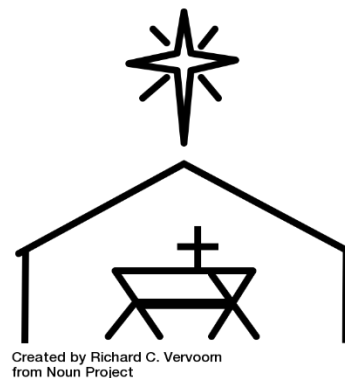


December 24, 2020
Willerup United Methodist Church
Sermon Notes
Pastor Marvin Singh
Christmas: Jesus



Philippians 2:5-11

⁵Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:

⁶Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,
⁷but made himself nothing,
taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.

⁸And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to death-- even death on a cross!

⁹Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,

¹⁰that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.”

Who is Jesus? - Philippians 2:9-10

The angel Gabriel said this to Joseph, and also to Mary:

“Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” Matthew 1:20-21

“Do not be afraid Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High ...” Luke 1:30-32

His other names were also prophesied.

“For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be upon his shoulders. And he will be called, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6

What did Jesus bring to us?

Salvation – his name is Savior because he took care of our sin and paid the price for it on the cross.

The passage for our meditation today also gives us many gifts through Jesus Christ. Let us receive these gifts from our Lord and Savior.

The Attitude of Christ

a. “Being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped.” (vs 6)

Colossians 1:15-20

“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created; things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him and through him to reconcile to himself all things whether things on

earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.”

Colossians 2:9-10

“For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority.”

b. “But made himself nothing” - emptying himself (vs 7-8)

- * Taking the nature of a SERVANT
- * Being made in HUMAN LIKENESS
- * Being found in APPEARANCE AS A MAN
- * HUMBLLED himself
- * Became OBEDIENT to death

* **SERVANTHOOD** - Though He was God, yet he took the form of a servant.

He washed the feet of his disciples (John 13:5) and cautioned them don't “lord it over” people (Matthew 20:25-28). He asked them to sit at the last seat available, because there may be others who may be more honorable than you (Luke 14:8-11). Don't occupy the prime seats in public. The Pharisees were just the opposite. He warned the disciples that your righteousness should be more than theirs. Their righteousness was outward, to be seen and for public image, yours should be inward purity and holiness.

Our Daily Bread Devotional booklet: December 10, 2010

In 27 BC, the Roman ruler Octavian came before the Senate to lay down his powers. He'd won a civil war, become the sole ruler of that region of the world, and was functioning like an emperor. Yet he knew such power was viewed suspiciously. So Octavian renounced his powers before the Senate, vowing to simply be an appointed

official. Their response - The Roman Senate honored the ruler by crowning him with a civic crown and naming him the servant of the Roman people. He was also given the name Augustus – the “great one.”

Paul wrote of Jesus emptying Himself in the form of a servant. Augustus appeared to do the same. He only acted like he was surrendering his power but was doing for his own gain. Jesus humbled himself by becoming obedient to death - even death on a cross.

*** HUMILITY** - One may be powerful, rich, eloquent, high-status, but not displaying it and treating others better than oneself is humility.

Making himself of no reputation. People are worried about their reputation and do not want to be seen with people they think are beneath them.

Look at his example. Jesus was blamed by the Pharisees and the leaders of the Jewish hierarchy when he talked and ate with sinners. (Luke 5:29-32) He sat with the tax collectors and went to their homes. (Zacchaeus, Luke 19) He was once dining at a Pharisee’s home where a woman of disrepute came. (Luke 7:36-50) He was gentle and merciful to the woman who was caught in adultery. (John 8:1-11)

There is a prophecy of his humility in Zachariah 9:9, which was fulfilled in John 12:15.

“Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, **gentle and riding on a donkey**, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

Matthew 11:28-20

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle

and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

James 4:10

Humble thyself in the sight of the Lord.

Humble thyself in the sight of the Lord

And He will lift you up,

higher and higher, he will lift you.

* **OBEDIENCE** - and became obedient to death - even death on a cross.

Luke 22:39-46

Jesus was asking his friends, the disciples, to pray – “Pray that you will not fall into temptation.”

vs 41-42 – “He withdrew about a stone’s throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed, ‘Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me, yet not my will, but yours be done.’”

It was a very difficult time for Jesus and he was praying, and asking his friends to pray with and for him. He knew he would soon face the cup of bitterness, which was humiliating, and the torturous death given by the Romans. It was a public disgrace which Jesus had to face. Jesus, who knew no sin, becoming sin for us.

Hebrews 5:7-10

“During the days of Jesus’ life on earth, he offered prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a son, he learned obedience from what he suffered and, once made perfect, he became source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek.”

* **FORGIVENESS**

He taught his disciples to forgive each other.

“Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.”

(Matthew 6:12)

When Peter asked Jesus in Mathew 18:21-22

““Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?” Jesus answered, ‘I tell you not seven times, but seventy-seven times.’”

From the cross he forgave people, who were accusing, insulting, humiliating and mocking him. (Luke 23:34)

Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”

Because Jesus was humble, a servant, obedient and forgave even those who put him to death on the cross (which includes us), God exalted him.

Philippians 2:9-11 “**Therefore** God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Therefore Jesus commissioned his disciples in Mathew 28:18-20

“Then Jesus came to them and said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”