

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGULAR CHURCH EVENTS

- ✓ Evensong service is scheduled for the first Sunday of each month, Logos Auditorium, 6:00 pm.
- ✓ Heads of Households parish meetings: Usually held the second Tuesday of each month, 8:00 pm, locations to be announced on email.
- ✓ Family Psalm Sing is usually held the third Sunday evening of each month, 6:00-7:00 pm, Logos Auditorium.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

- ✓ No Sunday School classes are being held at this time.

NURSERY

- ✓ A nursing room is available for mothers only to use in the literature room (Room 2) out the west doors, down the stairs to the main building, first door on the left. If a father needs to take a crying baby or toddler out of the service, he may use the room down the hall next to the storage room. Dads, please don't go into the nursing room. Both rooms are sound wired, so the church service can be heard. Also, the sixth grade classroom is available for parents to use for disciplining their children.

MISCELLANEOUS

- ✓ Prayer requests: If you have a prayer request for the Sunday morning service or for the email prayer chain, please call the church office (882-2034) by Friday morning or contact Wes Struble (882-6163) or Ed Iverson (882-4848).
- ✓ Visitor cards are available on the back table. If you're visiting this morning, please fill one out and drop it in the offering box.
- ✓ The elders visit different homes on Tuesday nights, except for the Heads of Households meeting nights. If you'd like to receive a visit from an elder, please contact the office.
- ✓ The deacons fund is for needy families in our church. If you would like to donate toward this cause, please make your check to Christ Church, designating the Deacons Fund. Remember the Christian Education Fund, and the fact that some families are in need. Funds are available, and questions can be referred to the deacons.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 20

- ✓ Christmas Caroling in front of Ross at the Mall: 4:00 pm. This event will replace the Family Psalm Sing this month. Get-together at the Logos Auditorium following the caroling.

Tuesday, December 22

- ✓ Orchestra practice: Anselm House, 7:00-9:00 pm.

Wednesday, December 23

- ✓ Adult Choir: Logos Auditorium, 7:00-8:30 pm.

Thursday, December 24

- ✓ Christmas Eve service: Logos Fieldhouse, 5:00 pm.

Friday, December 25

- ✓ Merry Christmas!

NEW NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

- ✓ Church office holiday closure: Dec. 21-Jan. 2.
- ✓ Winter Feast: Friday, January 22, 6:00-8:30pm, SEL.

COLLEGE MINISTRIES NEWS & EVENTS

Contact Matt Gray- 883-7903 (o), 596-9787 (c)

- ✓ Weekly meeting: Finished for the semester.
- ✓ College Girls Inductive Bible Studies: Cancelled for Christmas Break.
- ✓ NSA/UI/WSU Men's Bible Studies: Cancelled for Christmas Break.
- ✓ UI Guys' Study: Cancelled for Christmas Break.

CHRIST CHURCH

Lord's Day Service - 4th Sunday of Advent - December 20, 2009

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEDITATION & PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP - *God Summons His People*

V SCRIPTURE READING OF PRAISE

Minister: The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth. He will fulfill the desire of those who are in awe of Him.

Congregation: He will hear their cry and save them. Amen.

The Lord is exalted; for he dwelleth on high: he hath filled Zion with judgment and righteousness (Isaiah 33:5).

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

Congregation: We lift them up to the Lord!

V PRAYER OF PRAISE

V CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Magnificat.....416-419 (243)

CONFESSION - *God Cleanses His People*

EXHORTATION

SCRIPTURE READING OF CONFESSION

Congregation is invited to kneel if able

Now go, write it before them in a table, and note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come for ever and ever: That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the Lord: Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophecy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits: Get you out of the way, turn aside out of the path, cause the Holy One of Israel to cease from before us (Isaiah 30:8-11).

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

And though the Lord give you the bread of adversity, and the water of affliction, yet shall not thy teachers be removed into a corner any more, but thine eyes shall see thy teachers (Isaiah 30:20).

Minister: Your sins are forgiven through Christ.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

V CONFESSION OF FAITH

*CHRISTIAN, WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE?
APOSTLES CREED*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the Holy Ghost, and born of the virgin, Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into Hades. On the third day He rose again from the dead, ascended into Heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

V HEIDELBERG CATECHISM

Where has Christ promised that we are as certainly washed with his blood and Spirit as with the water of baptism?..... Q. 71 (72 & 73)

In the institution of Baptism which runs thus: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." "He who believes and is baptized will be saved: but he who does not believe will be condemned." This promise is also repeated where the Scriptures call baptism "the water of rebirth" and the washing away of sins.

