

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Third Sunday of Advent, Year B

December 11, 2011

The Word of God

Prelude

Rule Beasley

The Opening Hymn

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Hymnal 616

Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;
to take away transgression, and rule in equity.

He comes with succor speedy to those who suffer wrong,
to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying, were precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth;
to him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend;
and righteousness in fountains from hill to valley flow.

Words: James Montgomery, paraphrase of Psalm 72; Public Domain

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

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

Lighting of the Advent Wreath- *Light one candle of Hope (Peace, Joy, Love) Sing:*

Light one candle for hope, One bright candle for hope, He brings hope to every heart, He comes, he comes.

Light one candle for peace, One bright candle for peace, He brings peace to every heart, He comes, he comes.

Light one candle for joy, One bright candle for joy, He brings joy to every heart, He comes, he comes.

Song of Praise

S278

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The teachers and children may go to Sunday School. Please be seated.

The First Reading

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

Psalm 126 Page 782, BCP *In convertendo*

Setting LEVAS 275

When the LORD restored the fortunes of **Zion**, *
then were we like those who **dream**.
Then was our mouth filled with **laughter**, *
and our tongue with shouts of **joy**.

Then they said among the **nations**, *
"The LORD has done great things for **them**."
The LORD has done great things for **us**, *
and we are glad in-**deed**.

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, * like the watercourses of the **Negev**.
Those who sowed with tears * will reap with songs of **joy**.
Those who go out weeping, carrying the **seed**, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their **sheaves**.

The Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

What is the crying at Jordan? Who hears, O God, the prophecy?
Dark is the season, dark our hearts and shut to mystery.

Who then shall stir in this darkness, prepare for joy in the winter night?
Mortal in darkness we lie down, blind-hearted seeing no light.

Lord, give us grace to awake us, to see the branch that begins to bloom;
in great humility is hid all heaven in a little room.

Now comes the day of salvation, in joy and terror the Word is born!
God gives himself into our lives; O let salvation dawn!

Words: Carol Christopher Drake (b. 1933);

The Gospel**John 1:6-8,19-28**

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

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

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

The Homily
Silence

Marilyn Roth

The Nicene Creed

BCP p358

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

Form II p385

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 Katherine our presiding Bishop; Nedi our Bishop; and for all people, lay and ordained, who serve and minister in your name. In our diocesan cycle of prayer, I ask your prayers for St. Barnabas, Bonanza. 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; especially we pray for Georgia, Bill, Barbara, Greg and Laurie; are there others? *(Please name those for whom you offer prayers)* 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.... *(Please name those who have died)* Pray for those who have died.

Silence

In our congregational cycle of prayers, please pray for Tori Rask, Kiel Nairns, Pat Smith, Phil Swartz, Kristen Manciu, and their families. Pray for St. Paul's.

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

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Confession of Sin

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

**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.**

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

Choir

The Doxology 8:00 All things come from thee O Lord, and of thine own, have we given thee.

10:00- *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.**

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

People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant 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.

People **By your will they were created and have their being.**

Celebrant 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.

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

Celebrant 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.

People **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

Celebrant 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:

8:00 - said:

10:00 - Sung: S130

**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.

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

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant 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,

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

Celebrant Lord God of our Mothers and Fathers; God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, Jacob, 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.

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

Celebrant 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.
And 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 forever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

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

8:00

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

10:00- *The Fraction Anthem S164*

**Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:
Give us your peace, give us your peace.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are invited to come forward to receive the bread and wine or a blessing -grape juice or gluten free bread are available.

For private intercessory prayer for healing for yourself or others, please go to the station at back of the nave during communion.

The Communion Hymns

Now the silence

Hymnal 333

Now the silence Now the peace Now the empty hands uplifted
Now the kneeling Now the plea Now the Father's arms in welcome
Now the hearing Now the power Now the vessel brimmed for pouring
Now the Body Now the Blood Now the joyful celebration
Now the wedding Now the songs Now the heart forgiven leaping
Now the spirit's visitation Now the Son's epiphany Now the Father's blessing
Now Now Now

Words Jaroslav Vajda, Hope Pub. Co.; OneLicense A-719932

Come now O Prince of Peace

WLP 795

Come now, O Prince of Peace, make us one body, come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.
Come now, O God of love, make us one body, come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.
Come now and set us free, O God, our Savior, come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.
Come, Hope of Unity, make us one body, come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.

