

DECEMBER 2017

† Sunburned Feet, Sore Knees . . . †

I found this in my files and, well, you can't really say it any better – out of the mouths of babes!

The manger was in front, as always. Young Mary wrapped in her blue mantle. Joseph sported a beard glued together from cotton balls. The wise men were there, too, as were the shepherds. And in the middle of them all, was baby Jesus, lying in the manger.

The nativity story was read, carols were sung, everything went off without a hitch . . . almost.

Various children were the angelic host. They were robed in white and sitting beside their moms and dads throughout the church. At the right moment, they were to come up, circle the manger, and sing, "*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, good will among men.*"

And so they did. But there was a problem.

As the angelic little children gathered round the manger to sing, one little girl couldn't see. She was nine years old, smaller than the rest of them, and ended up being so far back that even on tiptoe she couldn't see what was going on.

In the momentary pause after the angels sang, "*Glory to God in the highest...*," the little girl, "*electrified the entire church by crying out in a voice shrill with irritation and frustration and enormous sadness at having her view blocked.*"

She said, "**Let Jesus show!**"

I pray for you and yours this Christmas that you would indeed – "*Let Jesus show!*" Let Him show in sunburned feet! What?

*"Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path." (Ps. 119:105)*

May the lamp of His word shine so often and so brightly in your life/path that your feet get sunburned!

Let Him show in sore knees and bruised knuckles! What?

*"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." (1 Thess. 5:16)*

*"Ask, and it will be given to you;
seek, and you will find;
knock, and it will be opened to you."
(Matt 7:7)*

May you talk with your Father in heaven so often in prayer that you develop sore knees and bruised knuckles!

Let Him show in sore throats and numb bottoms! What?

*"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching & admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms
and hymns and spiritual songs,
with thankfulness in your hearts to God." (Col. 3:16)*

*'I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the LORD!"' (Ps. 122:1)*

May you be blessed to regularly attend Church and sing His praises!

Let Him show in potbellies and big gulps! What?

Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body."

And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you,
for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. (Matt. 26:26-28)
May you be filled with His forgiveness in His Body and Blood in His Supper!

A Blessed Christmas to You! Pastor Bert