

Sunday Morning Worship Service December 27th, 2009

Community Presbyterian Church of Little Rock

*Call to Worship and Praise Music (Words on wall)

Leader: Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

People: Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name; worship the LORD in holy splendor.

Leader: The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over mighty waters.

People: The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

Unison: The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever. *Let us worship God.*

Welcome and Announcements

(Please register your presence with us this morning in the red friendship folder)

*Hymn What Child Is This. Who, Laid to Rest? Pg. 180

Unison Prayer of Confession

Holy Father, we come to you with hearts ready to move past the miracle of what you have done for us, we come with hearts that are exhausted by the season, and we come with hearts that have not been focused upon Your glory, we come now with the weight and worry that we have let the world place upon us, and we lay it down at your feet. (silent confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ and Christ died and rose for us. In the Name of Jesus Christ our sins have been forgiven. Amen.

Kids Message

Special Music

Michelle Parsons

Message and Scripture

James Mitchell

We've Only Just Begun Colossians 3:12-17 Pg. 1829

Offertory & Special Music

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

*Pastoral Prayer and Lords Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.

Amen

*Closing Hymn

Joy to the World Pg. 171

Benediction and Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you. *(Pass the peace of Christ to your neighbor)*

**Please stand if you are able*

*++As a courtesy to others please **turn off** cell phones during worship.*

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"What Child Is This?" is one of the most moving and beautiful of Victorian carols. It's history can be traced back farther than the days of the infamous Henry VIII. It dates from Elizabethan time, possibly even earlier. The melody is the beautiful Greensleeves. This haunting melody, is often associated with guitar or harpsichord solos. As an ancient English folk song, there have been more than twenty different known lyrics associated with it throughout history and many more might have been lost. It was first published in 1652. For much of its early life, the tune known as "Greensleeves" was associated with pubs as a popular drinking song. Although God is mentioned in a closing verse of the best-known lyrics, nothing about the song closely resembled a religious piece; it was simply one of the era's most popular folk songs. The song was first registered in 1850 to Richard Jones with lyrics that were neither religious nor respectable. Shakespeare mentions it by name in "The Merry Wives of Windsor" in which is it played while traitors are hanged.

In 1865 Englishman William Chatterton Dix wrote "The Manger Throne," three verses of which became "What Child Is This?" In the era while Dix was writing hymns and raising a family, Christmas was not the celebration it is today. Neither was it a season where many openly celebrated the birth of Christ. Conservative Christian churches forbade gift-giving, decorating, or even acknowledging the day. These Puritan groups feared that if set aside as a special day, Christmas would become a day of pagan rituals more than a very serious time of worship. In this context, it was unusual for Dix to feel moved to write about Christ's birth, since many hymn writers of the period ignored Christmas altogether. The song's powerful words presented a unique view of the birth of Christ. While the baby was the focal point of the song, the viewpoint of the writer seemed to be that of an almost confused observer. Dix imagined visitors to the humble manger wondering who the child was that lay before them. He wove a story of a child's birth, life, death, and resurrection, but in each verse it was answered with a triumphant declaration the infant's divine nature. Dix published "The Manger Throne" in England just as the U.S. Civil War was ending. The song was quickly imported from Britain to the United States. Dix, who died in 1898, lived long enough to see "The Manger Throne" become the much beloved Christmas carol "What Child Is This?"

Desert Notes December 27th 2009

End Year Giving- Make sure you catch up on your end of year tithing. We continue to fall short each month and in 2010 we will need to increase our giving by an additional 7,000.00. We have also taken \$20,000.00 from the building fund to balance the budget for 2010 as we recently heard in our congregational meeting last week. If you have any questions about whether or not you are behind on your tithe please talk with Jan Wise.

Adult Sunday school and Weekly Bible Study- All are welcome. Sunday school begins at 9:00am in the conference room. Come and join us. (No Sunday school on December 27th and no Thursday night Bible Study until January 14, 2010.

Choir- If you are interested in joining the choir see Janice Wise. The choir meets on Thursday evenings at 6:30pm. **(Choir will resume in January, 2010)**

Women's Small Group Ministry- Women's ministry will resume in January 2010.

Alpine Adoption- If you would like to bake something, bring it on any Sunday morning and we will make sure it's delivered on Monday morning. If you're not the baking type please contribute something to the polka dot piggy bank in the Narthex which will help defray some of the costs in doing this important ministry.

Help Wanted: Our church who is ever so grateful for the work of Elder Richard Graham as our treasurer wants to retire. We are in need of a new VOLUNTEER church treasurer. If you are interested please speak with Pastor K.C. or Richard Graham for more information.

Session Retreat- Our annual session/deacons retreat will be held on January 30th from 9-12pm. Location TBA! Come and join us as we celebrate the New Year and hear from a wonderful guest speaker who will lead our training. This meeting is required for all new incoming elders and deacons and current elders and deacons. Please see Pastor K.C. for more information. We will be joining two other churches for this special training.

Weekly Calendar

Today is December 27th- NO Sunday school, 10:00am Worship, Littlerock Church of Love 1:00PM.

December 28th - Weight Watchers Meeting 5pm for the "Weigh In" and 5:30pm for the actual meeting. Narcotics Anonymous begins at 7:30pm.

December 31st- NO Bible Study, No Choir (Office Closed)

January 1st- HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!! (Office Closed)

January 3rd, 2010- Epiphany Sunday, Sunday School 9:00am, 10:00am Worship, Littlerock Church of Love 1:00pm,

Ministry Team

Ministers

Pastor

Child Care Coordinator

Pastoral Intern

Volunteer Office Administrator

Choir/Financial Secretary

Church Treasurer

Web Page and Sound Person

Church Organist

The People

K.C. Wahe

Rose Beckwith-Banfield

James Mitchell

Gail LaGasse

Janice Wise

Richard Graham

Eugene Patterson

Walter Bolen

Prayers to remember throughout the week:

Our Session, Pastor, Deacons, and our Church friends and family

Our service men and women, both known and unknown (Michael Vonnegut, Nathaniel Morris, Joseph Burnell and Joel Moreno, Lyn's DiBernardo's Son in law Mario)

For those dealing with cancer (Freddy Wright, Bob Bennett, Cindi Bruessel, and Bob McLaughlin) and for their spouses

Prayers for those sick and needing God's healing (Helen C., Cindy Winder and Family, Lorraine Ferry's Mother Marie)

Prayers for Louise and Lloyd Kempton

Prayers for those who grieve the loss of a loved one

Prayers for those who need employment

Prayers for John Quaderer and family as they grieve the loss of Norma Quaderer

Prayers for Katelyn and the Linary Family

Prayers of praise for our outgoing elders and deacons and our new incoming elders and deacons.

Community Presbyterian Church



"To Know Christ and to Make Him Known"

*7854 Pearblossom Hwy
PO Box 788
Littlerock, CA 93543
Welcome to Worship*

*Sunday School 9:00am
Sunday Worship 10:00am
www.cpclr.org*

*Church Office: 661-944-3231
Church Fax: 661-944-3894
Prayer Hotline: 661-480-6143*