

Christ Church

Second Sunday After Christmas

January 10, 2010
10:30am Berkeley, 5:00pm Rockridge

Gathering and Reflecting

"Keep your friendships in repair."
-Ralph Waldo Emerson

"A true friend stabs you in the front."
-Oscar Wilde

Prelude

Today's Worship Pastor: Jonathan St. Clair
Today's Teaching Pastor: Bart Garrett

Call to Worship - Psalm 99

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

The Lord reigns, let the nations tremble;
he sits enthroned between the cherubim,
let the earth shake.

**Great is the Lord in Zion; he is exalted over all the nations.
Let them praise your great and awesome name— he is holy.**

The King is mighty, he loves justice — you have established equity;
in Jacob you have done what is just and right.

**Exalt the Lord our God
and worship at his footstool;
he is holy.**

Moses and Aaron were among his priests,
Samuel was among those who called on his name;
they called on the Lord
and he answered them.

**He spoke to them from the pillar of cloud;
they kept his statutes and the decrees he gave them.**

Lord our God, you answered them;
you were to Israel a forgiving God,
though you punished their misdeeds.

**Exalt the Lord our God
and worship at his holy mountain,
for the Lord our God is holy.**

All Creatures of Our God and King

All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing
Oh, praise Him, Alleluia
Thou burning sun with golden beam
Thou silver moon with softer gleam
Oh, praise Him, Oh, praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Thou rushing wind that art so strong
Ye clouds that sail in heav'n along
Oh, praise Him, Alleluia
Thou rising moon in praise rejoice
Ye lights of evening find a voice
Oh, praise Him, Oh, praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Let all things their creator bless
And worship Him in humbleness
Oh, praise Him, Alleluia
Praise, praise the Father praise the Son
And praise the Spirit three in one
Oh, praise Him, Oh, praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Praise, praise the Father praise the Son
And praise the Spirit three in one
Oh, praise Him, Oh, praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Words and Music by St. Francis of Assisi and William Henry Draper

Indescribable

From the highest of heights to the depths of the sea
Creation's revealing Your majesty
From the colors of fall to the fragrance of spring
Every creature unique in the song that it sings
All exclaiming

Indescribable, uncontainable,
You placed the stars in the sky and You know them by name.
You are amazing God
All powerful, untameable,
Awestruck we fall to our knees as we humbly proclaim
You are amazing God

Who has told every lightning bolt where it should go
Or seen heavenly storehouses laden with snow
Who imagined the sun and gives source to its light
Yet conceals it to bring us the coolness of night
None can fathom

Laura Story ©2004 worshiptogether.com songs/SixSteps Music/Gleaning Publishing

Confession of Sin

Jesus said, "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in someone else's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there

is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from the other person's eye."

Silence is kept for private confession of sin.

Let us humbly confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Almighty God,

we confess how hard it is to be your people.

You have called us to be the church,
to continue the mission of Jesus Christ
to our lonely and confused world.

Yet we acknowledge we are more apathetic than active,
isolated than involved, callous than compassionate,
obstinate than obedient, legalistic than loving.

Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive our sins.

Remove the obstacles preventing us
from being your representatives to a broken world.

Awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your indwelling Spirit.

This we pray in Jesus' powerful name.

Amen.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of Adoration

Welcoming One Another

Children in kindergarten through fourth grade may be dismissed for Children's Church at this time.

Gloria Patri

Glory be to God the Father,
and to Christ His only Son;
praise we too the Holy Spirit,
binding all the Church as one:
As it was in the beginning,
is for now and evermore.

Amen!

Gloria Patri, 2nd cent., Lyrics Adapted by Carlton Young, 1973

Music by Eric Gilbert ©2009

Thy Mercy, My God

Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
The joy of my heart. and the boast of my tongue;
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,
Hath won my affections, and bound my soul fast.

Without Thy sweet mercy I could not live here;
Sin would reduce me to utter despair;
But, through Thy free goodness, my spirits revive,
And He that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart,
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;
Dissolved by Thy goodness, I fall to the ground,
And weep to the praise of the mercy I've found.

Great Father of mercies, Thy goodness I own,
And the covenant love of Thy crucified Son;
All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.
All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.

