



# SECOND SUNDAY after CHRISTMAS

January 5, 2025

*Within today's gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God's love is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. The Christ comes among us when we gather for worship around the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts, we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.*

Prelude

*Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

arr. Rafael Scarfullery  
(b. 1969)

## ENTRANCE RITE

Hymn

*Angels, from the Realms of Glory*



1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,  
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;  
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.  
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.  
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

*Refrain*



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt., sts. 1-3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4  
Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879

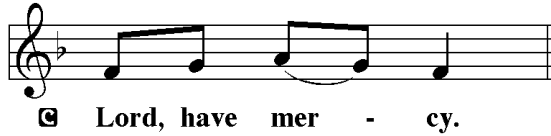
Apostolic Greeting

**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C:** **And also with you.**

## Kyrie

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



## Hymn of Praise

### Angels We Have Heard on High



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.



*Refrain*

Glo - ri - a  
in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -  
ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864  
 Music: GLORIA, French carol

### Salutation and Prayer of the Day

☩ The Lord be with you.      ☩ And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray.

**ALL:** **Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### First Lesson - Jeremiah 31:7-14

*God promises to bring Israel back to its land from the most remote parts of exile. In Zion, Israel will rejoice over God's gifts of food and livestock. Young women will express their joy in dancing; God will give gladness instead of sorrow.*

<sup>7</sup>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.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

### Psalm 147:13-21

(sung in unison)

*This psalm is a hymn of praise to the Lord who rules over nature in wisdom and has shown faithfulness to God's people Israel.*

<sup>13</sup> **Worship the Lord, | O Jerusalem;  
 praise your | God, O Zion;**  
<sup>14</sup> **for he has strengthened the bars | of your gates;  
 he has blessed your chil- | dren within you.**  
<sup>15</sup> **He has established peace | on your borders;  
 he satisfies you with the | finest wheat.**  
<sup>16</sup> **He sends out his command | to the earth,  
 and his word runs | very swiftly.**  
<sup>17</sup> **He gives | snow like wool;  
 he scatters hoar- | frost like ashes.**  
<sup>18</sup> **He scatters his | hail like bread crumbs.  
 Who can stand a- | gainst his cold?**  
<sup>19</sup> **He sends forth his | word and melts them;  
 he blows with his wind, and the | waters flow.**  
<sup>20</sup> **He declares his | word to Jacob,  
 his statutes and his judg- | ments to Israel.**  
<sup>21</sup> **He has not done so to any | other nation;  
 to them he has not revealed his judgments. | Hallelujah!**

## Second Lesson - Ephesians 1:3-14

*In Jesus of Nazareth, all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in the Christ. Through him, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.*

<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>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup> that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup> he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup> as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup> In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup> so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup> In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup> this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

## Alleluia Verse

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel - John 1:1, 10-18

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

*The author of the gospel according to John begins with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.*

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>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. <sup>15</sup>(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.'") <sup>16</sup>From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>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.

## P: The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Roberts

silence for reflection

Hymn

## Of the Father's Love Begotten

1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -  
2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,  
3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with  
4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his  
5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly

gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,  
full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,  
one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets  
prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him  
Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing

he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that  
bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -  
prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -  
and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be  
and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -

have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,  
deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,  
pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord  
si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring  
min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry

ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

Text: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348–413; tr. composite  
 Music: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, plainsong mode V, 13th cent.

### The Creed

**P:** Using the words of our ancestors in the faith as expressed in the Apostles' Creed, we proclaim the triune God whom we believe:

**C:** **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

### The Prayers

**A:** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

**A:** O God, you reveal yourself in this congregation. In water, wine, and bread, show us again and again your grace upon grace, that your Church may boldly testify to your love. God of grace,

**C:** **receive our prayer.**

**A:** You reveal yourself in creation. In seedlings and planets, microorganisms and galaxies, awaken us to the cry of the earth. As you nourish your people like a watered garden, empower us to nourish all of creation. God of grace,

**C:** **receive our prayer.**

**A:** You reveal yourself in every land and in the farthest parts of the earth. Deliver peoples who suffer under oppressive regimes. Thwart the foolish plans of unjust leaders. Give wisdom to our elected officials. God of grace,

**C:** **receive our prayer.**

**A:** You reveal yourself in every human being. Help us recognize your image in each person we encounter, especially those who are in the strong grip of addiction, depression, anxiety, hopelessness, or other illnesses. Grant us compassion in our care for your people. God of grace,

**C:** **receive our prayer.**

**A:** You reveal yourself anew every day. In this new year, renew this congregation and its ministries in our witness to the good news of the incarnation. Transform the way we have always done things into your new future for us. God of grace,

**C:** **receive our prayer.**

- A: You reveal yourself in the lives of your holy ones. We give you thanks for those who set their hope on you, trusting the inheritance we receive in you. God of grace,  
**C: receive our prayer.**  
P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**ALL: Amen**

## LITURGY OF THE MEAL

### The Peace

- P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C: And also with you.**

### Offering

#### Offertory Anthem

*Tollite hostias*, from Christmas Oratorio

Camille Saint-Saëns  
(1835-1921)

*Tollite hostias, et adorate Dominum in atrio sancto ejus.  
Laetentur coeli, et exultet terra a facie Domini, quoniam venit. Alleluia*

[Bring forth your offerings, and adore the Lord, your God, and worship Him in his Holy place.  
Rejoice in heaven, exult all ye peoples, for the Lord now comes in glory. Alleluia.]

