



First Sunday After Christmas
10:00 AM + December 27, 2020

Welcome! You are invited to participate fully in our worship.
Whoever you are, wherever you are on your journey of faith, welcome!

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

Prelude: Variations on *Noël Provençal*

Léon Roques (1839-1923)

Hymn: *A stable lamp is lighted* tune: *Andujar*

Hymn 104



1 A sta - ble lamp is light - ed Whose
 2 (This) child through Da - vid's ci - ty Shall
 3 (Yet) he shall be for - sak - en, And
 4 (But) now, as at the end - ing, The



glow shall wake the sky; The stars shall bend their voic - es,
 ride in tri - umph by; The palm shall strew its branch - es,
 yield - ed up to die; The sky shall groan and dark - en,
 low is lift - ed high; The stars shall bend their voic - es,



And ev - ery stone shall cry. _____ And ev - ery stone shall cry,
 And ev - ery stone shall cry. _____ And ev - ery stone shall cry;
 And ev - ery stone shall cry. _____ And ev - ery stone shall cry,
 And ev - ery stone shall cry. _____ And ev - ery stone shall cry,



And straw like gold shall shine; A barn shall har - bor hea - ven,
 Though hea - vy, dull, and dumb, And lie with - in the road - way
 For ston - y hearts of men: God's blood up - on the spear - head,
 In prais - es of the Child By whose de - scent a - mong us



A stall be - come a shrine. _____ 2 This
 To pave his king - dom come. _____ 3 Yet
 God's love re - fused a - gain. _____ 4 But
 The worlds are rec - on - ciled. _____



Words: © Richard Wilbur (b. 1921)
 Music: *Andujar*, David Hurd (b. 1950)

76. 76. 66. 7

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

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant 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.

Glory to God

5278



1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -



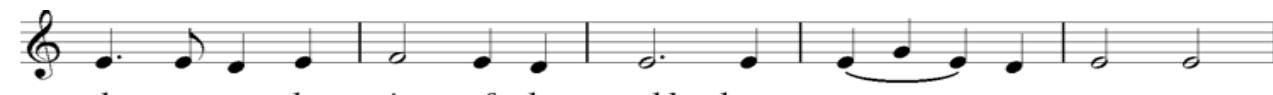
might - y God and Fa-ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,



on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you



take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -

ceive our prayer. 6. For

you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the

Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of

God the Fa-ther. A-men.

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Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Let us pray together.

Collect

Said in unison

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah 61:10-62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

People's response after the reading Thanks be to God.

Psalm 147:1-13

- 1 Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! *
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!
- 2 The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem; *
he gathers the exiles of Israel.
- 3 He heals the brokenhearted *
and binds up their wounds.
- 4 He counts the number of the stars *
and calls them all by their names.
- 5 Great is our LORD and mighty in power; *
there is no limit to his wisdom.
- 6 The LORD lifts up the lowly, *
but casts the wicked to the ground.
- 7 Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; *
make music to our God upon the harp.
- 8 He covers the heavens with clouds *
and prepares rain for the earth;
- 9 He makes grass to grow upon the mountains *
and green plants to serve mankind.
- 10 He provides food for flocks and herds *
and for the young ravens when they cry.
- 11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse; *
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;
- 12 But the LORD has pleasure in those who fear him, *
in those who await his gracious favor.
- 13 Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion;

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Galatians 3:23-25: 4:4-7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

People's response after the reading

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel according to John 1:1-18

People *Said before the reading*
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Said after the reading
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Sermon

The Rt. Rev. Alan M. Gates, Bishop Diocesan

Silent Meditation

The Nicene Creed

Spoken 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 – Rite 1 (Modernized)

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world:

Almighty and everliving God, we are taught by your holy Word to offer prayers and supplications and to give thanks for all people. We humbly ask you mercifully to receive our prayers.

Inspire continually the universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all who confess your holy Name may agree in the truth of your holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, heavenly Father, to all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, especially Alan and Gale our Bishops, Paul our interim rector, and Valerie our deacon, that by their life and teaching, they may proclaim your true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer your holy Sacraments.

And to all your people give your heavenly grace, especially to this congregation, that with reverent and obedient hearts we may hear and receive your holy Word, and serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of our lives.

We pray that you will also so rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Donald our President, Joe our President-Elect, and Charlie our Governor, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to see you gracious hand in all your works, that, rejoicing in your whole creation, they may honor you with their substance, and be faithful stewards of your bounty.

We ask you in your goodness, O Lord, to comfort and sustain all who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity [especially....].

We remember before you all your servants who have departed this life in your faith and fear, [especially....] that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we ask you to give us grace to follow the good examples of all your saints, that we may share with them in your heavenly kingdom.

