

The Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord –December 24, 2014  
Text: Psalm 2  
Theme: "Square Pegs Welcome"

**Our Introit for tonight is from Psalm 2. It is a coronation psalm attributed to King David so it is appropriate that we read it tonight as we celebrate the birth of our King, the one who was coronated on the cross. Psalm 2:**

**Why do the nations rage  
and the peoples plot in vain?  
The kings of the earth set themselves,  
and the rulers take counsel together,  
against the LORD and against his Anointed, saying,  
"Let us burst their bonds apart  
and cast away their cords from us."**

**He who sits in the heavens laughs;  
the Lord holds them in derision.  
Then he will speak to them in his wrath,  
and terrify them in his fury, saying,  
"As for me, I have set my King  
on Zion, my holy hill."**

**I will tell of the decree:  
The LORD said to me, "You are my Son;  
today I have begotten you.  
Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,  
and the ends of the earth your possession.  
You shall break them with a rod of iron  
and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."**

**Now therefore, O kings, be wise;  
be warned, O rulers of the earth.  
Serve the LORD with fear,  
and rejoice with trembling.  
Kiss the Son,  
lest he be angry, and you perish in the way,  
for his wrath is quickly kindled.  
Blessed are all who take refuge in him.**

**Our king reigns now from heaven but he has promised to return one day and take all of us to Paradise to be with him. We all**

**look forward to the day we get to live our lives in Paradise but until that day, we exist as a people who live in the now but look forward to the not yet. It makes us an odd people in this world.**

**Many people who are raised in Christian homes spend a great deal of time feeling like square pegs in round holes. We never fit in quite right, especially those of us who were raised in Lutheran homes. Most of us know that feeling of being the religious people who can't have as much fun as the rest of the gang. Or we have been the butt of jokes at the party because we are the weird ones who won't do the beer bong or won't take the cool drugs like everyone else. Or, we have to leave early because we have to get up for church in the morning. But, for all of us square pegs, tonight is our night!**

**Tonight we celebrate the birth of our King. He is not an earthly King who might be in power today and overthrown or dead tomorrow. He is the eternal King who sits in the heavens and laughs at all the rulers of this earth who think they are in charge. When all was still and it was midnight on this night two millennia ago, he descended from his royal throne on high and became flesh for us. He became flesh so that no one could ever suppose that he did not know what it was like to be a human being, that he was a god on**

**high who had never known the heartache and struggle of being human.**

**People look to earthly kings and rightly think, "how can they know what it is to be me?" Many of our politicians are born into wealth, but a king is still something else. How can a royal ever know what it is to be normal? How can a royal know that sinking feeling we get in our gut when a medical bill comes that we know we cannot pay? How can a royal know how powerless we feel when faced with governmental bureaucracy? How can a royal know the feeling of needing to get to work and hearing your child say, "Dad, I have a sore throat." He can't because he is not part of our world. But God fixed that problem.**

**He became flesh, fully God and fully man, a square peg in a round world where he was not accepted, not wanted, and certainly not appreciated. He was born to a young, poor woman who could not give birth in a bed because there was no room for her at the Inn. So why should it surprise us that there is no room at the Inn for us either?**

**We are odd people, you and I, and we wear our oddity as a badge of courage for we do not want to be like the masses who have no eternal King. We are the true royals of this universe. Our King is Eternal and Omnipotent and we are not just his followers, but his**

**kids. We would not trade "fitting in at the party," for being royalty and knowing that though this valley of tears is difficult, the end is in sight and we will soon be welcomed into our rightful place as royals. We are odd people, you and I, but that very oddity is what marks us as ones set apart from this round-holed world.**

**Psalm 2 says:**

**"As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill." What hill do you think that was? None other than Golgotha, the hill outside Jerusalem, which is on Mt. Zion where Jesus was crucified. Psalm 2 says,**

**"I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, 'You are my Son; today I have begotten you. Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage and the ends of the earth your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.' Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear and rejoice with trembling. Blessed are all who take refuge in him." That's us. We are the ones who take refuge in him. He died for us on that cross and was damned for our sins for this very reason. He MADE US SQUARE PEGS ON PURPOSE! With his death and damnation, he made us square pegs so that we do not fit into the broken world. We don't fit because we have been reformed for Heaven.**

**So we rejoice tonight and celebrate the night our Lord was born. He is who has shaped us into the square pegs we are and tonight we look forward to the day he returns for us. That is when we finally get to enter into paradise where we will finally fit in perfectly into a world made just for us.**