

Christmas Eve at Home
With the Churches of the
Komo Kulshan Cluster, Skagit Valley Washington.

Narrated by The Rev. Terry Kylo

December 24, 2008

In honor of those who worship with us at home this night.

Instructions: *Please print off this document and read along as indicated. Please have a candle and matches for the later part of the service. Remember that we are with you in the Spirit of Christ this night.*

Welcome

Leader: Holy One, Loving One, Incarnate One,

Community: the stories say that you listen,
the saints say that you answer.

You, whom we call omnipotent,

You, whom we name compassionate,

hear our prayer, receive our prayer,

let our cry come to you, for we, like Joseph and Mary,

are looking for our true home in you.

Leader: In this celebration of the birth of the Holy Child,

Community: we give thanks for family and friends,
for food and for shelter, for health, and for the one, true gift,
which is your presence among us and within us.

Leader: And we remember those who cannot celebrate:

Community: we pray for those who mourn,
for those who are in sickness or in pain,
for those who do not know how to pray.

Leader: We pray for those willing to take courageous stands,

Community: those willing to be Your hands and feet in the hard work of peace.

Leader: We pray for people and for nations:

Community: for those who inflict violence on others,
and for those who suffer under hatred or oppression.

Leader: And we pray for leaders,

Community: that they may find uncommon wisdom and exceptional grace.

Leader: Holy One, Loving One, Incarnate One,

Community: we bring, now, our prayers of thanksgiving and praise,
our cries of joy and gladness, petition and intercession,
aloud or in the silence of our hearts.

Leader: Holy One, Loving One, Incarnate One,

Community: connect us to yourself;
entwine us with each other
and all the world you made; permeate us with your Spirit,
that we may live as your image,
the Body of Christ. Amen.

Isaiah 9:2-7

2The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. 3You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. 4For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. 5For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. 6For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

Community: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96

Responsively by Verse

1 O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

2 Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

3 Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples.

4 For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods.

5 For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the heavens.

6 Honor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

7 Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

8 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.

9 Worship the Lord in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth.

10 Say among the nations, "The Lord is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved. He will judge the peoples with equity."

11 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

12 let the field exult, and everything in it. Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy

13 before the Lord; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.

Titus 2:11-14

11For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, 12training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, 13while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. 14He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

Community: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Preparation: Away in a Manger

Adapted by Terry Kyлло

Away in a manger no crib for his bed
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head
The stars in the sky looked down where he laid
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay

The cattle are lowing the poor baby wakes
His parents are smiling at his little face
Be near us Lord Jesus and comfort us here
And make us a blessing to the world you hold dear

You loved us Lord Jesus and you love us still
You love all who hunger and long they be filled

You lead us to love them our food we can share
Our sisters and brothers and selves we can care

One day all your healing will make all a-right
The heavens and earth will be one great delight
Please help us to live in your vision by faith
And rest in your promise of endless grace

Luke 2:1-20

Pastor: The holy Gospel according to Luke

Community: Glory to you, O Lord!

2In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3All went to their own towns to be registered. 4Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. 5He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. 6While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 7And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

8In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: 11to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. 12This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." 13And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 14"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" 15When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." 16So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. 17When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; 18and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. 19But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. 20The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord

Community: Praise to you, Lord Christ

Reflection: The Rev. Terry Kylo

Prayers

Pastor: Let us pray for God's world, one another, and all our neighbors in Christ:

Leader: O Christ, light of the world, increase the peace among
the nations.

Community: Christ the Lord, bring peace on earth.

Leader: O Christ, light of the world, help us to spread the joyful news of
your birth - a sign of your love for us.

Community: Christ the Lord, bring joy to the world.

Leader: O Christ, light of the world, we pray for the poor and
those who find no room.

Community: Christ the Lord, bring help to the poor.

Leader: O Christ, light of the world, renew the whole church in unity

Community: Christ the Lord, bring renewal to your church.

Leader: O Christ, light of the world, shine the light of Christmas
on us all.

Community: Christ the Lord, bring us the light of your truth.

Leader: Rejoicing in your birth and trusting in your mercy, O Christ, Light of the world, let us bear your light
to others.

Community: Amen.

Pastor: As we light our candles with the light of Christ
here this night, we also bear Christ's light into our
families, our homes, our work, and our world.

Silent Night

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, Loves pure light
Radiant streams from thy holy face.
With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus Lord at your birth,
Jesus Lord at your birth.

Lord's Prayer:

Pastor: Let us pray together the prayer that Jesus taught us.

All: Our Father, who art in heaven

Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done,

On Earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

And forgive us our trespasses,

As we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not to temptation,

But deliver us from evil;

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,

Forever and ever. Amen.

Pastor: May the light of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ, shine on us and from within us, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Community: Amen.