

PRAYING THE WORD PSALM 147:12–20

The LORD be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem!

Praise your God, O Zion!

For He strengthens the bars of your gates;

He blesses your children within you.

He grants peace within your borders;

He fills you with the finest of wheat.

He sends out His command to the earth;

His word runs swiftly.

He gives snow like wool;

He scatters frost like ashes.

He hurls down hail like crumbs—

who can stand before His cold?

He sends out His word, and melts them;

He makes His wind blow, and the waters flow.

He declares His word to Jacob,

His statutes and ordinances to Israel.

He has not dealt thus with any other nation;

they do not know His ordinances.

Praise the Lord!

Our God is with us, Christ the Lord.

Amen.



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MORE INFORMATION

Please visit hollywoodsda.org/weekly-e-mail for weekly updates or wearehollywood.org for blog entries on what we're doing here at the Purple Church. You can join our group on Facebook or follow us on Twitter (twitter.com/adventhollywood).

Audio or video recordings of our worship services are not permitted without prior written consent from the church office. Podcasts of this morning's sermon are available online.

We are the proud recipient of the 2010 "Innovative Church of the Year" award, sponsored by Vervent (the NAD Church Resource Center), and the Kettering Hospital "Innovation of the Year" award.

PASTOR'S JOURNAL

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I can think of no better way to begin this New Year than in worship with each of you. There is no day that lends itself better to personal self-reflection than the first day of a New Year. I'm sure you'll spend a few minutes today, or over the weekend sometime, thinking about what your past year was like and what you'd like for yourself and your loved ones in the coming year. For many of you this coming year looks to be one of the best of your life (you know who you are!). For all of us, 2011 will present us with surprising opportunities and equally surprising challenges. Perhaps what we need more than anything else is courage to grasp our opportunities and face our challenges.

Speaking for myself, no time of self-reflection can get by without some sense of regret—disappointment that my past year didn't go as I had hoped or self-recrimination over mistakes made. Life has a way of foiling our most ambitious plans and dreams. This is why, as we gather for worship on this first day of the New Year we should pause and dedicate our hopes, dreams and plans to God, seek healing and forgiveness for our sins, and surrender ourselves anew to God's will. Just as parents have a wider view of what is good for their children, so God's

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SECOND SABBATH OF CHRISTMAS

Jan 1, 2011



CALL TO WORSHIP

PRAYING THE WORD

WORSHIPPING IN SONG

READING THE PROPHETS

WORSHIPPING IN SONG

HOLLYWOOD LIFE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

READING THE EPISTLES

TEACHING

SONGS OF RESPONSE

BENEDICTION

Doxology

Psalm 147:12–20

Come and Listen
Go Tell It On The Mountain

Jeremiah 31:7–14

We Will Dance

Kirsten Salvador

Bill Salvador

O Holy Night *Sarine Jabrayan*

Ephesians 1:3–14

The Great Gathering *Ryan Bell*

You Have Redeemed My Soul
In Christ Alone

READING THE PROPHETS JEREMIAH 31:7–14

For thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, “Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel.” See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.” For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON NOTES

READING THE EPISTLES **EPHESIANS 1:3–14**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SABBATH-MORNING SERVING

Have you been wanting to connect deeper to this church? Are you looking for ways to get more involved?

Our church runs on people. Without volunteers, we don't function well (it's like running with a limp). With volunteers, it's a thing of beauty.

There are many ways you can help out on Sabbath mornings with the worship of this church. Some ways will bring you up front, other ways let you help behind the scenes. If you are interested, please contact Scott via email (scott@hollywoodsda.org) or text/cell (951-961-7694).

VISIBLE VOLUNTEERS

- Musicians (voice, instruments)
- Hollywood Life
- Scripture Reading
- Front-door Greeters
- Prelude Music
- Collecting Tithe and Offerings

INVISIBLE VOLUNTEERS

- Placing tithe envelopes and connections cards in pews before worship
(this is a great need right now! Please help if you can!)
- Running Audio and Visual Equipment
- Helping set-up and take-down stage equipment and decoration
- Communion and Foot-Washing (baking bread, pouring juice, set-up and take-down)
- Volunteer Coordinator

THIS SABBATH

- **ADULT QUARTERLY, 9:30 A.M.** Study and discussion in the Prayer Chapel.
- **CHILDREN'S CLASSES, 10:00 A.M.** Beginners (babies thru 5). Juniors (6-12). Teen Cafe (13+).
- **SABBATH WORSHIP, 11:00 A.M.**

EVERY WEEK

AL-ANON, outside classrooms, Tuesdays and Fridays, 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

BIBLE STUDY, On hiatus.

ARTISTS' WORKSHOPS

- Visual Arts. See Elysabeth Bell for info.

COMMUNITY GARDEN, 5620 Fountain Ave.

- Weds and Thurs, 2:00–4:00 p.m.
- Sabbaths, 3:00–5:00 p.m.,
- Sundays, 9:00–11:00 a.m.

SUNSET

TONIGHT 4:54 p.m., **FRIDAY** 4:59 p.m.

CATEGORY COLOR KEY: CHURCH 🏛️ CITY 🏙️ PEOPLE 👥 ARTS 🎨 TIME ⌚

NEW CONCRETE VOICES PODCAST

The latest Concrete Voices podcast with Brian Lauritzen is up! You can listen online at concretevoices.podbean.com OR you can subscribe through iTunes. Go to the music store and search for 'concretevoices'. You can sign up to automatically receive the latest episode.

A Farm in the City: *How did Los Angeles fall from being one of the top agricultural-producing counties in the United States a century ago to being one of the worst today? What is a food desert? How do we reclaim our urban land to grow food? In this podcast, we meet a man who is trying to answer those questions by literally getting his hands dirty. We visit a modest, 67-plot community garden in the heart of Hollywood, where kale, chard, and broccoli grow in abundance.*

CROSSROADS AT HOLLYWOOD

We have found a way to complete our mural! It will be painted on the exterior of our West wall facing the 101 and Hollywood Boulevard. The only thing we need now is \$7,000 for materials. If you know of a philanthropist or art enthusiast that would have an interest in changing and beautifying the landscape of Hollywood through a donation please speak with Ryan or Nathan.

GREETINGS FROM FINLAND!

Before they moved to Finland, Tanja and Rogier attended our church. We miss them. They miss us, and sent you all this postcard!



PASTOR'S JOURNAL, CONT'D...

sees a much larger picture than we do. What appear to us to be disappointments are often moments when God is preparing us for something much greater.

Our texts this morning give us a sense of this—of the wide landscape of God's intentions. If we read these verses slowly and meditatively I think it becomes clear that God's loving and grace-filled intentions take in the whole cosmos—every animate and inanimate thing that God created. But the picture is also not so wide that we cannot identify ourselves in it. We are an essential part of this plan God is, even now, carrying out for the blessing of the whole creation.

In the coming weeks, during the first part of the season of Epiphany, we will spend time revisiting our purpose as congregation. Why exist here in Hollywood? Why gather here from week to week? What are we attempting to be and do? Is it worth it? And if it is, what is each of our role in this community? It's vital for our community to do this reflecting—to take stock of the relative importance of our work together in Hollywood.

If there was a way I could get everyone who calls this church "home" in some form or fashion to all be in worship at the same time for a few weeks, I'd pick these next four weeks of January. Please gather with your friends and companions on this journey to help us take stock of our life together in Hollywood. You are an essential part of God's plan here.

So...here's to a remarkable New Year working for God's glory in Hollywood! —RYAN