

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 13th, 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

Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us

Hymnal 61

Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us the shout of rampart guards surrounds us:

"Awake, Jerusalem, arise!" Midnight's peace their cry has broken,
their urgent summons clearly spoken: "The time has come, O maidens wise!

Rise up, and give us light; the Bridegroom is in sight. Alleluia!

Your lamps prepare and hasten there, that you the wedding feast may share."

Zion hears the watchmen singing; her heart with joyful hope is springing,

she wakes and hurries through the night. Forth he comes, her Bridegroom glorious
in strength of grace, in truth victorious: her star is risen, her light grows bright.

Now come, most worthy Lord, God's Son, Incarnate Word, Alleluia!

We follow all and heed your call to come into the banquet hall.

Lamb of God, the heavens adore you; let saints and angels sing before you,

as harps and cymbals swell the sound. Twelve great pearls, the city's portals:
through them we stream to join the immortals as we with joy your throne surround.

No eye has known the sight, no ear heard such delight: Alleluia!

Therefore we sing to greet our King; for ever let our praises ring.

Words: Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); tr. Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944) Music: Wachet auf, melody Hans Sachs (1494-1576); adapt. Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); arr. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) Words: Copyright © 1982 CCLI 2949699.

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.

Public Domain Words: Latin, 9th cent.; ver. Hymnal 1940, alt. Music: Conditor alme siderum, plainsong, 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

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.**

Please be seated.

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Then Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 9

The First Song of Isaiah Ecce, Deus

Page 86, BCP

Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely, it is God who saves me; * I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, * and he will be my Savior.
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing * from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, * Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
Make his deeds known among the peoples; * see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, * and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, * for the great one in the midst of you is the
Holy One of Israel. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Second Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

Hymnal 76

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every breast from sin; make straight the way for God within,
and let each heart prepare a home where such a mighty guest may come.

For thou art our salvation, Lord, our refuge, and our great reward;
without thy grace we waste away like flowers that wither and decay.

To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let thy light restore earth's own true loveliness once more.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee, whose advent doth thy people free;
whom with the Father we adore and Holy Spirit evermore.

John the Baptist travels throughout the Jordan Valley, preaching return to God's ways and adoption of an ethical way of life under God. Now he warns against being baptised without the intention to carry out its obligations. Those who behave in this way will be condemned at the end of the age.

The Gospel

Luke 3:7-18

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Reverend Janet Fullmer

Silence

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

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 Kyle McCullough, Gavin McIlvenna, Marla Budd, Doris Abrams, and Judy Yurcek. 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

BCP p360

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 he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

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 Hymn

O heavenly Word, eternal Light,

Hymnal 63

O heavenly Word, eternal Light, begotten of the Father's might,
who in these latter days wast born for blessing to a world forlorn;

pour light upon us from above, and fire our hearts with ardent love,
that, as we hear thy truth today, all wrong desires may burn away;

and when, as judge, thou drawest nigh the secrets of our hearts to try,
to recompense each hidden sin and bid the saints their reign begin;

O let us not, for evil past, be driven from thy face at last,
but with thy saints for evermore behold thee, love thee, and adore.

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

Words: Latin, ca. 7th cent.; tr. Hymnal 1982 Music: *Verbum supernum prodiens*, plainsong, Mode 2, Nevers MS., 13th cent.; acc. Howard Don Small (b. 1932) Copyright: Words: © The Church Pension Fund CCLI 2949699.

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

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art:
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king,
born to reign in us for ever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: Stuttgart, melody from Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt. 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: Brandon Adams; Worship Leader: Lynne Gill; Eucharist: Ron Fullmer; Lector: Anne Frazier;
Prayers of the People: Shirley Bjelland and Diane Adams; Altar Guild: Alice Rohrbacher and Monte Dickinson;
Altar Bread: John Langfeldt; Coffee Hour: The Langfeldt Family; Greeters: Phil and Jan Swartz.*

Today's flowers at the altar are given by Carolyn and Virgil Choate in memory of loved ones.

PLEASE PRAY:

For friends and family, including Susan, Carolyn, Caroline, Dale, Karen, 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:

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Monday | AA "open" meeting | 7:00 pm TH |
| Tuesday | Bible Study | 1:00 pm L |
| | Book Group | 7:00 pm Library |
| Wednesday | Vestry | 7:00 pm CR |
| | AA meeting | 7:00 pm TH |
| Thursday | Healing Service | 12:00 noon |

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

***Micah 5:2-5a; Canticle 15;
Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45(46-55)***

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

LESSON & CAROLS ~ TODAY at 4:00 P.M. Please come and receive the gift of peacefulness and joy in this special and beautiful service of candlelight, scripture and carols. Refreshments after the service.

THANKS to all for your pledges and cards of intention to give of Time, Talent and Treasure. We are thankful for your gifts so freely offered to the Lord and the church!

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.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES **Christmas Eve Family Service~ 5:00 p.m.**
Christmas Eve Candles and Carols~ Carols 9:30 p.m.; Service at 10:00 p.m.
Christmas Day Service at Old St. Paul's~ 10:00 a.m.
Christmas Sunday Services~ 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

CHRISTMAS RETREAT with the Kimseys at Ascension School Conference Center, in Cove. This is an opportunity to share a time of rest, reflection and spiritual renewal as you celebrate and more fully enter into the joy of Christmas. Please see the fliers on the bulletin board opposite the office for more information.

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 danduro@charter.net.

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 Langfeldt family for coffee hour today! Thanks to all who make every Sunday get-together, such a warm and friendly event.

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