

Divine Service Second Sunday After Christmas

January 3, 2021

“Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe...” (Heb. 12:28)

The Opening Hymn: 367 ss 1-5

“Angels From The Realms of Glory”

1. Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship,
Come and worship;
Worship Christ, the new-born King.

2. Shepherds in the fields abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
Yonder shines the Infant Light:
Come and worship:
Come and worship,
Worship Christ, the new-born King.

3. Sages, leave your contemplations;
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations,
Ye have seen His natal star:
Come and worship,
Come and worship;
Worship Christ, the new-born King.

4. Saints, before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In His Temple shall appear:

Come and worship,
Come and worship;
Worship Christ, the new-born King.

5. All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising
To the eternal Three in One.
Come and worship,
Come and worship;
Worship Christ, the new-born King.

The Invocation

PASTOR: In the name of the Father and of the Son and
of the Holy Spirit.

CONG: Amen.

Call to Confession

PASTOR: Beloved in the LORD. Let us draw near with a
true heart and confess our sins to God our
Father, imploring him in the name of our LORD
Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

The Confession

PASTOR: Our help is in the name of the LORD.

CONG: Who made heaven and earth.

PASTOR: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the
LORD.

CONG: And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

PASTOR: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we
poor sinners confess to you that we are by
nature sinful and unclean and that we have
sinned against you by thought, word, and deed;
therefore we flee for refuge to your boundless
mercy, seeking and imploring your grace for the
sake of our LORD Jesus Christ.

ALL: O most merciful God, since you have given your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy on us and for his sake grant us forgiveness of all our sins; and by your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of you and of your will and true obedience to your Word, to the end that by your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Absolution

PASTOR: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

CONG: Amen.

The Introit of the Day John 1:14; Ps. 147:1, 5, 11-12

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God;
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;
his understanding is beyond measure.

But the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him,
in those who hope in his steadfast love.

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem!
Praise your God, O Zion!

Gloria Patri

CONG: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Kyrie

CONG: Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Gloria in Excelsis

CONG: Glory be to God on high; and on earth peace, good will toward men.
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,
We glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect

PASTOR: Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

CONG: Amen.

The Old Testament Reading: I KINGS 3:4-15

4 And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar.

5 At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I shall give you."

6 And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day.

7 And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in.

8 And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude.

9 Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?"

10 It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this.

11 And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right,

12 behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you.

13 I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days.

14 And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days."

15 And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he

came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

The Gradual ISAIAH 9:6; PSALM 98:1a

To us a child is born, to us a son is given;

and the government shall be upon his shoulder.

And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Sing to the Lord a new song,

For he has done marvelous things!

The Epistle: EPHESIANS 1:3-11

3 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,

4 even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love

5 he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,

6 to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace,

8 which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight

9 making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ

10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

11 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will.

The Verse LUKE 2:40

Alleluia. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom.
And the favor of God was upon him. Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel: ST. LUKE 2:40-52

40 And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom.
And the favor of God was upon him.

41 Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast
of the Passover.

42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up according
to custom.

43 And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the
boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know
it,

44 but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's
journey, but then they began to search for him among their
relatives and acquaintances,

45 and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem,
searching for him.

46 After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among
the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.

47 And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding
and his answers.

48 And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And
his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so?
Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great
distress."

49 And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did
you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"

50 And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to
them.

51 And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and
was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these
things in her heart.

52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor
with God and man.

Choir: "What Child is This?" 370 ss. 1-3

1. What Child is this who, laid to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary.

2. Why lies He in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear, for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary.

3. So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh,
Come peasant, king to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise a song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary.

The Nicene Creed (We Confess Together)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven
and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one
Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of
his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very
God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance
with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men
and for our salvation came down from heaven and was

incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and Apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sermon Hymn: 523 ss. 1-3 “O Word of God Incarnate”

1. O Word of God incarnate,
O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging,
O Light of our dark sky:
We praise you for the radiance
That from the hallowed page,
A lantern to our footsteps,
Shines on from age to age.

2. The Church from you, dear Master,
Received the gift divine;
And still that light is lifted
O'er all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass
That, all life's voyage through,
Mid mists and rocks and quick sands
Still guides, O Christ, to you.

3. Oh, make your Church, dear Savior,
A lamp of burnished gold
To bear before the nations

Your true light as of old!
Oh, teach your wandering pilgrims
By this their path to trace
Till, clouds and darkness ended,
They see you face to face!

The Sermon: The Love That Will Always Be EPH. 1:3-11

The Offertory

CONG: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

The Prayers and The LORD's Prayer

The Closing Hymn: 527 ss 1-4 “O Savior, Precious Savior”

1. O Savior, precious Savior,
Whom, yet unseen, we love;
O Name of might and favor,
All other names above.
We worship Thee, we bless Thee,
To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
We praise Thee and confess Thee,
Our holy Lord and King.

2. O Bringer of salvation,
Who wondrously has wrought
Thyself the revelation
Of love beyond our thought,
We worship Thee, we bless Thee,
To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
We praise Thee and confess Thee,
Our gracious Lord and King.

3. In Thee all fulness dwelleth,
All grace and pow'r divine;
The glory that excelleth,
O Son of God, is Thine.
We worship Thee, we bless Thee,
To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
We praise Thee and confess Thee,
Our glorious Lord and King.

4. Oh, grant the consummation
Of this our song above
In endless adoration
And everlasting love!
Then shall we praise and bless Thee,
Where perfect praises ring,
And evermore confess Thee,
Our Savior and our king!

The Benediction

PASTOR: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord
make His face shine on you and be gracious
to you. The Lord look upon you with favor
and † give you peace.

CONG: Amen.

Liturgist: Pastor Brock Abbott

Preacher: Pastor Bill Abbott

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