### Offertory

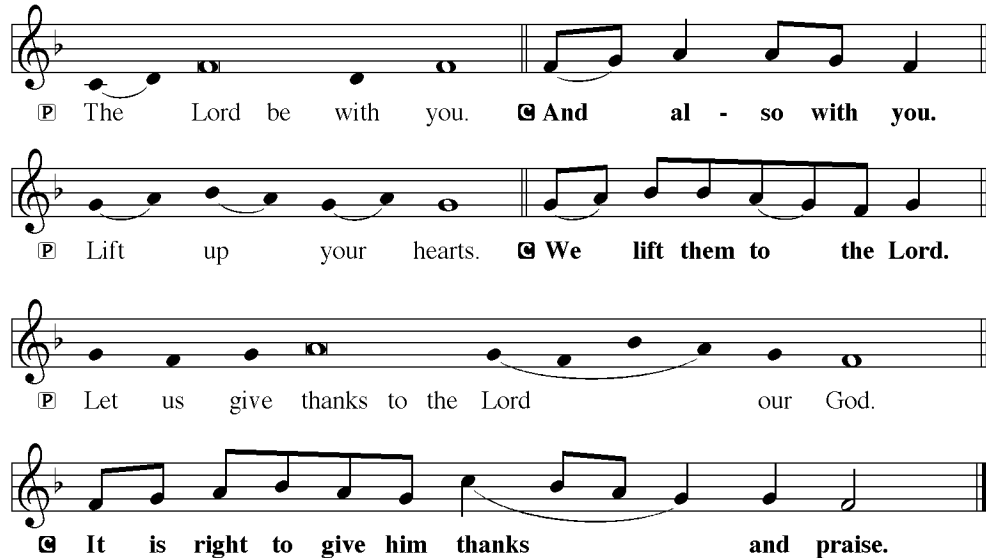
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the  
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the  
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

**ALL:** we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## Great Thanksgiving



Ⓟ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.

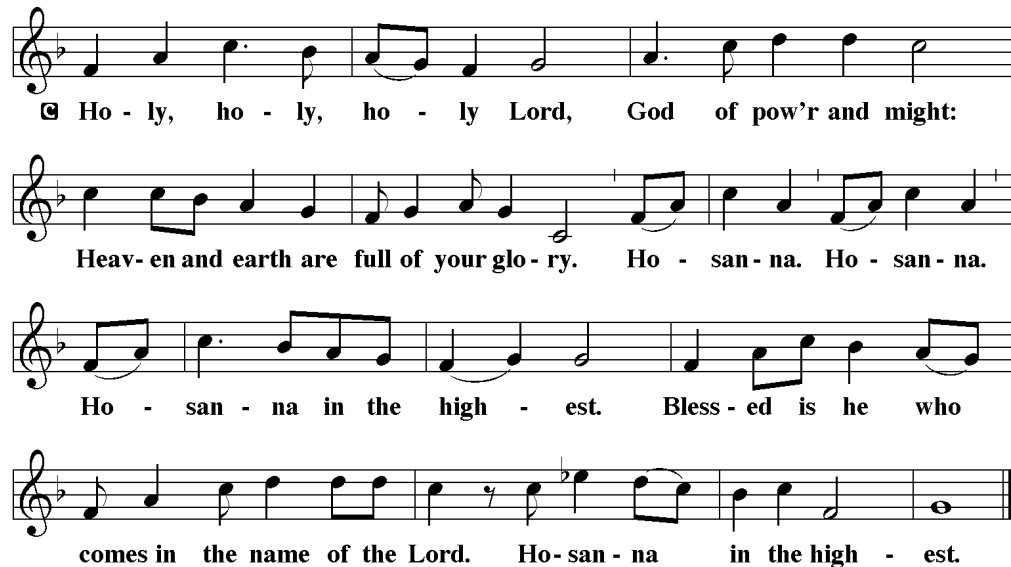
Ⓟ Lift up your hearts. ☩ We lift them to the Lord.

Ⓟ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☩ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

## Proper Preface

### Sanctus



☩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.  
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.

