

The Rev. Jen Haddox '06
Associate Director of World Mission Initiative

Monday, December 20, 2010

Morning Psalms 122; 145
First Reading Isaiah 28:9-22
Second Reading Revelation 20:11-21:8
Gospel Luke 1:5-25

Evening Psalms 40; 67

1 May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, 2 that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations. 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. 4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth. 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. 6 The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us. 7 May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.

- - -

I'm reminded this season that the reason we give gifts at Christmas is because God gave us a gift. But in the hustle and bustle of shopping for gifts, I tend to overlook the scope of this gift God gave to us! I forget the global nature of this gift! Jesus was given as a gift to all nations. Jesus is "...a light for revelation to the Gentiles" as foretold by Simeon in the temple (Luke 2:32).

Psalm 67 is a call to worship, but not just a call for those who have received God's blessing or even for those who are near and dear to us. It is a call for all the nations to worship. "May the peoples praise you, O God!"

As God shines his face of blessing on us this Advent season, may we also live in this call of Psalm 67. May we share the blessing we have received by giving to others, *so that* God might be made known in the world!

- - -

Prayer: Gracious God, we do seek your face and pray for your blessing. As we receive your blessing, give us clear opportunities and generous spirits this Advent season, that we might share your light and love with the world. Amen.