

MEMORY VERSE
for December 27, 2009
Romans 8:1-15

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. **2** For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. **3** For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, **4** in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. **5** For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. **6** For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. **7** For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. **8** Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. **9** You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. **10** But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. **11** If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you. **12** So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. **13** For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. **14** For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. **15** For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 20, 2009
Morning Worship, 8:30 a.m.



The prelude signals the congregation to prepare quietly for worship.
Please disable electronic devices to prevent disruption.
Assisted listening devices are available from the sound booth attendant.

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

***Silent Prayer**

Take note, my heart; see there! look low:
What lies then in the manger so?
Whose is the lovely little child?
It is the darling Jesus-child.
Dear little Jesus! in my shed,
Make thee a soft, white little bed,
And rest there in my heart's low shrine,
That so my heart be always thine.

—George MacDonald's translation of Luther's Christmas Hymn

***Call to Worship**

Colossians 1:15-20

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

**Congregation standing *Congregation invited to kneel*

***Hymn of Praise**

“Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come” #195

†Confession of Sin

Almighty and most merciful Father; we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us. But, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent; according to Your promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for His sake; that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life; to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon**

Galatians 4:4-6

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!”

***Hymn of Faith in Christ**

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” #216

Tithes and Offerings***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise him, all creatures here below; (Alleluia).
 Praise him above, ye heav’nly host:
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. (Alleluia). Amen.

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:1-14

Sermon

“Joining the Choir”

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

You are welcome to participate in the Lord’s Supper if you are a baptized Christian, a follower of Jesus Christ, and a member or adherent of this or some other Christian congregation. If this does not describe you, we are glad you are here and commend to you this prayer for your use during the time of the Lord’s Supper.

Lord Jesus, you say that you and you alone are the way, the truth, and the life. You welcome all who are weary and burdened to come to you and promise to give them rest. You also say that those who come to you must be prepared to follow you, even at great cost. Help me, Lord Jesus, to believe what you say and to resolve to follow you whatever the cost. There are reasons enough for me to come to you. I admit that I am a sinner, more sinful than I ever dared to admit. But in you I find a greater love than I ever dared hope for. Thank you for your suffering and death in the place of sinners to pay their debt. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and confess you, Jesus Christ, as my Savior and my Lord.

Supper Hymn

“Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face” #378

Reading of Scripture

Revelation 5:1-14

***Closing Hymn**

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” #208

Benediction**†Silent Prayer**

Mighty Lord, cleanse our consciences, we pray, and bring light to the darkness of our hearts by the visitation of our Savior Jesus Christ; that when he comes, he may find in us a mansion prepared for himself, who now lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Postlude

Evening Worship, 6:00 p.m.



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Prelude

Welcome

***Call to Worship** Matthew 11:28-30
“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

***Hymn of Praise**
“Angels, We Have Heard on High” #214
“Joy Has Dawned Upon the World”

Joy has dawned upon the world,
Promised from creation:
God’s salvation now unfurled,
Hope for every nation.
Not with fanfares from above,
Not with scenes of glory,
But a humble gift of love:
Jesus born of Mary.

Sounds of wonder fill the sky
With the songs of angels,
As the mighty Prince of Life
Shelters in a stable.
Hands that set each star in place,
Shaped the earth in darkness,
Cling now to a mother’s breast,
Vulnerable and helpless.

Shepherds bow before the Lamb,
Gazing at the glory;
Gifts of men from distant lands
Prophesy the story.
Gold, a King is born today,
Incense, God is with us,
Myrrh, His death will make a way,
And by His blood He’ll win us.

Son of Adam, Son of heaven,
Given as a ransom,
Reconciling God and man,
Christ our mighty Champion!
What a Saviour, what a Friend,
What a glorious mystery:
Once a babe in Bethlehem,
Now the Lord of history.

Congregational Prayer

- Missions: Family members needing salvation
- Persecuted Church: China
- Churches: Redeemer Redmond (PCA) & Pastors
Andre Lewis and Matt Eusey
- Health/Family: Penny Heins; Mark Arndt; Jose &
Rebekah Balam Chuc
- Covenant Children/Youth: Sarah Rogers, Jacob
Schmidt, Julia Schmidt, John Schrupp, Elizabeth
Scott, Rebecca Scott, Hannah Scott, Samuel Scott

Scripture Reading Ruth 1:1-4.22

Sermon

“Whispers of Scandal in the Genealogy of Jesus, Part
Three: Ruth”

*Closing Hymn

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” #201

Benediction

Postlude

