: The Reverend Stephen Schafroth

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

The Dalles, Oregon

The Word of God

The Opening Hymn

Rejoice! rejoice, believers

Hymnal 68

Rejoice! rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear!
The evening is advancing, and darker night is near
The Bridegroom is arising, and soon he will draw nigh;
up, watch in expectation! at midnight comes the cry.

See that your lamps are burning, replenish them with oil;
look now for your salvation, the end of sin and toil.
The marriage-feast is waiting, the gates wide open stand;
rise up, ye heirs of glory, the Bridegroom is at hand!

Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;
arise, thou Sun so longed for, above this darkened sphere!
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption, and ever be with thee!

Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt. CCLI 2949699
Music: Llangloffan, melody from Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru, 1865

The Acclamation

Celebrant

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and
worthily magnify your holy Name, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Song of Praise

Creator of the stars of night vss 1, 5, 6

Hymnal 60

Creator of the stars of night, your people's everlasting light,
O Christ, Redeemer of us all, we pray you hear us when we call.

Come in your holy might, we pray, redeem us for eternal day;
defend us while we dwell below from all assaults of our dread foe.

To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One,
praise, honor, might, and glory be from age to age eternally.

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Mode 4; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956) Copyright: Words: © The Church Pension Fund CCLI 2949699

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

Celebrant Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way
for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the
coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for
ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Then Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 16*The Song of Zechariah*

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Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *
 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 holy 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 hands 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 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.

Glory to the Father, and the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The Second Reading**Philippians 1:3-11**

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus.

And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Blessed be God of Israel who comes to set us free
 and raises up new hope for us: a Branch from David's tree.
 So have the prophets long declared that with his mighty arm
 God would turn back our enemies and all that wish us harm.

With promised mercy will God still the covenant recall,
 the oath once sworn to Abraham; from foes to save us all;
 that we might worship without fear and offer lives of praise,
 in holiness and righteousness to serve God all our days.

My child, as prophet of the Lord you will prepare the way,
 to tell God's people they are saved from sin's eternal sway.
 Then shall God's mercy from on high shine forth and never cease,
 to drive away the gloom of death and lead us into peace.

*Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944) CCLI 2949699
 Music: Shepherd's Pipes, Annabeth McClelland Gay (b. 1925)*

The Gospel

Luke 3:1-6

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
 ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.
 Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
 and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

People The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Janet Fullmer

*Silence***The Nicene Creed**

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**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
 of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
 God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being
 with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came
 down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin
 Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the
 third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is
 seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the
 dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and
 the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through
 the Prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Katharine our presiding Bishop; Nedi our Bishop; Janet our Rector; Stephen, our Deacon; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. (*Congregation adds petitions*)

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed. (*Congregation adds petitions*) Pray for those who have died.

Silence

I ask your prayers for Hannah Olheiser, Sue Foster, Jim Ramsey, Annadale Rooper, and Colleen Schafroth. I ask your thanksgivings. (*Congregations adds thanksgivings*)

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence (Congregation adds petitions) The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Confession of Sin

Stand or Kneel

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Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Announcements, Thanksgivings and Celebrations of Life

The Thank Offerings this quarter are being given for SMART (Start Making a Reader Today) and education needs in the Holy Land.

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

Choir Anthem

The Doxology

Hymnal 380

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

Eucharistic Prayer C

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Mothers and Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Leah, and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All are welcome to receive; Please come forward for the bread and wine or for a blessing. The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words: The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [Amen.] The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [Amen.]

The Communion Hymns

Let all mortal flesh keep silence

Hymnal 324

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture, in the Body and the Blood
he will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of Light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim with sleepless eye
veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, Lord Most High!"

*Words: Liturgy of St. James; para. Gerard Moultrie (1829-1885) CCLI 2949699
Music: Picardy, French carol, 17th cent.; melody from Chansons populaires
des Provinces de France, 1860; harm. after The English Hymnal, 1906*

The Postcommunion Prayer *Please stand.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness
and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Celebrant may bless the people

The Closing Hymn

Prepare the way, O Zion

Hymnal 65

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.

Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

He brings God's rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.

Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace.
His tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.

All lands will bow before him, their voices will adore him.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

Music: *Bereden väg för Herran*, melody from *Then Svenska Psalmboken*, 1697; harm.
Koralbok för Svenska Kyrkan, 1939, alt. Copyright Words: © 1982, Charles P Price
CCLI 2949699.

