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## The Fourth Sunday of Advent December 21, 2014



### The Liturgy of The Holy Eucharist II

#### Gathering music Hymn #56 vss 7 & 8

*O come, o come Emmanuel*

#### Procession to the Altar

*All are welcome*

*(printed on page 10 of the Worship Guide)*

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### Advent candle lighting *Christ be our light*

*(Sung at 10:00 am - Printed on page 11 of the Worship Guide)*

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.**

**Christ, be our light! Shine in your church  
gathered today.**

#### The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

#### A Reading from 2 Samuel

(7:1-11, 16)

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house.

Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## **Canticle 15**

**(Read in unison after the first asterisk)**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; **\* for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: \* the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name. He has mercy on those who fear him \* in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm, \* he has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \* and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, \* and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \* for he has remembered his promise of mercy, The promise he made to our fathers, \* to Abraham and his children for ever.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \* as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

## **A Reading from Romans** (16:25-27)

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith-- to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord  
*People* **Thanks be to God**

## **Gradual Hymn #277 vss 1, 2** *Sing of Mary*

## **The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke** (1:26-38)

### **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

### **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

## **Gradual Hymn #277 vs. 3** *Sing of Mary*

### **The Sermon** Fr. Haynes

*Silence for reflection*

### **The Nicene Creed** (Standing, as able.)

We believe in one God, / **the Father, the Almighty, / maker of heaven and earth, / of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, / the only Son of God, / eternally begotten of the Father, / God from God, Light from Light. / true God from true God, / begotten, not made, / of one Being**

**with the Father. / Through him all things were made. / For us and for our salvation / he came down from heaven: / by the power of the Holy Spirit / he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. / For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; / he suffered death and was buried. / On the third day he rose again / in accordance with the Scriptures; / he ascended into heaven / and is seated at the right hand of the Father. / He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, / and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, / who proceeds from the Father and the Son. / With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. / He has spoken through the Prophets. / We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. / We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. / We look for the resurrection of the dead, / and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **Prayers of the People**

As a people in darkness waiting for the coming of the light of Christ, let us pray to the Lord,  
**Lord hear our prayer.**

For the Unity of Christ's One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church, let us pray to the Lord,  
**Lord hear our prayer.**

For Bartholomew, Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, Francis, Bishop of Rome, Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Katharine our presiding bishop, Greg our bishop; for priests, deacons and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God, let us pray to the Lord,  
**Lord hear our prayer**

For the Anglican Communion, especially for the Diocese of Kontagora – Lokoja, Nigeria; our diocese, especially Our Savior, Monroe; St. John, Snohomish and our parish, especially for our parishioners Dan, Sandy, Sarah, Caitlin & Jonathan Dawes; David Dokter; Scott, Holly, Sydney & Chelsea Donnelly let us pray to the Lord,  
**Lord hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, especially Barack our President in the ways of justice and peace; for our armed forces and those who are deployed especially Andrew and Michael, and for those we now name...; praying for the end of terrorism, war and violence throughout the world, let us pray to the Lord,  
**Lord hear our prayer.**

For the poor, the hungry, the oppressed, the unemployed, those in prison, and for the sick and suffering; praying for all those on our prayer list and those in our hearts, especially Lyn, Areewa, Eloise, Carmen, Stephen, Dave, Sarah, Harriet, Katrina, Mary, Corretta, Paulett, Heather, Justin, Ginny, Maryann, Lila, Bill, Brenda, Beth & Kendall, Ayrton, Jim, Wes, Shirley, Rose, Lorraine, Ashley and for those we now name, let us pray to the Lord,  
**Lord hear our prayer.**

For those anticipating the birth of a child, a move, a change in employment or any new beginning, let us pray to the Lord,  
**Lord hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for all the blessings of this life, especially for the blessings we now name..., let us pray to the Lord,  
**Lord hear our prayer.**

For those who have died and now abide in Christ's presence, especially Art Hearron; and others we now name..., let us pray to the Lord,  
**Lord hear our prayer.**

