

COLLECT: Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **AMEN**

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 3:1-6 (NKJV)

3 Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, ² while Annas and Caiaphas were high priests, the word of God came to John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness. ³ And he went into all the region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins, ⁴ as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, saying:
"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the LORD;
Make His paths straight.
⁵ Every valley shall be filled
And every mountain and hill brought low;
The crooked places shall be made straight
And the rough ways smooth;
⁶ And all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"



ST. Paul's CEC
charismatic evangelical sacramental together



Sunday December 9th, 2012 – 2nd Sunday of Advent

Birthday: December 13th = Sunny Simon

Be persistent, don't give up, continue to pray for healing and good continued health for Ralph Kalian, Elton Blair, Jack Gilmour, Bill Ruth, Pat Bird, and Kevin Helms.

Monday night, December 17th at 6:00 PM we will be caroling at Gaye Haven. We will meet here at the Church at 5:15 and leave promptly at 5:30 to be there on time. Please come join us for this happy and joyous occasion. There will be an afterglow Christmas party following the caroling at the Hoff residence.

Gifts for the residents...please bring your gifts with you to church next Sunday so we can have them ready for distribution.

NEXT SUNDAY..... December 16th, is our Pot Trust..

Instead of having just dishes to pass, we will plan on having our annual Christmas party after Church.

Appetizers, cookies, candies and Christmas theme food. Contests, prizes, singing, and lots of good cheer.

We decorate the church with Poinsettias at Advent and Christmas. If you would like to donate toward flowers for Sunday mornings please designate this on your offering envelope as "flowers for the Church."

FIRST READING Baruch 5:1-9 (RSVCE)

5 Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on for ever the beauty of the glory from God. ² Put on the robe of the righteousness from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting. ³ For God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. ⁴ For your name will for ever be called by God, "Peace of righteousness and glory of godliness." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the heights and look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east, at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went forth from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne.

For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

THE PSALM 126

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dreamed.

***Our mouths were filled with laughter,
our tongues with songs of joy.**

Then it was said among the nations,
"The LORD has done great things for them."

***The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are filled with joy.**

Restore our fortunes, LORD,
like streams in the Negev.

***Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy.
Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow,
*will return with songs of joy,
carrying sheaves with them.**

SECOND READING Philippians 1:1-11 (NIV)

¹ Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all God's holy people in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons: ² Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ³ I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴ In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now; being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. ⁷ It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. ⁸ God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰ so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.