

December 24, 2009

For Your Information ...

Guests! We are especially glad that you have chosen to worship with us this morning. It is our hope that worship is an encouragement to you and that you will have opportunity to return soon. Give us an opportunity to meet you today and introduce ourselves by staying around for coffee in the foyer after the service. Also, please assist us by **filling out the Guest Pad** when it is passed during worship.

Welcome Station: Located in the foyer, our Welcome Station is designed to assist you in understanding the ministry of Redeemer. Please help yourself to the purple guest packets, The Continuing Vision of Redeemer Presbyterian Church document, our newsletter, the Kerygma (pronounced ke-rîg'me), and other materials.

Redeemer Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) and a member of South Texas Presbytery. For more information about Redeemer Church visit: www.redeemersa.org. For more information about the Presbyterian Church in America visit: www.pcanet.org.

Community Groups: Community Groups are fellowships of twelve to twenty people meeting every other week in homes throughout San Antonio. They are the first place where we hope our people turn for applying the gospel to their lives. To find a Community Group, please contact Brandon Eggar at 930-4480, or visit our website, www.redeemersa.org, under Ministries, then Community Groups, to find information on locations and leaders and fill out the online registration form.

Book Table: The books found here are designed to assist you in understanding the Christian life. If you want to purchase a book, please fill out the envelope with money enclosed. Sermon CDs are also available; simply sign up at the table. Make all checks payable to Redeemer Presbyterian Church.

Sunday Schedule

9:15-9:25 a.m. **Prayer**
9:30-10:55 a.m. **Worship**

Nurseries

Redeemer offers fully staffed nurseries for children ages 3 months to 3 years of age. Redeemer encourages parents to utilize our *Training in the Pews* children's worship time during each service to better prepare your children, ages 3-5, for worship. All nurseries are at the Northeast end of the McAllister Fine Arts Center.

Little Bitty Babies: 3-7 months
The Crawlers: 8-12 months
Cruisers & Climbers: 13-18 months
Younger Toddler: 19-27 months
Older Toddler: 28-36 months
Training the Pews: 3-5 years

Christian Education

Toddler I (age 2)
Toddler II (age 3)
Pre K- K (age 4-5)
Primary I (ages 6-7)
Primary II (ages 8-9)
Junior (ages 10-11)
Jr. High Youth (6th-8th grades)
Sr. High Youth (9th-12th grades)
Pastor's Forum (All ages)

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Redeemer Presbyterian Church

December 24, 2009

Lessons & Carols

Christmas Eve

Reflection & Preparation

“To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to all who will come, Redeemer opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Victor R. Martinez

Prelude

Call to Worship

The Rev. Thomas C. Gibbs

Minister: All God's people — boys and girls, women, men, old and young:

People: Come and worship!

Minister: Shepherds, Magi, saints, and angels:

People: Come and worship! Come and worship!

Minister: All who need the Savior, all who long for comfort:

People: Come and worship, come and worship Christ, the newborn King!

Prayer of Invocation

Mr. Gibbs

Psalm 51:1-5

Titus 2:11-14

Reader: We light the last candle of Advent, the Christ Candle. We light a candle to remind us that Jesus is the Light of the World. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

[†]*Lighting the Advent wreath originated in Germany in the nineteenth century, based on a Roman custom of the ceremonial entrance of a ruler to a province or city as his 'advent' (from the Latin adventus: 'arrival'). The wreath consists of four candles on the outside of the wreath and one candle in the center. One candle is lit the first Sunday of Advent. Two are lit the 2nd Sunday, and so on. Each of the candles has special significance: The first is the Prophecy candle; the second is the Bethlehem candle; the third is the Angels' candle; the 4th is the Shepherds' candle; and the center candle is the Christ candle, lit on Christmas Eve.*

***The Carol**

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
In ancient times didst give the law in cloud and majesty and awe. Refrain.

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. Refrain.

O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. Refrain.

The Second Lesson:

Psalm 89:1-8

Mr. Paul Ryan

The Promise of the Davidic Covenant now fulfilled in Christ

The Carol

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ES IST EIN' ROS' ENTSPRUNGEN

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung.
It came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was the night.

The shepherds heard the story, proclaimed by angels bright,
How Christ, the Lord of glory, was born on earth this night.
To Bethlehem they sped and in the manger found him, as angel heralds said.

This flow'r, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor the darkness ev'rywhere.
True man, yet very God; from sin and death he saves us and lightens ev'ry load.

The Third Lesson

Isaiah 62:6-12

Mrs. Sarah Watford

The Gospel proclaimed by the Prophet Isaiah

The Carol

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood,
he will give to all the faithful, his own self for heav'nly food.

At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim, with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the presence as with ceaseless voice they cry,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord Most High!

The Fourth Lesson

Luke 1:26-38; 46-56
The Angel appears to Mary

Mr. Curtis Castleberry

***The Carol**

Good Christian Men Rejoice

GERMAN MELODY

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Earth and heav'n before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door, and man is blessed evermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

The Fifth Lesson

Luke 2:1-7
The Birth according to Luke

Mrs. Becky McMains

The Carol

"His Name is Jesus"

MARJORIE LANDSMARK-DELEWIS
Performed by Ken David-Masur

***The Carol**

Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King:
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain: Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time, behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th' incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Refrain.

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth. Refrain.

The Prayers

The Rev. Brandon S. Eggar

The Homily

Mr. Gibbs

THE SPREADING OF THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Minister: Arise, shine; for your light has come.

Ushers light their candles from the Christ Candle and proceed into the congregation. The candles are lighted with the usher and the congregation saying to each other as the candles are lighted, "Behold the light of the world!"

Minister: Jesus spoke saying, "I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

People: **Thanks be to God!**

***The Carols**

Silent Night, Holy Night

STILLE NACHT

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, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight! Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly hosts sing alleluia; Christ, the Savior is born! 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, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

ENGLISH MELODY

God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day,
To save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray;

Refrain:

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heav'nly Father, a blessed angel came;
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same:
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name. Refrain.

"Fear not, then," said the angel, "let nothing you affright;
This day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright,
To free all those who trust in him from Satan's pow'r and might." Refrain.

The shepherds at those tidings rejoiced much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding, in tempest, storm, and wind:
And went to Bethlehem straightway, the Son of God to find. Refrain.

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room, and heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns: let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, 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,
Far as the curse is found, far as, 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,
And wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

***Benediction**

Mr. Gibbs

Minister: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Go in peace.

Postlude

After extinguishing your candle, please place in the baskets at rear of the sanctuary.

Redeemer invites you to take home with you one of the many poinsettias to enjoy during this Christmas season.

** The Congregation Stands*

Senior Pastor: Rev. Thomas C. Gibbs

Associate Pastor: Rev. Brandon S. Eggar,

Assistant Pastor: Rev. Victor R. Martinez

*Musicians: Brent Watkins, piano; Ken David-Masur, song leader;
Michael Shay, trombone; Patrick Shay, trumpet; Bonnie Anderson, clarinet;*

(Music printed by permission: CCLI # 2357621)

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“The Word Become Flesh”

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

John 1:1-14