

Holiday Services in the Church

Salvation at Hand

By MOST REV. ANTHONY JORDAN O.M.I.
(Vicar Apostolic of Vicariate of Prince Rupert)

"Look up and lift your heads, because your redemption is at hand." St. Lk. XXI, 28.

Amid the universal preparation for Christmas there is fear if not terror in the hearts of many, even in this country, which until now by God's grace has escaped the worst horrors of war. It is common to hear people say: "We can't escape the next time." That "next time" seems to many to be approaching fast. How utterly deceived we feel! Instead of the long years of peace we have scarcely known the feeling of peace, though the war ended officially in 1945. The present day quarrels of nations in which Canada is involved give rise to a feeling of general uneasiness lest another war should break out. This war in our minds looms up as the most dreadful of all because of the atomic bomb and the other deadly weapons being prepared in the research plants of the world.

We Christians need to recall the words of our Saviour. He, the Son of God, knows all things; knows well the blessings and the woes of humanity; knows in every detail the special dreadful events that will accompany the end of the world. Speaking in this connection He painted a picture that must have been both awe-inspiring and filled with gloom for His listeners during the days he was on earth. We experience the same awe and the same sense of gloom when we read His words in the Holy Gospel.

Then somewhat unexpectedly in language that is almost lifting He reassures us: "When these things begin to come to pass, look up and lift your heads, because your redemption is at hand." Salvation! That is the word ever on His lips. No wonder, for He came to save us and to assure us a place of rest and peace where He Himself will wipe all tears from our eyes and where all our troubles and sorrows shall have an end.

We are on the eve of celebrating the great day of our Saviour's birth. Is it too much to say that there is a rather general inclination to celebrate the event and overlook the reality? This Babe born in Bethlehem is the Divine Son of God, equal to His father in all things. Him we must adore and must serve. Without our loyal, constant devotion to Him we cannot say we are among those to whom these reassuring words are spoken. But if we try to observe His Commandments and if we live as His children and His servants day by day, no calamity or man-made terror need make us tremble for it is God Himself who says: "Lo, your salvation is at hand."

Light on Horizon

By RT. REV. JAMES B. GIBSON
Bishop of Caledonia

"Unto you is born this day... a Saviour which is Christ the Lord." St. Luke 2, vs. II.

This is the good tidings which the Angels brought to the Shepherds on the night that Christ was born. And the birth of a Saviour WAS glad tidings to these people—tidings that their whole nation had been anxiously awaiting and would rejoice to hear. No wonder they hurried off to Bethlehem to "see this thing which had come to pass."

That was over 1900 years ago and all the world at this season is celebrating that Divine event. The Saviour that was born has so impressed Himself upon the world that all roads this week lead to Bethlehem and multitudes of all peoples, nations and languages fall on their knees before the Infant Saviour.

Yet when we look around on the world today what we see is not a world that is saved but one that is desperately in need of being saved. The world has kept the festival of the Saviour's birth but it has gone on its way unsaved. In some respects it has advanced. Since Jesus came Christendom has been haunted by a vision of the true life for man which it seems powerless to fulfill. It is like a man who remembers the bright hopes of boyhood and is conscious all the time that somehow he has lost the way though he has not forgotten the vision. The Christian spirit has gained ground here and there but in comparison with the materialism of the world, it is not much more than a drop in the bucket. Envy, hatred, malice, and all uncharitableness are just as dominant as they were at the beginning of the Christian era and no thoughtful person can regard them with complacency. But for all that there is one ray of light on our horizon—there is universal recognition of the fact that there is a Saviour for man; and that the bells of the world are ringing as loudly as ever to the memory of His birth and to His glory and honor on Christmas Day.

The first application of the Christmas "Glad Tidings" of the Saviour is to our own souls. "Unto you is born a Saviour." He came to save us from our sins, from the things that separate us from God and from our fellowman. I feel sure we have believed that all our lives. We have celebrated the fact every Christmas. But has Christ actually saved us from our sins? Do we love God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength and our neighbor as ourselves?

Merely celebrating the Divine Christmas event will not save us nor will it save the world. We must go further and offer to the Incarnate Lord the complete devotion of our lives. The Babe in the manger! Wonderful and marvellous it was on that first Christmas morn. There is but one thing more wonderful still and that is the Babe in the heart of man for this brings Peace on Earth and Goodwill Among All People.

"O, come all ye faithful.."

