

Daily Morning Message

St Paul United Church of Christ

5312 Old Blue Rock Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45247

Allen M Fluent, Pastor

Monday, December 28, 2020

Daily Lectionary Readings Psalm 148
Jeremiah 31:15-17
Matthew 2:13-18

Today's Scripture Verse: *Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." (Matthew 2:14-15)*

What it means: Matthew tells us that there was great danger to Jesus from King Herod, but we should also note that this story repeats some images in the historical memory of the Jewish people. Long ago, another Joseph was taken down into Egypt, where he was known for his prophetic dreams, and he brought his family to Egypt to protect them from a famine. Later, an Egyptian king called for the death of the Hebrew children, just as Herod does in the time of Jesus, and Jesus, just like Moses, is saved from the danger. This is the way Matthew tells us that Jesus is the chosen one of God, who will lead God's people out of danger and into freedom, just as Moses had done 1200 years before.

Our time of prayer: Holy God, we give you thanks for the cherished stories that help us interpret your work in our lives.

