

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

The First Sunday after Christmas · Rite I Holy Eucharist · December 29, 2019 · 8 am

Our service begins on page 323 in the blue Book of Common Prayer.

THE COLLECT

Almighty God, who hast poured upon us the new light of thine incarnate Word: Grant that the same light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

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.

THE RESPONSE

Psalm 147:13-21

- 13 Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; *
 praise your God, O Zion;
- 14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
 he has blessed your children within you.
- 15 He has established peace on your borders; *
 he satisfies you with the finest wheat.
- 16 He sends out his command to the earth, *
 and his word runs very swiftly.
- 17 He gives snow like wool; *
 he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

- 18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
 who can stand against his cold?
- 19 He sends forth his word and melts them; *
 he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.
- 20 He declares his word to Jacob, *
 his statutes and his judgments to Israel.
- 21 He has not done so to any other nation; *
 to them he has not revealed his judgments.
 Hallelujah!

THE SECOND READING

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.

THE GOSPEL

John 1:1-18

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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Celebrant Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, you dwell with us in the darkness and the light of our lives. Give us grace to call out to you with devotion and praise as we pray for the Church and for the World, saying, Emmanuel,

Following each petition, the people respond

Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant concludes:

We adore you, Ever-present God, and we bless you, because by the holy birth of Christ you give hope to all the world. May our prayers become living words, inspired by the Word who lives in us always, your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

RECEIVING COMMUNION

The Church believes that in Holy Communion, the Body and Blood of Christ is given to God's people and received by faith. All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome here and invited either to participate in Communion or to receive a blessing. To receive the bread, please hold your hands out in front of you. To receive the wine, help guide the chalice to your lips. If you prefer, you may dip the bread in the wine and then place it in your mouth. If you do not wish to receive the bread and the wine, you are invited to come forward, cross your hands across your chest, and receive a blessing. **Gluten-free communion wafers are available upon request.**

COMMISSIONING OF LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITOR

Celebrant In the name of God and on behalf of this congregation, I send you forth 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.**

IN THANKSGIVING & MEMORY

WE GIVE THANKS FOR THOSE CELEBRATING:

Birthdays in the next week: Sue Mosher, Kelly Harris, Harry Manzler, Noelle Beatty, Emily Wasick, Deb Kapuscinski, Steve Kapuscinski, Christine Andrew, Paige DeVaul, Pam Colman, Kelley Flodder, Bob Boling, Gary Walker, Odessa Franz.

Anniversaries in the coming week: Josie & Abbot Thayer, Doris & John Crouch, Cynthia & Garry Walker, Courtney & Eric Vice.

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

Celebrant & Preacher

The Rev. Mitchell Bojarski

Lector

Christine Andrew

Lay Reader

Mike Firesheets

Intercessor

Megan Feichtner

Bankers

Bob Campbell, Cynthia Walker, Dick Adams (alt.)

Bread Guild

Hollis Bass, Guy Byars, Brett Flodder

Flower Guild

Kathleen Stengel, Pam Hackim, Francie Morrison, Edie Zimmerman

Altar Guild

Karen Staffiera, Kathy Behne, Jan Hill, Pattie Kovach, Katy Mallon,

Amanda Rasche

