



Second Sunday After Christmas

10:00 AM + January 3, 2021

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 *Gloria*

Bernard Smilde (1922-2014)

Hymn 480: *When Jesus left his Father's throne*

tune: *Kingsfold*



1 When Je - sus left his Fa - ther's throne, he chose an hum - ble birth;
2 Sweet were his words and kind his look, when mo - thers round him pressed;
3 When Je - sus in - to Zi - on rode, the chil - dren sang a - round;



like us, un - hon - ored and un - known, he came to dwell on earth.
their in - fants in his arms he took, and on his bos - om blessed.
for joy they plucked the palms and strowed their gar - ments on the ground.



Like him may we be found be - low, in wis - dom's path of peace;
Safe from the world's al - lur - ing harms, be - neath his watch - ful eye,
Ho - san - na our glad voic - es raise, ho - san - na to our King!



like him in grace and know - ledge grow as years and strength in - crease.
thus in the cir - cle of his arms may we for ev - er lie.
Should we for - get our Sa - vior's praise, the stones them - selves would sing.

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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

S278

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.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Let us pray together.

Collect

Said in unison

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.*

A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah 31:7-14

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.

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

Psalm 84

- 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.
- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- 10 For the LORD God is both sun and shield; *
he will give grace and glory;
- 11 No good thing will the LORD withhold *
from those who walk with integrity.
- 12 O LORD of hosts, *
happy are they who put their trust in you!

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 1:3-6: 15-19a

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.

People's response after the reading

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 2:1-12

People Said before the reading

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Said after the reading

Praise 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.

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Paul Kolbet

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 the Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria.

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: Christ Church (Old North), Boston, Church of the Advent, Boston, Ecclesia Ministries and common cathedral, Boston, The Diocesan Staff, The Massachusetts Council of Churches.

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

PRAY FOR THOSE JOINING GOD'S MISSION IN OUR PARISH especially for all parishioners as they faithfully supported All Saints' in 2020 and continue to support in 2021.

PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH IN NEED OF HEALING:

Vi Flumerfelt	health concerns
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 LaRochelle'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 LaRochelle - 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 Hammoumi, 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: *From Heaven above to Earth I come (Von Himmel Hoch)* Johann Pachelbel (1653-1703)

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: *Bring a torch, Jeanette, Isabella* tune: *Noël Provençal* arr. Léon Roques (1839-1923)



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.



Today's Music:

The idea of a set of variations on a hymn tune probably started with the Dutch composer Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562-1621), so it is no wonder that although the concept spread quickly to Sweelinck's German pupils, and thence to France, the practice has continued to exist in the Netherlands. Relatively recent Dutch church composers that come to my mind are Cor Kee (1900-1997) and his son Piet Kee (1927-2018), and Bernard Smilde (1922-2014), the composer of today's prelude, a set of variations on the French carol *Gloria* (Angels we have heard on high). The variations are highly inventive, but retain that sense of austerity held by much Dutch music.

Our hymn this week is the first verse of (480) "When Jesus left his Father's throne" to the blissful English tune *Kingsfold*. It speaks of the humility of the Incarnation, and how Jesus became like us "unhonored and unknown."

The Offertory (if we have one) is one of Johann Pachelbel's (1653-1706) many organ chorale settings. *Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich Herr* ("From Heaven above to Earth I come," our hymn #80) – again has an incarnational theme. The tune is one of the best-known German Christmas chorales, still sung in many places all over the world.

The Postlude is by Léon Roques' (1839-1923) who was organist at L'Eglise St. Pierre de Chaillot, a lovely and relatively unknown church in the 16th arrondissement of Paris, near the American Cathedral. It has five domes and a bell tower, and is in the shape of Greek Cross. Roques collected and arranged many old Noëls from all over France – this one from Provence. We associate this tune with the text "Bring a torch, Jeanette, Isabella."

A Thank You

To my All Saints family,

Thank you so much for all of the Christmas cards sent my way. This has been such a lonesome time since we can't see family, friends or neighbors. It really cheered my heart to get all of the many cards from my All Saints family. I also want to thank you for the beautiful white poinsettia that came to our doorstep the day after Christmas.

Here is hoping we can gather once again before the new year is out. I know it will take time to get this virus under control but we have hope that it is going to happen.

My love to you all. Stay safe and healthy,

Esther Davenport