## Eucharistic Prayer

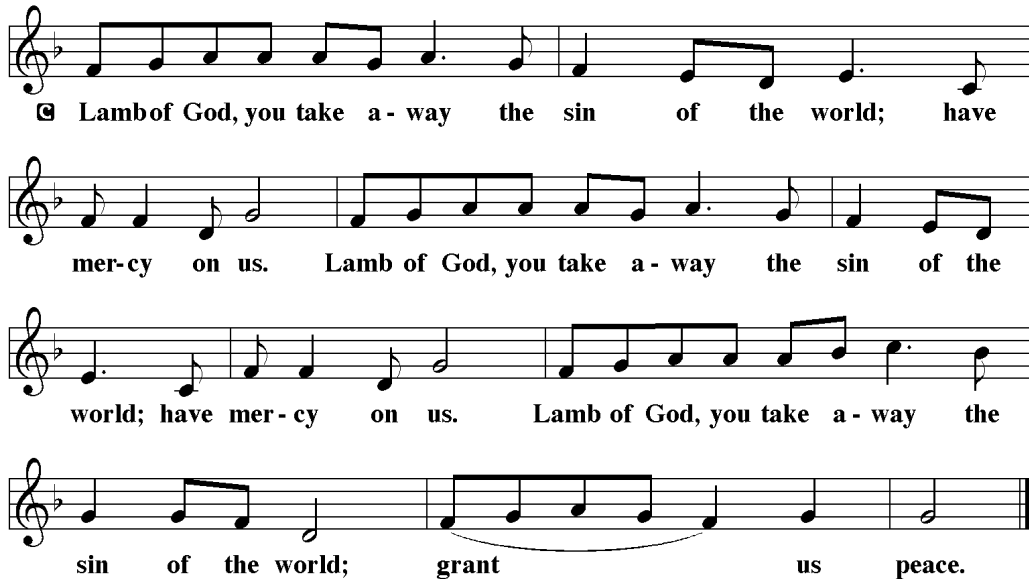
### Lord's Prayer

**C:** 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,  
forever and ever. Amen



## Communion with our Risen Lord

### Agnus Dei



☞ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

### Hymns

#### What Child Is This



- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
- 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
- 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?  
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing.  
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

# O, Come, All Ye Faithful



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:  
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

*Refrain*



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,  
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.  
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2  
 Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

## Post-Communion Blessing

**P:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C:** Amen

## Post-Communion Canticle



☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

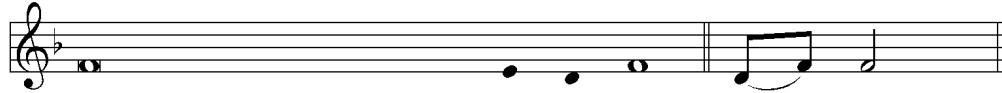
## Post-Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray.

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

## Benediction



Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now . . . and for - ever. **A - men**

## Hymn

### Good Christian Friends, Rejoice



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.  
He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.  
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866  
Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.

## Dismissal

A: Our service now begins. Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

## Postlude

*Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful*

arr. George Whiting  
(1840-1923)



The candles are given to the glory of God by Nancy Trent  
in memory of Lee Trent for his birthday on January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

<b>Sunday, January 5</b>	8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion 9:30 a.m. Sunday Church School 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion with Livestream via YouTube 12:00 p.m. Junior Youth (grades six - eight) 5:00 p.m. Senior Youth (grades nine - twelve) 5:00 p.m. Epiphany Eve Vespers 6:00 p.m. God In Film - <i>The Son</i>
<b>Monday, January 6</b>	9:00 a.m. Altar Guild & Usher Association 9:00 a.m. Strength and Balance Exercise Class 9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga Class 7:00 p.m. Connecting with God (via Zoom) - <i>An Enneagram Study</i>
<b>Tuesday, January 7</b>	1:00 p.m. Bible Study - <i>The Gospel According to Luke</i> 5:40 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Table Talk - <i>Signs of Belonging</i>
<b>Wednesday, January 8</b>	10:00 a.m. Women's Sewing Group 12:10 p.m. Service of Holy Communion 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal
<b>Thursday, January 9</b>	9:00 a.m. Parish Nurse in office (until 10:00 a.m.) 11:00 a.m. Sermon Discussion Group
<b>Friday, January 10</b>	9:00 a.m. Strength and Balance Exercise Class 9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga Class 11:00 a.m. Book Discussion Group - <i>Jesus' Alternative Plan</i>
<b>Next Sunday, January 12</b>	8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion and Home Communion 9:30 a.m. Sunday Church School 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion with Livestream via YouTube and Home Communion 12:00 p.m. Senior Youth (grades nine - twelve) 2:00 p.m. Parish Nurse Education Series 4:00 p.m. Junior Youth (grades six - eight) 6:00 p.m. Confirmation Class (grades six - eight)

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**Our Mission: "To care actively in the name of Jesus Christ."**

**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
1000 Langhorne Road  
Lynchburg, Virginia 24503**

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**President:** Eric R. Kenny  
**Organist-Choirmaster:** J. William Greene  
**Parish Administrator:** Carol Dee Robertson  
**Parish Nurse:** Gail Midkiff

**Pastor:** Dennis S. Roberts  
**Director of Youth and Campus Ministries:**  
Susan H. Williams  
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