✓ *Rejoice, All Ye Believers.....Handout (238)*

CONSECRATION - *God Equips & Prepares His People*

V READING THE UNIVERSAL WORD

This week: Psalm 80:1-19 & Ephesians 5:8-14

Next week: Isaiah 7:10-17 & Matthew 1:18-25

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Christ Church - 205 E. 5th St, Moscow, ID - 208.882.2034 - office@christkirk.com

Elders:

Bill Church
Dale Courtney
John Grauke
Matt Gray
John Howell

Ed Iverson
Mike Lawyer
Csaba
Leidenfrost
Jim Nance

Ralph Plaza
John Sawyer
Wes Struble
Matt Whitling
Douglas Wilson

Gordon Wilson
Fred Kohl

Deacons:

Eric Burnett
John Carnahan
Andrew
Crapuchettes
Tom Garfield

Joe Myers
Rusty Olps
Marc Rust
Marc Wintz

ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS - Rod and Jeannette Olps (2nd service)

Of the Father's Love Begotten.....246-247 (240)

OPENING PRAYER

Look unto Zion, the city of our solemnities: thine eyes shall see Jerusalem in quiet habitation, a tabernacle that shall not be taken down; not one of the stakes thereof shall ever be removed, neither shall any cords thereof be broken (Isaiah 33:20).

THANKSGIVING

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert (Isaiah 35:5-6).

PETITIONS

Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees. Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompence; he will come and save you (Isaiah 35:3-4).

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

✓ *Savior of the Nations, Come.....225* (245)

PREACHING OF THE PARTICULAR WORD

Text: Colossian 3:16-17

Message: Getting Dressed for Christmas

Concluding prayer, ending with the Lord's Prayer 411

MEDITATION

Offertory-As with Gladness Men of Old.....251 vs 3 (250 vs. 3)

✓ *Joy to the World! the Lord Is Come (Desert).....240* (230)

COMMUNION - God Nourishes His People

THE BREAD & WINE

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence.....241 (244 -Forest Green)

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying.....228-229 (236-37)

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE— **AMEN**

COMMISSIONING - God Blesses & Sends His People
The congregation may raise hands

✓ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Savior of the Nations, Come.....225 vs. 6 (225 vs. 6)

CHARGE & BLESSING

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace (Num. 6:24-26).

MISSIONS UPDATE-NUART THEATER

There is a young man from Portland, Stephen Brucker, who is strongly considering moving to Moscow to work with me at the Nuart full time. This would be an answer to my prayer of eight years. Stephen has a Masters of Divinity degree from Warner Pacific College, has much experience working with college students, and wants to reach out to them full time. He is willing to raise full support, and he and his wife, Lisa, are very interested in the Nuart ministry. After a few phone conversations that furthered interest for Stephen and I, we have made plans to spend the day together, next Monday, the 21st-- at the Nuart, and having lunch with the Nuart board.

Just a few days ago, he found out that he had been accepted for a position with the Navigators Ministry that he had applied for many months ago. We do need a great deal of prayer for Stephen, Lisa, the Nuart, and the Navigators, so that God's will for them and us can be clearly determined. Moving to Moscow would be a huge step for Stephen and his wife, and could also mean a huge switch into the next gear for the Nuart ministry. Lisa is a kindergarten teacher, and would need to find work in this very small town, as well. The official CCM deadline for financial solvency and another full-time staff person for the Nuart is now January 15th.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND PETITION

THANKSGIVING — FOR...

- ✓ Our marriages.
- ✓ The ministry of Trinity Church of Coeur d'Alene, ID and for Stuart Bryan.
- ✓ The ministry of Eric E. and the Nuart.
- ✓ The marriage of Ryan and Courtney Handermann.

NEW REQUESTS, PRAY FOR:

- ✓ Christians who are persecuted in other countries, especially in Indonesia.
- ✓ The United States Congress.
- ✓ Christian Life Center and Pastor Dan Johnson. Pray for their students traveling home for the holidays. Pray for their Christmas service this Sunday the 20th. Pray for Pastor Dan's busy schedule.

