



The Second Sunday of Christmas
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD – RITE II

Sunday, 3 January 2021 + 10:30 AM

Pensacola, Florida + Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast

The Prelude: From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

– Johann Pachelbel

Announcements and Welcome

(The People stand)

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

BCP 355

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

People ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

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.***

Hymn 110: The Snow Lay On The Ground

- Venite adoremus

The Collect of the Day

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.***

The First Lesson *(The People are seated.)*

Reader A Reading from the Book of the Prophet

Jeremiah.

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Silence may be kept.

The Psalm – Psalm 84:1-8

BCP 707

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 Lesson

Reader A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the

Ephesians.

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may be kept.

Hymn 87: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

The Gospel (*The People stand.*)

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. *Matthew 2:1-12*

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.**

Silence may be kept. The People are seated.

The Sermon *The Rev. Dr. Michael Hoffman*

The Nicene Creed (*The People stand.*) 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.

Prayers of the People: Form VI BCP 392

Celebrant: Let us pray for the Church and for the world.
(*The People kneel*)

Reader: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

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.

We pray this day for all those suffering from the coronavirus, or any other illness; for those who worry about their families and friends, and about their jobs and livelihoods;

For all those who risk their lives to keep us safe.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

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

For all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.
Silence

We pray for the sick and hospitalized in our parish and community, (including ...) and those we name aloud, or in the silence of our hearts.

Silence

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

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

Silence

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.

Silence

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,

Silence may be kept.

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.

The Priest stands and says

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 Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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.

Prayer for Mission

BCP 101

Celebrant and People

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you: for the honor of your name. Amen.

The Peace

BCP 360

All Stand

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People ***And also with you.***

The Blessing

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

The Dismissal

BCP 360

People ***Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!***

The Postlude: Variations on "Puer Nobis Nascitur" – What Star is This, with Beams so Bright

– Arr. By Hal H. Hopson



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CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Michael Hoffman, *Rector*
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The Rev. Katie Gillett, *Associate*
The Rev. Deacon Rachel Iversen, *Deacon*
The Rev. Leonard Roberts Graves,
The Rev. John Walter Phillips, II,
The Rev. Jandy H. Watkins, *Assisting Clergy*
Paul Miller, *Interim Director of Music*
Treece Efird, *Music Associate*
Britton Lynn, *Director of Youth Ministry*
Honey Harris, *Director of Outreach and Connections*
Tim Heindl, *Parish Administrator*
Kelly Heindl, *Parish Secretary*
Traci Hart, *Director of Communications*
Bobbie Smith, Cleveland Swift, *Sextons*
Jean Karadin, *Senior Verger* Derek Nelson, *Verger*
Kenneth Karadin, *Church Musician and Liturgist Emeritus*

THE VESTRY

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Bob Stumpf (*Senior Warden*), Greg Vannoy
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Mia Jerrems, John Matthews, Carrie Stevenson
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