Words: John Stocker; Music: Sandra McCracken ©2001 Same Old Dress Music

The Lord's Word

The Bible (from 'papyrus, scroll'), consists of the books of the Old Testament (Law, Prophets, and Writings) and the New Testament (Gospels, Acts, Letters, and Revelation). The Scriptures are God's words – his powerful, authoritative self-expression and revelation. The prose and poetry of the various genres of the Bible tell the story of God's redeeming love for the world, making us "wise for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ... thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3). Listen to God's voice calling, shaping, energizing, and directing his church in her mission to bless the world and build the kingdom of God "on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6).

New Testament Lesson

A reading from Ephesians 1:1-23.

Eph 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To God's holy people in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus: 2 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. 4 For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love 5 he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. 7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace 8 that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, 9 he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, 10 to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

11 In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, 12 in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. 13 And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, 14 who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

15 For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all his people. 16 I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. 17 I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. 18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his people, 19 and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength 20 he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, 21 far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that can be invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. 22 And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Teaching

Series: Resolved

Title: To Expand the Kingdom (Community and City)

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts

- *We offer our gifts in gratitude and faith in response to God's gifts of bread and wine, the body and blood of Jesus Christ.*
- *The Christian church has historically taken up alms for the poor, weak, and needy during worship.*
- *Christians offer a sacrificial portion of their resources -time, talents, treasures - as an act of faith and gratitude in response to God's grace, which enables the church to continue doing God's work in the church, the city, and the world.*
- *Those who are not Christians should feel under no compulsion to give; your presence is a good gift to us.*
- *Many members and regular attenders give tithes and special offerings through automatic bill payment via bank check; your bank will gladly set that up for you. Checks for the offering may be made payable to Christ Church. All gifts are tax deductible with receipts issued at the conclusion of the tax year.*

Gospel Lesson

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 3:31-35.

Mk 3:31 Then Jesus' mother and brothers arrived. Standing outside, they sent someone in to call him. ³² A crowd was sitting around him, and they told him, "Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you."

³³ "Who are my mother and my brothers?" he asked.

³⁴ Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said, "Here are my mother and my brothers!
³⁵ Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Prayers of the People

As we prepare to come to Jesus in the feast of the Lord's Supper, we also bring the church, the city, and the world before the throne and table of our King. We pray together with one heart and mind, agreeing with the prayers offered, and adding our own silent prayers.

Let us pray for the church...

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Let us pray for the city...

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Let us pray for the world...

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Give ear to our prayers, O Father,
for the sake of your son Jesus,
our only mediator and advocate.
Amen.

The Lord's Supper

The signature celebratory feast of Christians has many names: the Love Feast, the Freedom Meal, the Bread Breaking, the Lord's Supper, Communion (from 'sharing'), the Eucharist (from 'thank you'), and the Mass (from 'Go, you are sent out'). This adaptation of the Jewish Passover has always been a common, shared, joyous family meal for those who follow Jesus, looking back to his once-for-all sacrificial death and looking forward to his return. When we celebrate the feast we commune with the risen Lord Jesus who stands as

our host to offer forgiveness, healing, and life; we also commune with one another, participating together in the reconciling grace of God.

We invite all who follow Jesus to partake of the Lord's Supper – Baptized Christians who confess the faith, are at peace with God and neighbor, and seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ. If you are not yet a Christian, or if you are a Christian who is not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage your prayerful observation in the hopes that you may consider your relationship with Jesus and with his church.

The order of our celebration follows the four actions Jesus performed with the bread and wine when he gathered his disciples around the table: he took, he blessed, he broke, and he gave.

He Took

Let us all confess our faith from The Nicene Creed.

I believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
I look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

He Blessed and Broke

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!
We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him 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. 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 he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of the faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Christ, our Passover, is sacrificed for us.
Therefore, let us keep the feast.

As our Savior taught us, so we pray,
**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom, the power,
and the glory, forever and ever.
Amen.**

He Gave

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

- *You may come by rows, beginning with the front row, to receive Holy Communion. Eat the bread when you are ready and hold onto the cup (red wine or white grape juice) so we can drink it together as a symbol of our unity in Christ.*
- *Those who are not receiving communion are encouraged to come to the servers to receive a blessing. You may fold your arms across your chest to indicate that you will not receive bread and wine.*
- *Please place your communion cups in the recycle bin in the back of the worship space at the conclusion of the service.*

Prayers During Communion

Prayer for Truth

God, if you are real and you care about me, please show up in my life. Give me understanding of mind and experience of heart to know who you are, who I am, and what life in this world is about. If Jesus is "the way, the truth, and the life," then I need you to persuade me. If it is true that "Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again," then give me faith. Amen.