PRAY FOR THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION Pray for Christians in other denominations and the work of the ecumenical movement, His Holiness Pope Francis, Bishop of Rome, His All Holiness Archbishop Bartholomew of Constantinople, New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch, The General Secretary of the World Council of Churches, Bishop Ivan M Abrahams, General Secretary World Methodist Council, The Reverend Chris Ferguson, General Secretary of the World Communion of Reformed Churches.

We pray for our Presiding Bishop Michael; Alan and Gayle, our Bishops, for Paul, our Interim Rector and for Valerie Cowart, Deacon.

In our Diocese: Church of Our Redeemer, Lexington, St. James' Church, Somerville, Christ Church, Waltham, Congregation of St. Peter at Christ Episcopal Church, Waltham, Church of the Good Shepherd, Watertown.

We also pray for the faith communities in Chelmsford, especially for West Chelmsford United Methodist Church.

PRAY FOR THOSE JOINING GOD'S MISSION IN OUR PARISH especially for the Vestry as they work on the budget for 2021.

PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH IN NEED OF HEALING:

Alex & Lois Barry	health concerns
Karen Kowalski	recovering from total knee replacement.
Carol Gilchrist	recovering from fall resulting in a broken femur
Mia Terris	daughter of Jessica & Richard, pray for a correct diagnosis of her condition
Denise Seyffert	health concerns
Mike Thompson	recovery from surgery
Elizabeth Sandoval	health concerns
John MacKenzie	cancer treatments at home
Molly Loder	Brain cancer
Nate Barrow	Medical concerns

PRAY FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS OF OUR PARISHIONERS:

Joe	Kate Blount's nephew - in the ICU with complications from multiple seizures
Tony Ganchi	Paige LaRoche's friend's grandfather - undergoing cancer treatment
Carolyn	friend of Lois Freeman – tumor in her lung
Anna & Family	friends of the LaRochelles - being evaluated for a possible heart transplant
Dan Willman	son of Barbara Willman – beginning the bone marrow transplant process for multiple myeloma
Sampath S	friend and work colleague of Scott Bempkins - cancer
Hugh Fossum	friend of Katie LaRoche - Hugh is having a recurrence of myeloma, prayers for Hugh & his wife Carol as they deal with healing and treatment while also being quarantined from their children and grandchildren.
Dan	friend of Katy Belanger – stage 4 lung cancer
Chris Gobron	brother of Deb Collins – recurrence of esophageal cancer
Jennifer	Sister of Lissie Bates-Haus - Cancer
Joanna Nickerson	Deacon Bruce's wife - Parkinsons
Erismath M. Kintu	Rowena's father – health concerns

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE AT HOME, IN NURSING HOMES, OR LIVING WITH CHRONIC

ILLNESSES: Terry Hunter, Brian Hunter's brother, Chaz Freeman, Lois Freeman's son, Vinnie and Jeanette Freeman, Concord, Larry Van Walters, Ken Lager, twin brother of Kate Friesner, Katherine Luetters, Garrett Burgess, Ginny Wright, D'Youville, Lowell

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES AND THEIR FAMILIES: Especially for those who have been deployed overseas, and for all others serving our country.

PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS AND FAMILY WHO ARE HEALTH CARE WORKERS:

Theresa Camacho, Chris Pyne, Linda Cahill, Pam Meinhardt, Larisa Ducharme, Lois Freeman, Nancy St. Onge, Kiyomi Hammoui, Gail Carmichel, sister of Linda Coles, Leigh Lovely, sister of Lynn Gresock, Kathryn Harrington, Ben, Dave, & Marlene Hillman, Michelle & Dave Colton, Dr. Amanda Kowalski, daughter-in-law of Karen Kowalski, Cherie & Scott Hamelin, Christy Brodeur, Jessica McSheehy Del Llano, Sean Olbert, Laura Andrews.

Celebrant adds a concluding collect

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you

Offertory: *Il est né, le divin enfant*

Marcel Dupré

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplative Eucharist

Concluding Prayer

Almighty God, our fast from Holy Communion does not arise out of any lack of devotion to you, but out of the love you have commanded that we have for one another. Give us strength to endure and bless this fast so that our spiritual hunger will lead us to worship you as one family once again gathered around your altar where with your Son Jesus Christ you live and reign with the Holy Spirit, one God, unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Blessing

Postlude: *Offertorie on Old Noëls*

Henri Dallier (1849-1934)



Join us for online coffee hour at 11am on Sunday! The Zoom link is found in an email invitation sent on Sunday mornings along with the links to other ways to join us during the week.

