



St. John's Episcopal Church

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
HOLY EUCHARIST
RITE II
JANUARY 2, 2022
10:00 AM

Voluntary

The Liturgy of the Word

Entrance Hymn 109 (*All stand*)

The first Nowell, the angel did say

The Opening Acclamation

Priest: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be his Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Song of Praise, Hymn 96, vv. 1 & 4 (*Sung by all*)

Angels we have heard on high

The Collect for the Second Sunday after Christmas Day

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: Let us pray.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading **Jeremiah 31:7-14** (*Seated*)

Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and

over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 84:1-8 (*Read responsively by half verse*)

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.

The Second Reading Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a (*Seated*)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn 84 (*Standing*)

Love came down at Christmas

The Holy Gospel Matthew 2:1-12 (*Standing*)

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all

Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Children's Homily

Pre-K through 3rd grade children may gather on the church steps for a children's homily and then return to their seats.

The Sermon *(Seated)*

The Reverend William B. Trexler, DMin

The Nicene Creed *(Said by all, standing)*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People *(Kneeling or standing)*

Father, in this holy season your Son our Savior was born in human form.

Renew your Church as the body of Christ. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

In this holy season Christians the world over are celebrating his birth.

Open our hearts that he may be born in us today. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

In this holy season there was no room for your Son in the inn.

Protect with your love those who have no home and all who live in poverty. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

In this holy season Mary in the pain of labor brought your Son to birth.

Hold in your hand all who are in pain or distress. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

In this holy season shepherds in the field heard good tidings of joy.

Give us grace to preach the gospel of Christ's redemption. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

In this holy season the angels sang "Peace to God's people on earth."
Strengthen those who work for peace and justice in all the world. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

In this holy season strangers found the Holy Family and saw the baby lying in
the manger. Bless our homes and all whom we love. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

In this holy season heaven is come down to earth, and earth is raised to heaven.
Keep in safety all those who have gone through death in the hope of heaven. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

In this holy season angels and shepherds worshiped at the manger throne.
Receive the worship we offer in fellowship with Blessed Mary and all the saints.

Leader: Merciful Father,

People: **Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Confession of Sin and Absolution (*Kneeling*)

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Priest offers absolution of sin.

The Peace (*Standing*)

Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Then the Clergy and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn 107 (*Sung by all*)

Good Christian friends, rejoice

If you are worshipping with us in person, we encourage you to place your contributions in the offertory plates as they are passed in the pews. To make a digital offering through St. John's online portal, use your phone's camera to scan the QR code on the back panel of this bulletin or click the "Give Now" button on the St. John's home page. You can also make a gift by texting STJOHNS to 732-56, or by mailing your gift to the church office: St. John's Episcopal Church, Attn: Finance Office, 211 N. Monroe St., Tallahassee, FL, 32301. If you bank online, consider setting St. John's up as a vendor with your bank for quick, easy, online payments.

Presentation Hymn 100, vv. 1 & 4 (*Sung by all, standing*)

Joy to the world!

The Great Thanksgiving-Eucharistic Prayer B *(Standing)*

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus S 125 *(Sung by all)*

Holy, holy, holy

Richard Proulx

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

(The congregation may kneel or remain standing.)

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Priest and People:

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with John and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the first born of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem

Christ our Passover

Jeffrey Rickard

The choir and congregation sing the refrain; the choir sings the verse.

Refrain: Alleluia. Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Verse: Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil,
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia!

Refrain

Invitation to Communion: *All baptized Christians are invited to Holy Communion. Approach the altar in a double line in the center aisle. Stand or kneel at the railing and receive the bread in your hand. The Christian tradition teaches that Christ is fully received in one kind. You may wish to receive the wine from the common cup, or you may allow the Eucharistic Minister to intinct your wafer in the common cup. If you would like to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest, and the server will know that you would prefer to be blessed rather than to receive.*

Communion Hymns 105, 94

Postcommunion Prayer *(Said by all, kneeling)*

Priest: Let us pray.

People: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his body and blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

When Eucharistic Visitors are sent forth to take Communion to the sick or homebound, the following rite is offered:

Priest: In the name of this congregation, I send you forth to... bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People: **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

The Blessing

Closing Hymn 124 *(Standing)*

What star is this, with beams so bright

The Dismissal

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary

Tower Bells

+ + +

To make a digital offering, use your phone's camera to scan here:

