

The Lessons of Scripture

The lessons of Scripture for this evening's service are taken from the King James Version of the Bible as published in 1611. This venerable English translation of the Bible was the work of dozens of biblical scholars and theologians and is still recognized around the world as a classic without an equal. Though decidedly antique sounding, many of its phrases are



well known to us from childhood. This unmistakable familiarity is especially true with the lessons assigned to the celebration of Christmas. However when all is said and done it is to Linus and Charlie Brown that we turn to as authorities. When Charlie Brown asks the question, "Isn't there anyone who knows what Christmas is all about?", it is Linus that answers with confidence, "Sure Charlie Brown, I can tell you what Christmas is all about.", and quotes from the King James Bible, "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in

swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.'" That's what Christmas is all about.

For Levy's Members

We fully participate in the celebration of the supper when we receive holy communion in fulfillment of Christ's command to eat and drink in remembrance of Him. In order to be disposed properly to receive the Lord's Supper, communicants should not be conscious of grave sin, and must seek to live in charity and love with their neighbors. Persons conscious of grave sin must first be reconciled with God and the church through penance. A frequent call to penance is encouraged for all.

For Other Christians

We welcome to this celebration of communion those Christians who are not members of Levy Baptist Church. We believe the supper is an action of a celebrating community of faith that signifies oneness in faith, life, and worship. Therefore all who are members of churches of like faith and order are welcome at this table. Reception of communion by those who are not of like faith and order would imply a oneness which does not yet exist, and for which we must all pray.

For Those Not Receiving Communion

Those not receiving communion are encouraged to express in their hearts a prayerful desire for unity with the Lord Jesus and with one another.

For Non-Christians

We also welcome to this celebration those who do not share our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. While we cannot extend to them an invitation to receive communion, we do invite them to be united with us in prayer.

Christmas Communion

Sunday, December 3, 2017 at Six o'clock p.m.

Prelude

Invocation

Lord God of heaven and earth, because Thou didst give Jesus Christ, Thine only Son, to be born as at this time for us: Who, by the operation of the Holy Ghost, was made very man, of the substance of the Virgin Mary His mother; and that without spot of sin, to make us clean from all sin. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Thy glorious name; evermore praising Thee, and saying,

“Holy, Holy, Holy” (2)

Responsive Reading

Responsive Reading

Pastor: The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

People: **O come let us adore Him.**

Pastor: May the light and peace of Christ be with you all.

People: **And, Also with you.**

Scripture Reading

Micah 5:2; Matthew 2:1-6

Found on pages 681 & 703 of your Pew Bible

Offertory Prayer

David Jones

Instrumental Offertory

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” (89)

Scripture Reading

Titus 2:11-14

Found on page 881 of Pew Bible

“I Come Expecting Jesus”

Glenn Blevins

Preparation for the Lord's Supper

Receiving of the Lord's Supper

“Go, Tell it on the Mountain” (95)

Responsive Dismissal

Pastor: Glory to God in the Highest!

People: **Peace to God's people on earth!**

Pastor: As heralds of God's peace, go forth in joy to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, December 6th

Lessons & Carols at 6:15 PM

Hot Apple Cider Following

Sunday, December 10th

2nd Sunday of Advent at 10:15 AM

Lighting the Candle of Love

Children's Pageant at 6:00 PM

Hot Chocolate & Cookies Following

Wednesday, December 13th

Lottie Moon Dinner at 5:30 PM

Cost \$10.00

Menu: Brisket with Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Smothered Green Beans, Spinach Strawberry Walnut Salad, Rolls &

Figgy Pudding

(R.S.V.P. required)

Offering will be received for

International Missions

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 PM

Sunday, December 17th

Biscuits & Gravy Breakfast at 8:00 AM

3rd Sunday of Advent at 10:15 AM

Lighting the Candle of Joy

Christmas Cantata at 10:15 AM

Blevins' Christmas Concert at 6:00 PM

Annual Nog-Off Fellowship to follow

Sunday, December 24th

ASO String Quartet 10:00 AM

4th Sunday of Advent at 10:15 AM

Candlelight Service at 5:00 PM

Order Christmas Poinsettias

Each year we decorate the church during the Advent & Christmas Season with poinsettias. To honor or remember a loved one, you may make a contribution of \$10 to help us offset the cost of the poinsettias. Remembrances will be published in the December 17th & 24th bulletins.



2017 Contributions

As the year draws to a close, you may wish to review your current 2017 contributions. If so, please contact Melanie at the church office and request a summary of your 2017 giving. Current giving statements will be mailed or emailed to you upon your request. Of course everyone will receive their year end statements for tax purposes in January by mail.

2017 Year End Giving

In order to qualify for a 2017 contribution under IRS tax laws, your gift must be received in the church office or postmarked by December 31.

Thank you for giving!