

Sunday, January 4, 2009

The Second Sunday after Christmas

The Lectionary

The Collect of the Day

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lessons (*The people sit.*)

The First Lesson: *Jeremiah 31:7-14*

Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
"Save, O LORD, your people,
the remnant of Israel."
See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame, those with child and
those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.
With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.
Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."
For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.
They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.
Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.
I will turn their mourning into joy,
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.
I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,
says the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm: *Psalms 84 Quam dilecta!*

1. How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the
LORD; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living

God.

- 2 The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest
where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King
and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place
of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.
- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my
own room, *
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- 10 For the LORD God is both sun and shield; *
he will give grace and glory;
- 11 No good thing will the LORD withhold *
from those who walk with integrity.
- 12 O LORD of hosts, *
happy are they who put their trust in you!

The Second Reading: *Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL: *Matthew 2:1-12* (The People Stand)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking,

"Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ

The Announcements

WELCOME to all of those who are joining us today, we are pleased you have come to worship with us. Information about our service is located on the cover of your service leaflet.

NEW RECTOR

This morning we are pleased to welcome our new Rector, The Reverend John Major. Please take a moment to greet him following this morning's service.

NEW SERVICE TIME

The Sunday Holy Eucharist is now celebrated at 9:00 am.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 15 immediately following the service.

BISHOP'S VISIT

Bishop Paul Marshall will be making his annual visit to Prince of Peace on Sunday January 25. Please join us in welcoming the Bishop at a reception following the service.

VESTRY MEETINGS

The Vestry will have their January Meeting on Tuesday January 13th. The Vestry will also meet briefly on Sunday January 25th with Bishop Paul, following the coffee hour.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

The ECW meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 10:30 am for a business meeting and then go out to lunch. All women of the church are invited. For more information on the ECW please see Edna Yatsko.

NOTE: The Women will not meet in January & February.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The Church Office is open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9am–2pm and Fridays from 10am–2 pm.

ALUMINUM CANS FOR RECYCLING

Aluminum Cans are collected on the 4th Sunday of every month and can be placed on the porch by the back door.

PRAYER LIST

Please remember to keep those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit in your prayers this week, especially...

Therese	Sandy	Andrea	Charlotte
Heather	Jackie	Brian	Bev
Jack	George	Dan	Edward
Henry	Patti	Hans	
Sarah	Debbie	Karen	SPF Sean
Shane	Hennie	Len	Cappellini-Boyle

Ministers

Celebrant / Preacher	The Reverend John Major
Organist	Bernard Gardzalla
Lector / Intercessor	Liz Plashinski
Eucharistic Minister	Chris Sutton, Beverly Cushner
Acolytes	TBA
Ushers / Oblationers	Hugh Kelley, Kim Jacobs
Altar Guild	Beverly Cushner
Vestry Counter	George Gwilliam