**Restoration**

God is with us! Alleluia! Emanuel is in our midst and we are filled with joy. Merry Christmas. Today we celebrate the birth of the Word of God incarnate who came so we can have life. He left heaven to come down to save us. Let us rejoice and be glad that He loves us so much that He came so we can have life. He came to restore us to the glory we had before the fall of our first parents, so my brothers and sisters, we should be glad and praise Him with songs and praise Him with all our heart, soul and mind.

In our first reading, Prophet Isaiah echo the joy we feel today by telling us how beautiful is the feet of one who bring good news. Our Lord has come into the world to bring Good News. He has come to teach us how to get to the Father. He has come to restore our brokenness and redeem us to the way we were created to be, the children of God.

In our second reading, the writer of the Letter to the Hebrews but it perfectly by expressing the desire of God to communicate with us. He said in the past, God communicated with our ancestors through prophets. Yes His communication at that time was hidden in the earthly history of our ancestors. Now that the Son of God has come down to us in the person of Jesus Christ, we can understand more clearly how God had been trying to reach humanity in the past.

In coming down to us, God could not have been clearer than He was but we were too blind to see. He made it clear through His Son that He desires our friendship. That He has always been in search of us even when we turned our backs on Him and rejected Him. It is the birthday of His Son that we are celebrating today and would continue to celebrate until eternity.

The writer explains how the Son came down to purify us by sacrificing Himself to His Father so we could be purified from our sins. Then, He went back to heaven and took up His seat at the right hand of His Father. Because of what He did for us, angels worship Him in His glorified body.

 In our Gospel reading, Evangelist John, explains how Jesus Christ is God who made heaven and earth and that He is the true light who makes all things about His Father clear to us. Jesus has revealed God’s eternal love for us. John explains that we are created for fellowship and union with God and with one another.

But John lamented that while He was with us on earth, we did not know Him. Even though we received many testimony from His Father, the Holy Spirit, and from John the Baptist, we still did not know Him and we rejected Him and crucified Him. However, God used His suffering to free us from our sins so we can enjoy eternal happiness with Him.

The feast of Christmas that we celebrate today represents God’s love for us. It is because of His love for us that He sent His only begotten Son to us so we can be freed from our sinful ways and become His adopted children.

I hope you had a joy filled morning when you opened your presents today. Do not forget to give Jesus a gift He so much desires. The gift He desires, is our heart full of love for Him and our neighbor.

Again, Merry Christmas to you all.

As we joyfully come to receive Him in the Eucharist, let us remember to always imitate Him in by being humble as He has come to us in humility.