As the glad notes ring out, and the young voices of the choristers blend in joyous unison, we extend our heartfelt greetings for the Yuletide. May the spirit of Christmas bless you throughout the New Year!

Full Gospel Tabernacle

221 6th Ave. West

Paul A. Barber—Pastor



SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SERVICES

SUNDAY—11:00 a.m.—Devotional
12:15 p.m.—Sunday School
7:30 p.m.—The Christ of Christmas

"Thou shalt call His name Jesus for He shall save His people from their sins."

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO THESE SERVICES

First United Church

636 6th Avenue W.

Prince Rupert, B.C.

MINISTER—Rev. R. A. Wilson, M.A.

ORGANIST—Mrs. L. Dakin. CHOIR LEADER—J. S. Wilson.

DECEMBER 24th, CHRISTMAS EVE

8:00 p.m.—Candlelight Carol Service.

DECEMBER 26th, SUNDAY

11:00 a.m.—Christmas Family Service

The Sunday School will attend church

7:30 p.m.—Evening Worship

Sermon Subject: "Where Do We Go From Here."

Solo: "Star of Bethlehem,"

Dr. R. G. Large

Anthem: "In The Bleak Midwinter."



SUNDAY SERVICE

Holliness Meeting 11 a.m.

Directory 2:30 p.m.

Sunday School 3 p.m.

Salvation Meeting 7:30 p.m.

We extend to you a cordial invitation

Our Best Wishes for a Bright and Joyful Christmas

The Salvation Army

Major and Mrs. Yurgensen

CHRISTMAS DAY

Special Christmas Service and Carol Singing led by Divisional Commander Senior Major and Mrs. Warrender from 11 a.m. to 12 noon.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

5th Avenue & McBride

Rev. E. Soland, Pastor

CHRISTMAS SERVICE, DECEMBER 25 AT 11 A.M.

WORSHIP SERVICE with Holy Communion December 26 at 11 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S SERVICE January 2 at 11 a.m. and Sunday School at 12:15 p.m.

NEW YEAR'S EVE SOCIAL, Dec. 31, 9 to 12 p.m.

Regular Baptist Church

629 East 6th Ave., Near High School.

Phone 369

"Thou shalt call His name Jesus, for he shall save His people from their sins."—Matt. 1:21

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday School 12:15 p.m.—Scripture: "The Christmas Story." Gospel Service—7:30 p.m.

Special Speaker—Mr. C. J. Carter (of Shantymen's Christian Ass'n of N.A.)

"THE GLORY OF THE GOSPEL"

Tenor Solo—Mr. Ralph Weick.

Plan to attend this service and join in worship of the new born King

First Presbyterian Church

Fourth Avenue East

MINISTER—Rev. G. E. Sendall, B.A., B.D.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC—Mrs. E. J. Smith

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

11:00—"Rejoice for a Season."

Junior Choir: Christmas Seceltions.

12:15—Sunday School.

7:30—"After the Vision."

Tenor Solo: Mr. J. A. Teng.

Anthem—"There's a Song in the Air."

Church of the Annunciation

Midnight Mass sung by

His Excellency Most Rev. Bishop A. Jordan O. M. I.

C. P. Balagno will direct the two-part Choir in Missa Brevis by Nicola A. Montani, with Frances Moore at the organ.

THE CONGREGATION WILL SING BELOVED CHRISTMAS CAROLS

MASSSES ON CHRISTMAS DAY at 8:30, 9 and 10 a.m.

BENEDICTION at 3 p.m.

First Baptist Church

CHRISTMAS SUNDAY, DEC. 26

11 a.m. Morning Service, with Christmas Music by Junior Choir

12:15 p.m. Sunday School. Open Session, with special invitation to parents to attend with their children. White Gift offering, for European Relief.

7:30 p.m. Evening Service with Christmas Music by Senior Choir.

The members and friends of the First Baptist Church extend to one and all, Christmas Greetings or peace and goodwill

St. Andrew's Cathedral Church

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

11:30 p.m. Christmas Eve
11:00 a.m. Christmas Day

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26th—St. Stephen

8:30 a.m.—Holy Communion

11:00 a.m.—Morning Prayer and Sermon

2:00 p.m.—Children's Service

7:30 p.m.—Festival of the Nine Lessons and Carols



WED. DEC. 29TH—3 p.m.

Prayer Meeting

WATCH NIGHT

SERVICE—Dec. 31st, 11:30 p.m.