Prayer for Repentance and Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Renouncing Sin

Lord Jesus, you have called us to be poor in spirit, meek, hungry and thirsty for righteousness, merciful, and pure in heart. Grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need and turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the bread of life. Enable me to love you with my whole heart and love my neighbor as myself. Amen.

Prayer for Renewal and Commitment

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism, to love God and neighbor, and to a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, to pursue forgiveness, reconciliation, and peace, and to live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

Communion Prayer

Let us give thanks to God.

Eternal God,

you have graciously accepted us

as living members of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ,

and you have fed us with spiritual food

in the sacrament of his body and blood.

Send us now into the world in peace,

and grant us strength and courage

to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart,

through Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Narrow Little Road

I believe in the love of God,

It is an orphans wildest dream

It is a narrow little road,

It is an ever-widening desert stream.

It is portrayed in the bread and wine;

So let it fortify my bones.

It is more than just a sign,

It is the fountain from that desert stone.

Refrain:

Oh I, Oh I,

And I will leave this road

For the narrow.

It is the path where the humble go,
It is the narrow not the broad.
Like a pathway down the hill,
To the graveyard of the living God.

The love of God is the hymn of hope;
Let the needy join the throng.
Let the widow hear and cope;
Let the crippled rise to sing this song.
Words and Music: Mo Leverett, © 1995, Justice Road Productions

Blessing and Sending

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Those who regularly worship with us may help us recycle the outer worship folder by placing them in the re-use bin in the back.

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New to Christ Church?

Christ Church exists to lead people into a deeper relationship with Christ and his Church through community for the city. We hope you will join us in the mission.

Welcome Table

At the conclusion of the worship service, please stop by the Welcome Table on your way out. You will meet someone who can give you more information about the church and help you fill out a card for the upcoming Newcomer Meal.

Newcomer Meal - Sunday, Jan 17

We invite you to join the pastors, other newcomers, and folks from the Christ Church community for a casual meal within the first several weeks or months of your first visit to Christ Church. You will get to know others in our community, hear the story, vision, and mission of Christ Church, and learn how you can be more involved in our worship and work. Fill out a Newcomer Card at the Welcome Table to let us know you are interested.

Newcomer Class - Sundays, Jan 31 to Feb 21, following worship services

After you have come to our Newcomer Meal, please join the pastors and other newcomers for a four-week, one-hour class to get to know one another, explore what we believe about Christianity, and discover how you can partner with Christ Church to put those beliefs into practice in your life, church, community, and city. We meet immediately following each worship service.

Weekly Emails about Upcoming Events

Sign up on our home page for "This Week at Christ Church," a weekly or bi-weekly email about upcoming events in the life of our community. You may unsubscribe at any time.

Upcoming Events

For a complete listing of announcements and information, please visit our announcements page and website calendar at www.christchurchberkeley.org.

Members meeting - Sunday, Jan 10, 3-4:30pm

Plan to join us for our next combined members meeting at College Avenue Presbyterian Church. The Commission for Church Organization will give a report and recommendation. Childcare will be provided.

Pledge Campaign Update - Thursday, Jan 21, 6-7:30pm

To date, our congregation has pledged \$310,000 over the next 2.5 years. To God be the glory! And to you be many thanks! We are currently in exciting and hopeful negotiations with the Grace North Church, and it seems that we could be using our pledge dollars sooner rather than later. Please remain in prayer with us about this potential move. In light of these negotiations, we are hosting a

pizza dinner at College Avenue Presbyterian Church as a way of saying "Thank you," and also to discuss the present and future of the pledge campaign more fully. Please join us if 1) you are a member, 2) you have pledged to the campaign, or 3) are interested in learning more about the pledge campaign. Please RSVP to bart@christchurchberkeley.org. If you need childcare, please copy emily@christchurchberkeley.org with the ages of your children.

