

The Lessons

First Reading: *Jeremiah 31:7-14*

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah

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 Quam dilecta! All sing refrain after each stanza. BCP 707

Refrain: **How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts!**

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.

Second Reading: *Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a*

Reader: A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians

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

What child is this, who, laid to rest vs. 1-2

Greensleeves

Hymnal 115

The Holy Gospel: *Matthew 2:1-12*

Reader: 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.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sequence Hymn

What child is this, who, laid to rest vs. 3

Greensleeves

Hymnal 115

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

**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 - Form VI

BCP 392

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Katharine, our Presiding Bishop; Philip, our Bishop; Beverly, our Priest; Dan, our

Deacon; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Leader and People: **Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;**

in your compassion forgive us our sins,

known and unknown,

things done and left undone;

and so uphold us by your Spirit

that we may live and serve you in newness of life,

to the honor and glory of your Name;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

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

People: **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

Baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion

The Offertory

Anthem

Sing of Mary, Pure and Lowly

S. Chavez-Melo

The Cathedral Choir and Soloists

(1944-1992)

At the Presentation

The Doxology

Old 100th

America vs. 4

Hymnal 717

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP 367

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

The Celebrant continues: 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 Hymnal S-125

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

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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People: **We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues: 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 all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn 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.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer BCP 364

**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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Music at Communion

Solo *Arioso* J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
Emily Stubblefield, violinist

Hymn *Regent Square*
Angels, from the realms of glory Hymnal 93

Hymn *Werde munter*
Come with us, O blessed Jesus Hymnal 336

BCP 365

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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.

Blessing

Recessional

The first Nowell the angel did say *The First Nowell*
Hymnal 109

Dismissal

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Vom Himmel Hoch G. Edmundson (1892-1971)



Please join us after the service for a time of hospitality in the Chapter House.



Ministers For Today

- Celebrant and Preacher** Dean Gibson
- Assisting**..... Deacon Wagner
- First Reading** Alison Mitchell
- Second Reading** Tray Hamil
- Intercessor**..... Lynn Yankie
- Chalice Bearers**Harwell Coale, Bob Israel
- Oblationers**..... Toni Brown, Tony Brown
- Crucifers**..... John Owen McElhaney, Kate Watkins
- Acolytes**..... Janie Chow, Jordan Chow, Elinor Gibson,
..... Lawson Hamil, Julianna Ramo
- Children's Chapel**..... Skip Archer, Rose Elliott
- Altar Guild**..... Barbara Archer, Jennifer Grehan, Donna Moree,
..... M. J. Ramo, Martha Ann Stafford
- Flower Guild**..... Kay Whiting
- Ushers** Chuck McKay, Tony Brown, Burnley Davis,
..... Jordan Ellis, Thad Hendrix, David Ross
- Hospitality Team**..... Sage Bolt, Lucy Brady, David Brady, Carolyn Eichold,
..... Betsy McCafferty, Shannon Reeves, Laura Rutherford



Mobile, Alabama

Second Sunday after Christmas Day

January 4, 2015

**The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
Ten o'clock in the morning**

We invite you to participate in the worship of God. Our service is the Holy Eucharist: Rite Two in The Book of Common Prayer. For ease of use, this leaflet contains the congregational portions of the liturgy and service music. Congregational responses are printed in bold. Hymn numbers refer to The Hymnal 1982. Page numbers refer to the Prayer Book for those wishing to use it. Lesson and Gospel texts are taken from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.



We extend a warm welcome to all visitors. A nursery is available.

*A gentle reminder: please **turn off** all wireless devices before the service begins.*

Sound enhancement receivers for the hearing impaired are available. Please see an usher.

Prelude

Improvisation C. W. Powell (b. 1990)

The Word of God

Processional Hymn

Three Kings of Orient
We three kings of Orient are Hymnal 128

Children's Chapel (*Ages 3 to Grade 3*) Children process with the leader to the Chapel and return at the peace.

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

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

Collect for Purity

BCP 355

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.**

Gloria in excelsis

Hymnal S-280

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

BCP 214

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: 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.**