## **Confession of Sin**

We pray also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Leader and People*

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen

you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen**

## **The Peace**

*Celebrant* The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

## **Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries, Celebrations and Healing Prayers**

### **Offertory Hymn**

*The night time stood still  
(sung by Barney Hartley)*

## **The Great Thanksgiving – B**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

*Here a Proper Preface is said as appointed.*

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Celebrant and People*

## **Sanctus**

**8:00 am (spoken), 10:00 am Sanctus (sung)**

*(Printed on page 12 of the Worship Guide)*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified + by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

**Lord's Prayer** *said at 8 am & sung at 10 am*  
(Printed on page 13 of the Worship Guide)

*Celebrant* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**Our father in heaven  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread and Holy Communion**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**People** **Therefore let us keep the feast.**  
**Alleluia**

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*and may add*

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*or with these words*

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [*Amen.*]  
The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [*Amen.*]

*This is our Lord's Table, and He is our host. All baptized persons are invited to receive Holy Communion. Those who have yet to be baptized are invited to come forward for a blessing and are encouraged to speak with one of the clergy after the service about becoming baptized into Christ's Body. Gluten free hosts are available upon request at the rail.*

## **Communion Music**

### Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,  
Look full in his wonderful face,  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,  
In the light of his glory and grace.

Turn your Eyes upon Jesus, words and music by H H Lemmel  
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### Alleluia (sing each 8 times)

Alleluia.....  
Jesus is Lord.....  
Lord, we love you.....  
Lord, we thank you.....  
Alleluia.....

Words and music by Jerry Sinclair Copyright 1978 Manna Music, Inc.  
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### Let All That is Within Me

1. Let all that is within me, cry, "Holy!"  
Let all that is within me, cry, "Holy!"  
Holy, holy, holy is the Lamb that was slain.
2. Let all that is within me cry, "Worthy!"  
Let all that is within me cry, "Worthy!"  
Worthy, worthy, worthy is the Lamb that was slain.
3. Let all that is within me cry, "Jesus!"  
Let all that is within me cry, "Jesus!"  
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is the Lamb that was slain.
4. Let all that is within me cry, "Glory!"  
Let all that is within me cry, "Glory!"  
Glory, glory, glory to the Lamb that was slain.

Let All that is within Me, words and music by Melvin Harrel © 1988 Lorenz Publishing  
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**COMMISSIONING OF LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

*To be used when the need is present to  
Send out Lay Eucharistic Ministers*

*Priest:* In the name of this congregation we send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.  
*Presider and People:* **We who are many are one body because we all share one bread, one cup.**

**The Post Communion Prayer**

*Celebrant* Let us pray:

*Celebrant and People*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.**

**Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord.  
*Amen.***

**The Blessing**

May the sun of righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

**Procession to the Neighborhood**

**Hymn #74** *Blest be the King*

**St. Matthew Mission Statement**

**To be a church that passionately embraces and values all people, growing in the love of Christ through word and action.**

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Special Ministers Today**

<b>Priest</b>	The Rev. Kendall Haynes
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Frank Blacker
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	Bob Witter
<b>Lector</b>	Pamela Reed
<b>Acolytes</b>	Zawadi Chege Nicholas Yun
<b>Ushers</b>	Bob Wright Frank Blacker
<b>Greeters</b>	Gary & Marcie Neuman
<b>Eucharistic Visitor</b>	Kitty Walker
<b>Bread Maker</b>	Marian Oberg
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Jill Little Sue Inglis Lorina Goodjoint Florence Nabaggala
<b>Counters</b>	Art Ladley Jim Oberg
<b>Nursery</b>	Sarah Dawes
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Dick & Terry Elofson Lorina Goodjoint Florence Nabaggala
<b>Bell Ringer</b>	
<b>Altar Guild Directress</b>	Janet Witter