REQUESTS FROM DECEMBER 13, 2009

- ✓ Christians who are persecuted in other countries, especially in China.
- ✓ The United States Supreme Court.
- ✓ Care Net of the Palouse.

CONTINUING PRAYER REQUESTS

- ✓ Ian Bloomsburg, as he serves in the U.S. Army in New York; Mike Fenimore as he serves in Germany; Kelly VanNuland, Sam Kimmell in the U.S. Navy in Spain; Daniel Klier in the Marines; Nate Atwood; Chilton Williams in the Navy on the USS Enterprise.
- ✓ The unmarried men and women in the church.
- ✓ CRF, *Credenda*, Canon Press, and the church mission plants.
- ✓ Education: NSA, Logos School, Montrose Academy, ACCS, Pullman Christian School, UI, WSU, LCSC.
- ✓ Eddie Gray, Jr., James Denham, Heather Casebolt Teston, Neil (Ray) Crawford, Emily Peterson, Jerry Langreder.
- ✓ Repentance of sin and salvation for Jon LaMoreaux and Daniel Miller.
- ✓ Pray for Douglas Wilson and the Christ Church elders as they seek to serve God in leading the church.

- ✓ Parents as they educate their children.
- ✓ Upcoming marriages of Justin Spencer to Emily Gray (12/29), Timothy Van den Broek to Anna Davy. (12/30), Skyler Hoefl to Chelsey Bowes (1/1/10), Jordan Leithart to Jamie Van Till (1/9/10), Brad Belschner to Sara Field (1/23/10), Isaiah Eyre to Leia Thomas(5/22/10), Drew Hicks to Samantha Ricketts (6/5/10), Paden Blythe to Jasmine Ewert (6/5/10), Eric Mabry to Hannah Benton, CJ Bowen to Lisa Jackson.
- ✓ Pray for the Greyfriars' Hall students.
- ✓ Complete healing for Billy Amos, Evangeline Anderson, Betty Appel, Fran Atwood, Paige Atwood, Arie DeWinkle, Julie Garfield, Emmaline Handel, Lizzie Klier, Fred Kohl, Lisa Leidenfrost, Brady, Erin, and Sherry McIntosh, Brian Nuttbrock, Beza Qualls, Kalkidan Qualls, Lisa Qualls, Don Quist, Cecily Rathbun, Michelle Roise, Daniel Rosendahl, Nancy Rust, Morgan Schlect, Nesradine Schumaker, Layla Shaw, Andrew Stafford, Tovia Sumpter, Bessie Wilson.
- ✓ Colleen McGarry, who is working with Servant Group, Int'l. in northern Iraq.
- ✓ The Christ Church and Trinity Reformed Church expectant mothers: December-Katie Nuttbrock, Jennifer Bunch; January-Casey Griffith, Nancy Jacobs, Heather Wilson, Ruth Hill; February-Amber Myers, Jenny Story, Ashley Antkowiak; March-Lindsey Tollefson, Katie Grauke, Alberta Arrick, Beth Peterson; April-Rachel Jankovic, Mary Dowers; May-Kristen Telling, Emily Bartlett, Alexis Stevenson, Brooke Newman; June-Melissa Breese.
- ✓ Other expectant mothers who don't attend either church or have moved but are connected to the churches in some way through family members, etc.: December-Hannah Griffith; January-Christine Creason; May-Natali Rose (Greenfield); June-Elizabeth Nieuwsma.

STANDING PRAYER REQUESTS — PRAY FOR...

- ✓ Cultural stability, that we might live quiet and peaceable lives.
- ✓ State and local authorities as well as UI/WSU/NSA Presidents.
- ✓ The Bakwe' in the Ivory Coast and for stability and peace in the country.
- ✓ Reformation and revival in the church.

“MAY I COME TO THE LORD'S TABLE?”

The Lord's Supper is observed every Lord's Day at Christ Church. We warmly invite to the Lord's table all those who are baptized disciples of Jesus Christ, under the authority of Christ and His body, the Church. By eating the bread and drinking the wine with us as a visitor, you are acknowledging that you are a sinner, without hope except in the sovereign mercy of God, and that you are trusting in Jesus Christ alone for salvation. You also acknowledge to the elders of this congregation that you are in covenant with God, being active in a congregation which is covenantally bound to the triune God through Word and sacrament. If you have any doubt about your participation, please speak to the elders before or after the service.

