



First Sunday after Christmas

December 27, 2020

Prelude: "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen"

Wilbur Held

Gathering

Liturgist: I will delight greatly in the Lord; my soul rejoices in my God.

All: For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness.

Liturgist: As the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign Lord will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.
Isaiah 61: 10-11 adapted

All Singing: 98 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

God's Greeting
Passing the Peace

Reconciliation

Liturgist: When the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, so that we might receive adoption as the children of God.

All: Because we are God's children, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father."

Liturgist: So you are no longer slaves, but God's children; and since you are his children, he has also made you heirs.
Galatians 4: 4-7 adapted

Silent Confession and Lament

Soloist: "In the Bleak Mid-winter"

In the bleak midwinter, frost wind made moan
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow
In the bleak midwinter, long ago

Our god, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ

Angels and archangels may have gathered there
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
But his mother only, in her maiden bliss
Worshiped the beloved with a kiss

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him: give my heart

Liturgist: An angel appeared to shepherds and said, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloth and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

All: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."
Luke 2: 9-14 adapted

All Singing: 82 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Liturgist: Galatians 5:13-18

You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

Proclamation

Duet: "How Wondrous Was That Night" Coleman

A star in the sky was the sign that He gave.
Three wise men and shepherds would see.
And they followed the star to the manger bed,
To see what God's gift would be.

And the angels sang Hallelujah!
And the heavens exploded with joy.
But the world was silent, for it did not know.
How wondrous was that night, how wondrous was that night.

The tiny babe in a bed made of straw.
Would one day become King of Kings!
He would wipe every tear away, heal every fear.
What peace and joy He would bring!

The world lost in darkness, no light for its path
But God would provide a way
So He sent His own Son to be savior of earth.
The babe born that wondrous day.

A tired worn heart has a shadow of doubt.
How could all this wonder be true?
But a glimmer of hope is God's ember of love,
That lives on in me and you.

Scripture: Luke 2:22-40

When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"), and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

"Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,
you may now dismiss your servant in peace.
For my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people Israel."

The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

Minister: The Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Saw Enough

All Singing: 56 "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Dedication

Prayers of the People

All Singing: 93 “Go Tell It on the Mountain”

Benediction

Postlude: “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

arr. Kristen Campbell

Worship Leaders

Pianist / Organist:

Lynn Hollender

Vocalists:

Marjie & Molly Coleman

Liturgist:

Amy Boerman-Cornell

Violin:

Kathryn Boerman-Cornell & Willem Mouw

Prayer:

Bill Boerman-Cornell

Sound / Video:

Schuyler Roozeboom

Minister:

Roger Nelson

Hymns are from *Lift Up Your Hearts* (Faith Alive Christian Resources, 2013)

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