**St Matthew Episcopal Church Staff**

<b>Head of the Church</b>	Jesus Christ our Lord
<b>Bishop of Olympia</b>	The Rt. Rev. Gregory Rickel
<b>Priest in Charge</b>	The Rev. Kendall Haynes
<b>Administrator</b>	Agueda Fernández-Webster
<b>Church Sexton</b>	Yuorn Saray
<b>Pianist</b>	Maria McKanzie
<b>Church Photographer</b>	John Hibben

**St Matthew Episcopal Church Vestry**

<b>Sr. Warden</b>	Tom Peterson
<b>Jr. Warden</b>	Sueann Goretti
<b>Fellowship Liaison</b>	Anna Jackson
<b>Stewardship Liaison</b>	Jon Kuniyoshi
<b>Liturgy &amp; Arts Liaison</b>	Kitty Walker
<b>Outreach Liaison</b>	Kate Gould
<b>Marketing &amp; Evangelism Liaison</b>	Sueann Goretti
<b>Christian Education Liaison</b>	John Kennedy
<b>Pastoral Care</b>	Liz Latsis Marcie Neuman

**St Matthew Episcopal Church Vestry Officers**

<b>Treasurer</b>	Art Ladley
<b>Clerk of the Vestry</b>	Sandy Goretti

## **Today's Prayer List**

Lyn Zimmerman – Myotonic Dystrophy  
Areewa Saray – imprisonment  
Eloise Page (friend of Tom & Elaine Taylor) – hospice  
Carmen Planas (aunt of Agueda Fernandez-Webster) –dementia  
Stephen Peterson (son of Tom & Judy Peterson) – back pain  
Dave Hopkins – pain management and balance  
Sarah (sister of Lydia Nabawanga) – recovery after heart surgery and grief following the death of her husband  
Katrina Goodjoint (sister of Lorina Goodjoint) – kidney issues  
Mary (grandmother of Lorina Goodjoint) – stroke & Pneumonia  
Corretta (mother of Florence Nabaggala) – malaria  
Paulett Sloan (sister-in-law of Jim Sloan) – difficulty after gall bladder surgery  
Heather Halabisky – High levels of calcium and high blood Pressure  
Justin Smith – Seeking new employment and healing  
Ginny Sloan - experiencing an unusual medical situation.  
Maryann Smith - guidance and wisdom pertaining to her schooling and health.  
Lila Candoo – recovering from foot surgery  
Bill Trandum – recovering from a stroke  
Brenda Gilbert – fighting severe health problems  
Beth & Kendall Haynes – for a safe and healthy pregnancy  
Ayrton Climo - (request from Lydia Nabawanga) – recovering from a terrible car accident  
Jim Sloan – sciatic pain  
Wes SzcZepanski – (friend of Lydia Nabawanga) Open heart surgery  
Shirley Ryan Rose (neighbor of Linda Pomeroy-Hull) – who suffered a stroke  
Rose Barg – healing after eye surgery  
Lorraine Casillas – for healing, strong healthy heart and good blood pressure  
Ashley Goldie (friend of David Kelley) – undergoing some tests.

**To add someone or take someone off the prayer list, email [saintmatthewpastoralcare@gmail.com](mailto:saintmatthewpastoralcare@gmail.com) . Thanks!**

## ***NEWS***

### **St. Matthew and AT&T come to agreement regarding “Cell Tower” lease...**

On Wednesday, December 17 at a special meeting preceding the Parish Life Committee Meeting, your Vestry voted with 6 “yeas” and 1 “nay” (with two members being absent) to enter into an agreement with AT&T to lease a portion of our property to AT&T for the construction of a Cell Tower (Tree), which will bring much improved cell phone and data service to the Browns Point area as well as

needed revenue to the parish. With this agreement in place, AT&T can now move forward with a public rezoning meeting, as required by Pierce County. Assuming positive results from the rezoning meeting AT&T will then be able to start construction sometime in the coming year.

The opportunity for this lease came to us back in November of 2013. After much study and review/editing of the agreement, along with constructive meetings with our parishioners and the property owners from around the church that would be most affected, the Vestry felt that it was ready to move forward.