GETTING DRESSED FOR CHRISTMAS

A Little Holiday Preparation

INTRODUCTION:

Holidays are frequently times when people get trapped by the expectations game. Because everyone around you assumes that the day is going to be “really good,” “special,” or “fantastic,” and is constantly telling you to have a “merry” one, it is easy to assume that having a merry Christmas is an actual possession of yours, and if not a possession, at least a birthright. Consequently, the tendency is to sketch out in your mind what you would like that possession to be like. But it turns out, metaphorically speaking, that you get socks instead of the shotgun, or cookware instead of pearls, and the expectation lost is a set-up for real disappointment. This is one of the reasons why holidays can be such an emotional roller coaster ride for so many, and Christmas is no exception.

THE TEXT:

“Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him” (Col. 3:12-17).

SUMMARY OF THE TEXT:

The text obviously deals with how we as Christians are to live all the time, and not just during the holidays. But the holidays are nothing other than what we normally do, ramped up to the next level. And so as we prepare our hearts for this celebration, ramp this up as well. Problems arise when we exert ourselves physically, emotionally, financially, and so on, and we don't exert ourselves here. Think of this as getting dressed for the season—here, put this on. What should you put on? Tendermercies, kindness, humility of mind, meekness, patience (v. 12). That is holiday garb. When you are clothed this way, what are you dressed for? Snow pants are for going out in the snow, right? What is this clothing for? It is getting dressed for forbearance and forgiveness (v. 13). You are all dressed up and therefore ready to drop a quarrel, and to forgive as you were forgiven (v. 13). But that is not enough—you need to put on another layer. Over everything else, put on charity, which is the perfect coat, the perfection coat (v. 14). When you have done that, what are you ready for? You are ready for peace with others, and that peace is saturated with gratitude (v. 15). You are also

ready for some music, and particularly the music of grace and gratitude (vv. 15-16). And then, to crown all else, you are dressed for everything—whatever you do, whether in word or deed, you can do it in the name of Jesus, giving thanks to the Father (v. 17).

GETTING DRESSED BEFOREHAND:

Many Christians know what they are supposed to be doing, and so they try to do it. And they feel bad when they fail. But for some reason they don't prepare themselves beforehand for what they know is coming. They don't know that how they are dressed for the task is affecting their performance of the task itself. Now, let us suppose that for the last seventeen Christmases in a row you have gotten out of fellowship about something—for gifts you didn't get, for lack of adequate enthusiasm for gifts you gave, for lack of adequate help with the meal, etc. Seventeen years in a row. Now, is it possible to tell which day this will happen the next time? Sure, it is this next Friday. The 25th. It is marked right there on the calendar, leering at you. So started getting dressed for it now. You don't really want to be surprised again.

GIVING AND RECEIVING:

When you are clothed as you ought to be—in kindness, humility of mind, and charity—you will be able to take more delight in gifts you give freely, than in the gifts you receive. You delight in both, of course, but what does Jesus teach us? “I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35). There are two basic things to remember here. First, giving is better than receiving. Second, this truth is so obviously clear that many people have had to work out complicated ways of receiving—i.e. receiving credit for being so giving (Matt. 6:2-3). As you give, you need to avoid running a trade deficit, with all categories—emotional, physical, and spiritual—taken into account. Remember that gifts are gifts, and gifts are also symbols. And symbols are also layered.

THE GIFT GIVES YOU:

“For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity. Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account” (Phil. 4:16-17). Or this: “For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?” (1 Thess. 2:19). What is our crown? Is it not you?

In giving a gift, you are attached to it. In receiving a gift, the blessing that comes to the giver is your chief delight. And the you that is attached to the gift that is given is either a gift just like the physical gift, or it is booby-trapped box full of hidden emotional expenses. Do not be like the woman that C.S. Lewis said lived for others—and you could always tell who the others were by their hunted expression.

You give the gift, certainly, but the gift also gives you. And it will always give the “you as you are” and not the “you as you appear in your daydreams.” And this is why you must prepare yourself for the giving. You don't want the gift to give you, and have that “you” be a cheap toy that doesn't make it through the afternoon of Christmas day.

This is why you must get dressed for the day.