

# Second Sunday after Christmas

January 4, 2015



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church  
1512 Willow  
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The Rt. Rev. Larry Benfield, Bishop of Arkansas  
Fr. John Scott Trotter

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# Entrance Rites

*The people stand as they are able.*

## Opening Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #79 - O little town of Bethlehem

## Opening Acclamation

**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.*

## Glory to God, Kyrie or Trisagion

*The Hymnal 1982, Service Music #280*

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.

## 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 people sit.*

# The Word of God

## First Reading

A reading from The Book of Jeremiah (31: 7-14).

<sup>7</sup>For 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.”

<sup>8</sup>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.

<sup>9</sup>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.

<sup>10</sup>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.”

<sup>11</sup>For the Lord has ransomed Jacob,  
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

<sup>12</sup>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.

<sup>13</sup> 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.

<sup>14</sup> I will give the priests their fill of fatness,  
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,  
says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord  
People  
Thanks be to God

*A period of silence is kept.*

**Psalm 84:1-8**

*BCP p. 707*

*Quam dilecta!*

- 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.

*A period of silence is kept.*

## **Second Reading**

A reading from The Letter of Paul to the Ephesians (1:3-6, 15-19a).

<sup>3</sup> 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, <sup>4</sup> just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup> He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>15</sup> I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup> I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup> 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, <sup>18</sup> 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, <sup>19</sup> and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.

The Word of the Lord  
People  
Thanks be to God

*A period of silence is kept.*

*The people stand as they are able.*

## Sequence Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #124 - What star is this that beams so bright

## Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
Praise to you, Lord Christ

<sup>41</sup> Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the  
Passover. <sup>42</sup> And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual  
for the festival. <sup>43</sup> When the festival was ended and they started to  
return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did  
not know it. <sup>44</sup> Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they  
went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their  
relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup> When they did not find him, they returned to  
Jerusalem to search for him. <sup>46</sup> After three days they found him in the  
temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them  
questions. <sup>47</sup> And all who heard him were amazed at his  
understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup> When his parents saw him they  
were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you  
treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for  
you in great anxiety." <sup>49</sup> He said to them, "Why were you searching for  
me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" <sup>50</sup> But  
they did not understand what he said to them. <sup>51</sup> Then he went down  
with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His  
mother treasured all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup> And Jesus increased  
in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

The Gospel of the Lord  
People  
Glory to you, Lord Christ

*A period of silence is kept.*

## **Sermon**

*The people stand as they are able.*

### **The Nicene Creed**

*All say together*

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**

**Intercessor:** Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united  
in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the  
world.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
*Hear our prayer.*

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of  
justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the  
common good.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
*Hear our prayer.*

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we  
may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor  
and glory.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
*Hear our prayer.*

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we  
may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
*Hear our prayer.*

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
*Hear our prayer.*

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
*Hear our prayer.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

## **Collect**

BCP 239

O God, who from the family of your servant David raised up Joseph to be the guardian of your incarnate Son and the spouse of his virgin mother: Give us grace to imitate his uprightness of life and his obedience to your commands; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## **Confession of Sin**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*The people kneel as they are able.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

## **Confession of Sin**

*All say together*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

## **Absolution**

*Bishop or Priest*

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.*

*The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## **The Holy Communion**

*The people sit.*

## **Our work this week**

BCP 344

*The Priest says*

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

## **Offertory Hymn**

*The people stand, as they are able, as the alms are brought forward*

### **The Hymnal 1982 # 380, vs 3**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise Him all creatures, here below.  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

**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.*

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:

*The Hymnal 1982, Service Music #129*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and

might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

*Then the Celebrant continues*

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, according to his command, O Father,

*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 [ \_\_\_\_\_ and] 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

*The People respond Amen.*

**Lord's Prayer**

**Celebrant**           As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

***People and  
Celebrant***

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.

*A period of silence is kept.*

## The Breaking of the Bread

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*Therefore let us keep the feast.*

## Fraction Anthem

*The Hymnal 1982, Service Music #167*

*This setting is not used in Lent.*

*Antiphon  
Cantor; then All*




The dis-ci-ples knew the Lord Je-sus in the break-ing of the bread.

*Cantor*



1. The bread which we break, al-le-lu-ia,



is the com-mun-ion of the bo-dy of Christ. [Ant.]

*Cantor*



2. One bo-dy are we, al-le-lu-ia,



for though man-y we share one bread. [Ant.]

*The Priest invites the people to Communion*

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.

*Administration of Communion*

*All are invited to our Lord's Table. If you wish to receive communion  
please extend your hands, one over the other, to receive the bread of*

*Christ. To receive a blessing cross your arms over your chest. To receive the cup of Christ, guide the chalice to your lips. If you wish choose not to receive of the cup, please cross arms over your chest.*

## **Communion Hymn**

The Hymnal 1982 #339 - Deck thyself, my soul with gladness

*The people stand as they are able.*

## **Postcommunion Prayer**

*Celebrant and People*

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**

BOS 23

*The Bishop or Priest says*

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness.

*Amen.*

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel.

*Amen.*

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor.

*Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

*Amen.*



## **Hymn**

The Hymnal 1982 #109 - The first Nowell the angel did say

## **Dismissal**

**Deacon**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People**

*Thanks be to God.*

## **Prayers**

Charles, Carolyn, Charlotte, Caden, Tony, the Meadows family,  
Barbara-Dale, Dale, Angie, Marcel, Pat, Nicholas E, Pat P, St. Ambrose,  
... those suffering from seasonal storms, meals on wheels, making  
better, men of young men, those serving our country, those traveling,  
and for those we now name...

## **Calendar**

1/4      2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Christmas  
            9:00 am Eucharist  
            10:00 am fellowship

1/5 – 1/9 Fr. Scott at Continuing Education

1/6      6:00 pm Al-Anon

1/9      6:00 pm Friday Families

1/11 1st Sunday after the Epiphany  
            9:00 am Worship  
            10:00 am fellowship

1/11 – 1/19 Fr. Scott at Continuing Education

## **Announcements**

## Worship Leaders

Date	Proper	Service	Eucharistic Minister	Reader	Intercessor	Notes
1/4	Christmas 2		Liz		Beth	
1/11	Epiphany 1		Beth		Corbet	
1/18	Epiphany 2	MP	Kathryn	Corbet	Beth	

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