As was shared this last Sunday, a heavily weighed part of the data gathering process was the feelings of our neighbors about the project. The neighborhood meeting, which was held on Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, was very helpful in gathering this information. In review, this meeting was not required by the county. While the number of people attending was small, we couldn't have asked for better representation. Three homeowners whose properties sit directly across from the Church, two in person and one by letter, had the opportunity to listen to representatives of Cascadia/AT&T explain via the exact same presentation the parish received on September 14<sup>th</sup> as to why the tower is being constructed and what it will look like when completed. We also had an Environmental & Physicist present who reviewed the areas regarding the health related issues. The subjects discussed by the homeowners covered view, health, coverage and what other options might be available. It was very clear that they were appreciative of the fact that St Matthew gave them the opportunity to be heard. In the end the two homeowners (3 people) present said while still opposed to the construction they were not interested in stopping the parish from moving forward.

Given the data collected and the weighing of costs and benefits, your Vestry feels that this cell tower lease is in the end a sustainable opportunity in helping us continue to be a light of Christ in the neighborhood. The Vestry thanks all who have prayerfully participated in the process to date and will continue to keep you informed as the project continues to develop.



**St. Matthew wins advertising bid in Neighborhood calendar**—St. Matthew won an advertising bid for a Browns Point neighborhood calendar benefiting the Browns Point Improvement Club's youth scholarship fund. As a result, St. Matthew is advertised on ALL pages of the 2015 calendar which includes our website address, regular service times, Christmas and Easter service times, and a contact number for pastoral emergencies regardless of religious affiliation. The calendars just went on sale this week and can be purchased at Coffee & Cream Café, Ace Hardware, Browns Point Diner, Salon at the Point, The SandBAR and the Lighthouse IGA. We are hoping to have some here at St. Matthew to sell as well. The calendars are \$14 a piece or 10 calendars for \$100. Buy yours today!

**Staff changes at St. Matthew**—January will see the retirement of Sarah Dawes as our Nursery Caregiver (last day January 11<sup>th</sup>) and the resignation of Agueda Fernández-Webster as our Parish Administrator (last day January 15<sup>th</sup>). Both are citing personal reasons for their transitions and will continue as parishioners of St. Matthew. In the meantime, please offer your appreciation to each of them for their ministries in this place and look for more information as to how these positions will be filled in the coming weeks.

**An Ordination Anniversary**—On Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> (usually the Feast of St. Thomas), Fr. Haynes celebrates his 9<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a priest. He says he couldn't be happier to celebrate it in co-ministerial service with the people of St. Matthew!

## ***ANNOUNCEMENTS***

**St. Matthew Christmas**—Extra copies of the invitation for the St. Matthew Christmas service are available in the narthex for you to give to family, friend, neighbors. If you need more, contact Kathleen Monahan @ 253-927-2425

**Christmas pageant**—There will be a short rehearsal of the Christmas pageant right after church this coming Sunday (December 21st) in the Nave. Of course all children are welcome to be a part of the pageant whether they can attend the

rehearsal or not! For more information, please contact Renee Lepkowski (253-318-0184) or Kitty Walker (253-952-2650)

**December Outreach:** Our annual "PUT A SOCK IN IT" drive to provide clean new socks to Tacoma's homeless is underway. The "sock tree" is up in the Narthex and we are off to a good start filling it with socks. After the Christmas season ends we will deliver the socks to Nativity House who will distribute them over the winter to homeless members of our community. Providing clean new socks to the homeless to ensure their feet stay warm and dry is one of the best ways to help them stay healthy over the winter. The best socks to donate are those that wick water away so that feet stay dry. These are usually a blend with some acrylic yarn. We hope you will join us in filling the tree (our goal is to have so many socks that it falls over) and making this winter a little more comfortable and healthy for the homeless in our community. Thanks and God bless.

