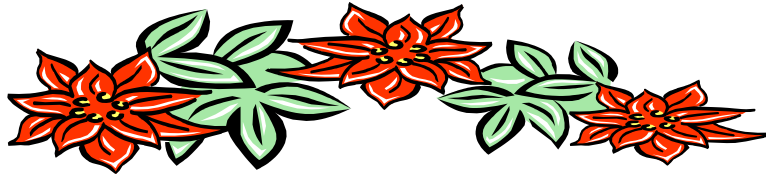


Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2009



St. Paul's Episcopal Church, The Dalles, Oregon

The Word of God

The Opening Hymn

O little town of Bethlehem

Hymnal 79

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!
and praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

Where children pure and happy pray to the blessed Child,
where misery cries out to thee, Son of the mother mild;
where charity stands watching and faith holds wide the door,
the dark night wakes, the glory breaks, and Christmas comes once more.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893) Music: St. Louis, Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908) CCLI2949699

The Acclamation

Celebrant
People

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Song of Praise

Angels we have heard on high

Hymnal 96

Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear? Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

See him in a manger laid whom the angels praise above;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Words: French carol Music: Gloria, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958) CCLI2949699

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**
Please be seated.

The First Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

Psalm 98

BCP page 727

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, * for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm * has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The LORD has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; * lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, * with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn * shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, * the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, * and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world * and the peoples with equity.

The Second Reading

Hebrews 1:1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come, and behold him, born the King of angels;

Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

God from God, Light from Light eternal, lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
only-begotten Son of God the Father; *Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God, glory in the highest; *Refrain*

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle, leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps; *Refrain*

Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger, we would embrace thee, with love and awe;
who would not love thee, loving us so dearly? *Refrain*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; *Refrain*

Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786); Music: Adeste fideles

The Gospel

John 1:1-14

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

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. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

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

A Children's Story *The Spirit of Christmas* by Nancy Tillman (Feilwel and Friends, 2009) read by Diane Walworth

The Homily
Silence

The Reverend Janet Fullmer

The Prayers of the People

Father, we pray for all members of your holy catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; for Katharine, our Presiding Bishop; Nedi, our Bishop;

Janet, our Rector; Stephen, our Deacon. We pray for all who serve in your church;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

We pray for all here this evening, for our friends and family, and especially for those we love who are not

with us this evening; we pray for the New Orleans Rebuilding and Haiti Mission Teams, our Sunday

School students and teachers, and all who reach out to others to give them light and life and hope. Give

us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

We give you thanks for our many blessings, (*Congregation adds thanksgivings*) and we seek your strength to

serve you faithfully.

That your kingdom may be known throughout the earth.

We pray for all who are in need, sickness, or distress. (*Congregations add petitions*)

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for all your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

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

The Peace *Please stand*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Holy Communion

The Offertory	5:00	<i>The Questioning Child</i>	Children and Choir
	10:00	<i>Whisper, whisper</i>	Choir

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 A

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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**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.**

WLP 858

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,
and the power and the glory, forever and 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 and invited to participate in communion by receiving the bread, wine, or 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

Away in a Manger

Hymnal 101

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky, and stay by my side until morning is nigh.
Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me for ever, and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

*Words: Traditional carol Music: Cradle Song, melody William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921);
harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) CCLI2949699*

What Child is this

Hymnal 115

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?
*Refrain: This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.*
Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. *Refrain*
So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him. *Refrain*

Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898 Music: Greensleeves, English melody;

Post Communion Hymn *Please stand*

Joy to the World

Hymnal 100

Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing.
Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, repeat the sounding joy.
No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found.
He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: Antioch, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759);

The Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Recessional

Go Tell it on the Mountain

Hymnal 99

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

Traditional Negro Spiritual Public Domain
Words: African-American spiritual 19th cent.; adapt. John W. Work (1901-1967) Music: *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, Afro-American spiritual, 19th cent.;
arr. Horace Clarence Boyer (b. 1935) Copyright: Music: Arrangement, © 1984, Horace Clarence Boyer. CCLI 2969699

Deacon [Dismissal]

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Closing Hymn and Candle lighting

Silent Night

Hymnal 111

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885) Music: *Stille Nacht*, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863);
harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824-1910) CCLI 2949699



Thanks to all for the beautiful Poinsettias!



***Blessings this Holy Night
Merry Christmas***

Please stay a for cookies and refreshments in the Library

Servers this Evening~ Celebrant: The Rev. Janet Fullmer; Deacon: The Rev. Stephen Schafroth;

Servers at 5:00 pm:

*Acolyte: Jerry Frazier; Worship Leader: Lowry Browning; Eucharist Minister: Ron Fullmer;
Lector: Don Dickinson; Prayers of the People: Gretchen Kimsey; Altar Guild: Kim McCullough
and Joanne Manciu; Altar Bread: John Langfeldt; Greeter: Skip and Carole Fisher.*

Servers at 10:00 pm:

*Acolyte: Don Dickinson; Worship Leader: Diane Walworth; Eucharist Minister: Ned Kice;
Lector: Don Dickinson; Prayers of the People: Pam Miller; Altar Guild: Kaethe Worcester and Janet Mabrey;
Altar Bread: John Langfeldt; Greeter: Skip and Carole Fisher.*

PLEASE PRAY:

For friends and family, including Betty, Gretchen and Rustin, Tim Rippee, Susan, Carolyn and Emma, Dawn Jorgensen, Piper, Leslie, Joan, Lynn, Cathy Dahl, Megan McCarren, Bryon Nixon, Bill Thomas, Blake Gallagher, 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 Extine, Tim Gallagher, Kevin Gross, Gayle Johnson, Travis Kennedy, Robert Knick, Ben Schloss, Michael Stebbins and Max Turner.

For HAITI: 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. Eight people from St. Paul's will be traveling to Haiti in person~ but all of us join the team on the mission as we pray and lend other support for the mission. We are very thankful for all of the support showered upon this mission; and we have place a basket for any additional donations behind the plane. Please put your name on a window of the plane, and know that you'll be going with us in this plane. Thanks!

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 for Fellowship and Friendship –Thanks to all for providing snacks of cookies and cider.

May we spread the joy and fellowship we share at St. Paul's as we share the light and cheer of the Good News!

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



Jesus is the reason for the season!

Merry Christmas