Words: Geonyong Lee; para. Marion Pope, alt. Music: O-so-so, OneLicense A-719932

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 Advent Blessing:

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path;
and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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.
Refrain *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. *Refrain*

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. *Refrain*

Words: Frans Mikael Franzen, Chrles Price CCLI #2949699

The Dismissal

Deacon

People **Thanks be to God!**

The Postlude

Rule Beasley

Today's Servers~

*Celebrant: The Rev. John Langfeldt; Deacons: The Rev. Stephen Schafroth, The Rev. Georgia Giacobbe;
Acolyte: Anna Miller; Worship Leader: Dewanda Clark; Eucharist Minister: Don Dickinson;
Lector: 8:00-Harriet Langfeldt, 10:00-Barbee Hodgkins; Prayers of the People: 8:00-Shirley Bjelland,
10:00-Lewis Hodgkins; Altar Guild: Kim McCullough, Janet Mabrey;
Flowers: Virgil and Carolyn Choate in memory of loved ones;
Greeter: Jerry Davis; Coffee Host: Jill Durow*

PLEASE PRAY For our diocese, friends and family:

In our diocesan cycle of prayer: Please pray for St. Barnabas, Bonanza; for Martha Hurlburt and Sherry Hartley; "They request Prayers of Thanksgiving for our new Priest Martha Hurlburt and that our community outreach programs continue to bless and enrich us, as well as those we serve."

For Comfort, Healing and Strength: for Bill Van Nice and Jenny Curtis; Dcn. Georgia Giacobbe; Barbara Williams; Joann Spotton; Don Lewis; Patrick Martin; Jack Howe; and all who are in need of help and strength.

For our Vestry and work groups: Building and Administration: Laurance Kerr, Junior Warden; Jill Durow, Pat Fowler, Jenny Curtis, Jerry Frazier, Treasurer; Relationship/Serving: Andrea Booren, Amy McIlvenna, Julie Reynolds, Diane Walworth; Worship/Education: Diane Walworth, Joanne Manciu, Robert Kirby, Julie Reynolds, Monte Dickinson, Senior Warden; and Deb Hucke, Deputy Clerk.

For those serving in the Armed Forces of our Country and for all those who serve and protect us, especially: In Iraq and Afghanistan: Roland Willoughby, Crystal Cornejo, and Brandon Lee; John Bixler, Kelsey Neubauer, Albert South, Kyle McCullough, Turf McCullough, Kevin Gross, Travis Kennedy, Ben Schloss, Michael Stebbins and Max Turner, Amy and Gavin McIlvenna.

CALENDAR:

<i>Tuesday</i>	Bible Study	1:00 pm	<i>Mill Creek-3rd Floor</i>
	Book Study	7:00 pm	<i>Library</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	Eucharist	Noon	<i>Diocesan Chapel</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	Healing Service	Noon	<i>St. Paul's</i>

Readings for Sunday December 18

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
Canticle 15
Romans 16: 25-27
Luke 1: 26-38

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PREPARE! Get Ready! These Advent words have are appropriate spiritual watchwords- and they apply pretty well to preparing for Christmas, too. SO...as we prepare for Christmas Eve Services, we're putting together a children's Christmas story, to be acted out by the children present...if you know you'll have your little ones here, or maybe your grandchildren...sign them up! We'll give them a part...and if they surprise you, bring them along- they'll be welcome to join the cast!

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY- Work continues ongoing at Janeal's Habitat House: 2419 E. 16th (16th & Thompson. Workdays are Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 8:30 to 12:30. There is a job for all skills and abilities, you can come for an hour or the day, and water and snacks are provided. Check out the web site for photos as the work progresses. See John Adams or Ron Fullmer for more information. So, put on your work clothes and join the very rewarding, and very exciting, fun!

NEW PARISH DIRECTORY AND THE MESSENGER: If you didn't get a Messenger in the mail, you can find extra copies in the narthex or office. If you'd like a new parish directory, please pick one up from the narthex, and if you'd like an

expanded directory- one that lists all those near and far who receive the Messenger, please tell Wanda and she'll give you the expanded listing.

VESTRY ORGANIZATION- Vestry news including an organizational chart and *Who's Who* for information, committees, etc; a church *Calendar at a Glance*; pictures, notices of parish events, financial reports, and other sundry items of interest are on the bulletin board, kiosk in the narthex and on the web site. Please check them out!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

Coming up:

Tuesday Dec. 13, 7:00 Lib- **Book Study**, discussing *Have a Little Faith*, by Mitch Albom;
Sunday Dec. 18: **Rehearsal for Children's Play** Nave, following the 10:00 am service;
Lessons and Carols at 4:00 pm;
Saturday Dec. 24, **Christmas Eve Services:** Family Service at 5:00 pm, Carols at 9:30 pm, Traditional Service at 10:00 pm;
Sunday Dec. 25, **Christmas Day**, 8:00 and 10:00, right here at St. Paul's on Minnesota St. as usual- but very festive! **All are Welcome!**
Friday Jan. 6, 7:00 **Epiphany Service**
Saturday Jan. 7, Tayler Hall- **Haiti Dinner**

St. Paul's is a loving, welcoming Christian community gathered to be Christ's hands and heart in the world.

WEBSITE: www.stpaulsthe dalles.org

TELEPHONE: 541-296-9587

EMAIL: info@stpaulsthe dalles.org