**Support for Our Local Community Food Bank:** Last week we delivered 47 lbs. of food to our local food bank. They were very grateful. During the summer the food bank was serving 20 to 22 families a week. They are now serving 34 so the need is great – and growing. Our final delivery of food will be on Friday, December 26 – the day after Christmas. If you would like to make one final donation this year please be sure you place your donated items in the Deacon's Chest by 12:00 noon that day. Thanks to everyone that has supported this Outreach program throughout the year. Your generosity has made a real difference for our community. Your **Outreach Co-Mission**

**Organ Dedication Evensong**—On Sunday, January 4<sup>th</sup> at 5PM, we are all invited to a special Dedication Evensong celebrating the recent installation of a beautiful Paul Fritts organ at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church (7410 S. 12<sup>th</sup> St., Tacoma WA 98465). This will be a FREE event not to miss. Please RSVP to Ms. Margie Hoffman at 253-588-4589 or [mteach65@runbox.com](mailto:mteach65@runbox.com) by December 28<sup>th</sup>.



**Twelfth Night Celebration**—Come and join in the fun as we celebrate the Eve of the Epiphany, the feast when the wise men (representing everyone outside of the people of Israel) follow a star to Bethlehem in order to pay homage to Jesus, on **Monday, January 5**. The evening will begin at **5:30 pm** with wine and appetizers in the Library followed by a pot-luck dinner at **6:15 pm**. The evening will conclude with Evening Prayer, dessert and singing. All are welcome as we celebrate the important fact that the Messiah didn't come for a select group of people, but for everyone!!

**"The Jesus I Never Knew"**—This is a new teaching series which starts January 6, 2015 at 10AM. Come and see. Any questions, please contact Bud Nalder 253-927-2075.

**Coffee Hour Update**—Following some recent discussions regarding Coffee Hour, there has been a decision to adjust the Coffee Hour policy beginning January 1, 2015. The new policy is as follows:

The Parish Directory will be the basis for names to be assigned for Coffee Hour in alpha order. If for whatever reason you are unable to serve, at all, please advise the "scheduler"\*.

Three to four people will be assigned each week.

The Church will furnish coffee, tea, sugar/sweetener, creamer, apple juice, glassware...cups, plates, plastic glasses for juice and silverware. Should you want to use paper products you are welcome to provide them yourself.

The menu is up to you. It can be coffee/tea or coffee/tea and cookies or coffee/tea and much more. The Coffee Hour team for the Sunday makes the call.

Duties: Set-up the serving table, make the coffee, set out whatever utensils you are using, wash the dishes (if glass is being used) and silver ware, clean up the kitchen and tables as needed, vacuuming is done by our Sexton.

Coffee Hour at St Matthew has been a wonderful time to visit with fellow parishioners, both new and long time members and friends. We do not want it to be a burden for any of our people. We are always

open to suggestions on how to make this time even better. Should you have suggestions they can be directed to Jackie Whorton, Fellowship Chair 253-927-3415, Anna Jackson, Vestry Liaison to Fellowship, or your Wardens Tom Peterson 253-952-7596 (the current "scheduler") or Sueann Goretti 253-927-8398.

**Mark your calendar—**

- Saturdays, 8AM, Men's Breakfast in the Parish Hall
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month, 9AM-Noon, Julia's Gulch
- 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month, 7PM JLS (Just Love Singing)
- Thursdays, 10AM, Bible Study in the library
- Thursdays, 7PM Adult Catechumenate in the library
- Sundays, 11:30AM, Choir rehearsal
- Sundays, 9:00AM Bridging the Gap
- TODAY, after 10AM service, Christmas decoration and bow making
- Wednesday, December 24, 4PM Christmas Eve Pageant and Mass
- Wednesday, December 24, 10:30PM Carols & Midnight Mass
- Thursday, December 25, 9AM Holy Eucacrist
- Friday, December 26, 7PM JLS (Just Love Singing)
- Sunday, January 4, 5PM Organ Dedication Evensong at St. Andrew's, Tacoma
- Monday, January 5, 5:30PM Twelfth Night Celebration