New Family-Friendly Community Group - Starting Thursday, Feb 4, 6-7:30pm

Do you have to fall off the face of the earth when you have young children? Do significant relationships and a substantive spiritual life have to go out the window? The Christ Church pastors will lead a family-friendly group at College Avenue Presbyterian Church through March; we hope that by April the group will be established with everyone serving in different capacities. Dinner will be shared from 6:00-6:30; childcare will be shared among the group from 6:30-7:30 so that parents can pray and engage in a guided discussion without distractions. Kids will be home and in bed at a reasonable time. Please contact jonathan@christchurchberkeley.org if you are interested.

Day of Peace - Saturday, Feb 6, 9-12pm

Join Project Peace East Bay for the first 2010 Day of Peace, Saturday, February 6 from 9:00 AM until 12:00 PM! We will have teams of volunteers at LeConte Elementary School in Berkeley and Claremont Middle School in Oakland, helping their PTAs with various buildings and grounds projects. Snacks and drinks will be provided; wear your work clothes & bring your friends! Please RSVP at the Project Peace Website (www.projectpeaceeastbay.org). For more information, email dayofpeace@projectpeaceeastbay.org. NOTE: Both sites are family friendly (no childcare provided, but supervised children welcome).

Lenten Prayer Retreat - March 5-7

The season of Lent is a time to draw closer to God in prayer. This co-ed retreat will involve corporate prayer, reflections on prayer, and directed silence in which to be alone with God for reading, journaling, and prayer. The retreat will be at St. Columba Retreat House near Point Reyes. There is space for thirty people, and the cost is \$80 per person. Please contact jonathan@christchurchberkeley.org if you are interested.

Teachers for Children's Church

We need teachers for Children's Church at the Rockridge worship service. You will be given curriculum and training to teach once per month or be a substitute. Please contact Ann.Ellistonann@christchurchberkeley.org if you are interested.

Baptism and Beliefs - Sundays, Time TBD

Are you wondering whether you or your child should be baptized? Do you want to explore the meaning of baptism and the basics of the historic Christian faith?

Feb 28: Watch and discuss a video about baptism

Mar 14: "I believe in God the Father"

Mar 21: "I believe in Jesus Christ"

Mar 28: "I believe in the Holy Spirit"

Please contact jonathan@christchurchberkeley.org if you are interested.

Saving Your Marriage Before (and After) It Starts – March to May, Time TBD

Nearly married? Newly married? Can't remember how long you have been married? In this 8-week group we will view and discuss videos from Drs. Les and Lesslie Parrott. Please contact jonathan@christchurchberkeley.org if you are interested.

Enroll in Financial Peace University – March to June, Time TBD

This life-changing 13 week video program teaches you how to make the right decisions with your money and empowers you with the practical skills and confidence needed to achieve your financial goals and experience true financial peace. The average family pays off \$5,300 in debt and saves \$2,700 in the first 91 days of Financial Peace University. Please contact jonathan@christchurchberkeley.org if you are interested.

Weekly Worship

Morning Prayer - 7:15 to 7:45am on Tuesdays & Thursdays

Join us for morning prayer based on a simple structure of The Book of Common Prayer. You may leave early as needed or stick around for coffee and conversation. We meet at the Figueroa's home (Tuesdays - 2820 Fulton St, Berkeley 94705) and St. Clairs' home (Thursdays - 5945 Keith Avenue, Oakland 94618).

Teaching Notes

Christ Church Staff

Please contact office@christchurchberkeley.org to schedule an appointment with a pastor or to submit prayer requests, questions, or concerns for the Christ Church staff.

Rev. Bart Garrett
Rev. Jonathan St.Clair

Lead Pastor
Pastor of Spiritual Formation

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|--------------------|--|
| Rev. Jose Figueroa | Pastor of Community Development |
| Rev. Eric Gilbert | Pastor of Worship Arts |
| Rev. Brent Webster | Pastor of Students (RUF at UC Berkeley) |
| Ann Elliston | Co-Director of Children's Ministry (Berkeley) |
| Emily George | Co-Director of Children's Ministry (Rockridge) |
| Kate Key | Administrator, Finance, Events |
| Anita Sunraj | Administrator, Office Manager |

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