

The Rev. Erin Davenport '05  
Director of the Miller Summer Youth Institute

Wednesday, December 8, 2010

**Morning Psalms 50; 147:1-11**

First Reading Isaiah 6:1-13

Second Reading 2 Thessalonians 1:1-12

Gospel John 7:53-8:11

Evening Psalms 53; 17

1 The mighty one, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. 2 Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth. 3 Our God comes and does not keep silence, before him is a devouring fire, and a mighty tempest all around him. 4 He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that he may judge his people: 5 'Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!' 6 The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge. 7 'Hear, O my people, and I will speak, O Israel, I will testify against you. I am God, your God. 8 Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you; your burnt-offerings are continually before me. 9 I will not accept a bull from your house, or goats from your folds. 10 For every wild animal of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills. 11 I know all the birds of the air, and all that moves in the field is mine. 12 'If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world and all that is in it is mine. 13 Do I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats? 14 Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and pay your vows to the Most High. 15 Call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.' 16 But to the wicked God says: 'What right have you to recite my statutes, or take my covenant on your lips? 17 For you hate discipline, and you cast my words behind you. 18 You make friends with a thief when you see one, and you keep company with adulterers. 19 'You give your mouth free rein for evil, and your tongue frames deceit. 20 You sit and speak against your kin; you slander your own mother's child. 21 These things you have done and I have been silent; you thought that I was one just like yourself. But now I rebuke you, and lay the charge before you. 22 'Mark this, then, you who forget God, or I will tear you apart, and there will be no one to deliver. 23 Those who bring thanksgiving as their sacrifice honour me; to those who go the right way I will show the salvation of God.'

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"...and to God what is God's." Luke 20: 25b

During Advent we prepare for the coming of God to earth. This Psalms reminds us that God comes to us and does not keep silent. The miracle of Advent is God coming to earth, the reality is that God comes but does not keep silent. God comes and speaks to us in the stillness of a moment. God comes and shouts at us through our children. God comes and comforts us through our friends. God comes and directs us through our pastors. God comes and helps us through our parents. God comes and tells us that we are not faithful. God comes and declares that we are forgiven. God comes to us and does not keep silent. And we are thankful and give praise!

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*Prayer: Lord, thank you for coming to us and not keeping silent. Help us to hear your voice today. Amen.*