Deacon and children [Dismissal]

People **Thanks be to God.**

*Servers This Morning~ Celebrant: The Rev. Janet Fullmer; Deacon: The Rev. Stephen Schafroth;
Acolyte: Anna Miller; Worship Leader: Diane Walworth; Eucharist: Gretchen Kimsey; Lector: Anna Miller;
Prayers of the People: Jim Shinn and Pam Miller; Altar Guild: Kaethe Worcester and Anne Frazier;
Altar Bread: Kim McCullough; Coffee Hour: The Miller Family; Greeters: Doris Smith.*

*Today's flowers at the altar are given by Shirley Bjelland
in memory of my husband and in celebration of Pam and Lou Jr.'s birthdays.*

PLEASE PRAY:

For friends and family, including Susan, Carolyn, Tim Rippee, Dawn Jorgensen, Piper, Leslie, Joan, Lynn, Cathy Dahl, Megan McCarren, Bryon Nixon, Bill Thomas, Jenni Lyon, Philip Klindt, Bonnie Myatt.

For those serving in the Armed Forces of our Country and for all those who serve and protect us, especially Matthew Ketchum, Albert South, Joshua Smith, Kyle McCullough, Turf McCullough, Amy and Gavin McIlvenna, Jason Armstrong, Kevin Gross, Gayle Johnson, Travis Kennedy, Ben Schloss, Michael Stebbins and Max Turner.

CALENDAR:

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|-----------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Monday | AA "open" meeting | 7:00 pm TH |
| Tuesday | Bible Study | 1:00 pm |
| | Book Group | 7:00 pm Library |
| Wednesday | Ladies Lunch Bunch | 1:00 pm – Baldwin Hotel |
| | AA meeting | 7:00 pm TH |
| Thursday | Healing Service | 12:00 noon |
| Saturday | AA Potluck | 6:00-9:00 pm TH |

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:
Zephaniah 3:14-20; Canticle 9;
Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TUESDAY: BOOK STUDY! *Mountains Beyond Mountains: Healing the World: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer*, by Tracy Kidder. It is a very readable and amazing story of one person's dedication to Haiti and public health issues throughout the world.

SPECIAL SERVICE: Lesson & Carols, 4:00 PM December 13th. Come share in the joy and sounds of this beautiful and blessed season.

CHRISTMAS RETREAT: with the Kimseys at Ascension School Conference Center.
Registration: December 28th from 3:00 - 5:00 PM, Social Time: 5:00 PM and dinner at 6:00 PM

OUTREACH COMMITTEE of St. Paul's would like to continue our tradition of helping families in need at Christmas. We will still work with St. Vincent de Paul but would like input from the congregation as well. Do you know someone who could use a little extra help with gifts or food for their family this Christmas? Would you like to help with this project or make deliveries? Please contact Pam Miller or Rev. Janet with either names of people needing assistance or your name if you would like to volunteer.

HAITI AIR: The airplane in the narthex is awaiting your sign-up in the windows, to indicate support and prayers for the Haiti team and the mission trip to Cap Haitien in January 2010. Please put your name on a window of the plane, and know that you'll be going with us in this plane. Thanks!

FROM THE DALLES TO IRAQ: Please remember to add to the box of school supplies we are gathering to send to Amy and Gavin for the orphanage they are supporting. ALSO, more boxes will be sent to Sgt. Albert South who would appreciate nutritious snacks of any kind. The already filled boxes are blessed and on their way, and the new ones await you!

COMING UP: A Year of Parties! Once again we are asking people to host parties as a fund raiser for Episcopal Relief and Development. If you have an idea for a party and are willing to host, please contact Jill Durow at dandurow@charter.net. Watch *The Messenger* for more details.

REMINDER: PRAYER BASKETS, AND VESTRY AND PARISH NEWS, NOTECARDS FOR ERD

*Prayer baskets are located just as you enter the nave, and at the votive candles.

*Packets of note cards made by P.K. Swartz are in the narthex: the proceeds support ERD- Episcopal Relief and Development- ministries throughout the world.

*Vestry news, pictures, notices of parish events, financial reports, and items of interest to or about our parish family are on the kiosk in the narthex and on the web site. Please check them out!

THANKS to the Miller Family for coffee hour today! Thanks to all who make every Sunday get-together, such a warm and friendly event.

WEBSITE: www.stpaulstheDalles.org TELEPHONE: 541-296-9587 EMAIL: info@stpaulstheDalles.org