

Palisades Presbyterian Church
Sunday Readings

December 30, 2007

Lay Reader: Mary Ann Garland

Leads Call to Worship

Offers the following prayers

(Feel free to write your own. If you have an extended reading for the "Prayer for Illumination" please speak with Ray beforehand.)

Prayer for Illumination

Almighty God, in you are hidden all treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Open our eyes that we may see the wonder in these words and message they carry for our lives. **Amen.**

Offering of Our Gifts and Tithes

Creator God, we know that you have made everything in this world. You have been generous to us and we invite all gathered here to be generous in return. Amen

Prayer of Dedication

We dedicate this offering, Lord, for the work of the church, and we ask you to use all that we have and all that we are in your service. Amen.

If you have any questions or need any help, please call Ray at 914 682 3659 or email: ppc10964@verizon.net

December 30, 2007

Isaiah 63: 7 – 9

⁷I will recount the gracious deeds of GOD, the praiseworthy acts of GOD, because of all that GOD has done for us, and the great favor to the house of Israel that GOD has shown them according to GOD's mercy, according to the abundance of the Creator's steadfast love.

⁸For GOD said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely"; and GOD became their savior ⁹in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but GOD's presence that saved them; in GOD's love and pity they were redeemed; GOD lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

Matthew 2:13-23

¹³Now after they had left, an angel of God appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by God through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

¹⁶When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: ¹⁸"A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

¹⁹When Herod died, an angel of God suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰"Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." ²¹Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."