

ADOPT A FAMILY We expect to have shopping information for this Outreach Project next week.

Sunday, December 6, 2009
The Second Sunday of Advent

The Music

Prelude: Chorale Prelude on "Sleepers Awake".....J.S. Bach
Gathering Hymn: *Creator of the Stars of Night* #60
Opening Hymn: *O Come Emmanuel* #56 VS 3,4 ONLY
Gradual Hymn: *There's a Voice In The Wilderness Crying* #75
Presentation of Offerings: Doxology #380 vs.3
Communion: Prayer.....Rudolf Dittrich
Post Communion Hymn: Make Me a Channel of Your Peace
(Pew Rack) verses 1,2, refrain, 3
Closing Hymn: *Love Divine All Loves Excelling* #667
Postlude: Festival March.....Humphrey J. Stark

The Lectionary

The Collect of the Day

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.

The Lessons (*The people sit.*)

The First Reading: *Baruch 5:1-9*

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm: Cantic of Zechariah will be sung, please turn to page #444 in your Hymnal *Blessed Be The God Of Israel*

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.

God willing,
The Right Reverend Paul V Marshall,
Bishop of Bethlehem,
will ordain to the Sacred Order of Deacons
in Christ's one holy, catholic and apostolic Church

Brian Alexander Pavlac
Christine Marie Sutton
Michelle Denise White

on Monday, the twenty-first of December, two thousand and nine, The Feast of Saint Thomas the Apostle,
at St Stephen's Pro-Cathedral 35 South Franklin
Street Wilkes-Barre, at seven o'clock in the evening.

Your prayer and presence are requested. Reception to follow.

MINISTERS

Celebrant	The Reverend John Major
Organist	Bernard Gardzalla
Lector / Intercessor	David Wright
Eucharistic Minister	Christopher Dillon
Acolytes	Dominic Wright, Tara Gwilliam
Ushers / Oblationers	Heather Hules, Sandy Sheehan
Altar Guild	Bev Cushner, Sandy Hunt
Vestry Counter	Patti Harabin

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.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL: Luke 3:1-6 (*Stand & Face the Gospel*)

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

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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ

The Announcements

WELCOME We are pleased you have come to worship with us today. If you have any questions about our service, please feel free to speak to an Usher or someone seated near you.

PRAYER LIST Please remember to keep those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit in your prayers this week, especially: *Heather, Jack, Sarah, Matt, Debbie, Hennie, Brian, Hans, Karen, Len, Lee, David, Maryann, Bob, Therese, Sandy, Laura, Matt, Greg, Andy, Connie, Shane, Taylor, Ann, Sue, Lisa, Patti, Sherry, Jeanie, Justin, Dan, John, Charlie, Christine, Specialist Robert Price & the Camp Family as they mourn the loss of Jean Camp.*

STAY HEALTHY! "SIGN OF PEACE" AND HOLY COMMUNION CONSIDERATIONS It's probably not a bad idea for all of us to take additional steps to help avoid the flu and colds during the peak flu and cold season. Look for the "hand sanitation stations" near the entrances of the church and consider washing your hands on the way in and out. In addition, consider offering other "Signs of Peace" rather than the traditional handshake. A hand to one another's arm or elbow or shoulder, or a smile and wave and exchange of the words "the peace of the Lord be with you," communicates the same, genuine offer. Further, remember that an option for receiving from the Cup includes what is called the option of "Intinction." To "intinct," simply accept the Bread and carefully dip the tip of the Bread into the Cup. God bless us all with health now and always!

CHRIS SUTTON As you all know our very own Chris Sutton is being ordained as a Deacon. Chris' long journey to this outstanding service has not been without some expenses. In an effort to assist Chris with her journey, during the month of December we will be having a second plate offering. This additional offering will go directly to Chris to help her defer the cost of some of these purchases. A listing of what Chris needs will be posted on the bulletin board for your review. If you would rather contribute privately and purchase something specific for her please see Lisa Kasarda for arrangements.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDERS are now being received by the Altar Guild. Flowers are available in Red, White or Pink and Small, Medium and Large. Order Forms are available in the Parish Hall. All orders and payments must be turned in by December 13. Please contact Sandy Sheehan with any questions.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW) will be meeting on Wednesday, December 16 at 10:30 to prepare cookies for the shut-ins. All women are invited.