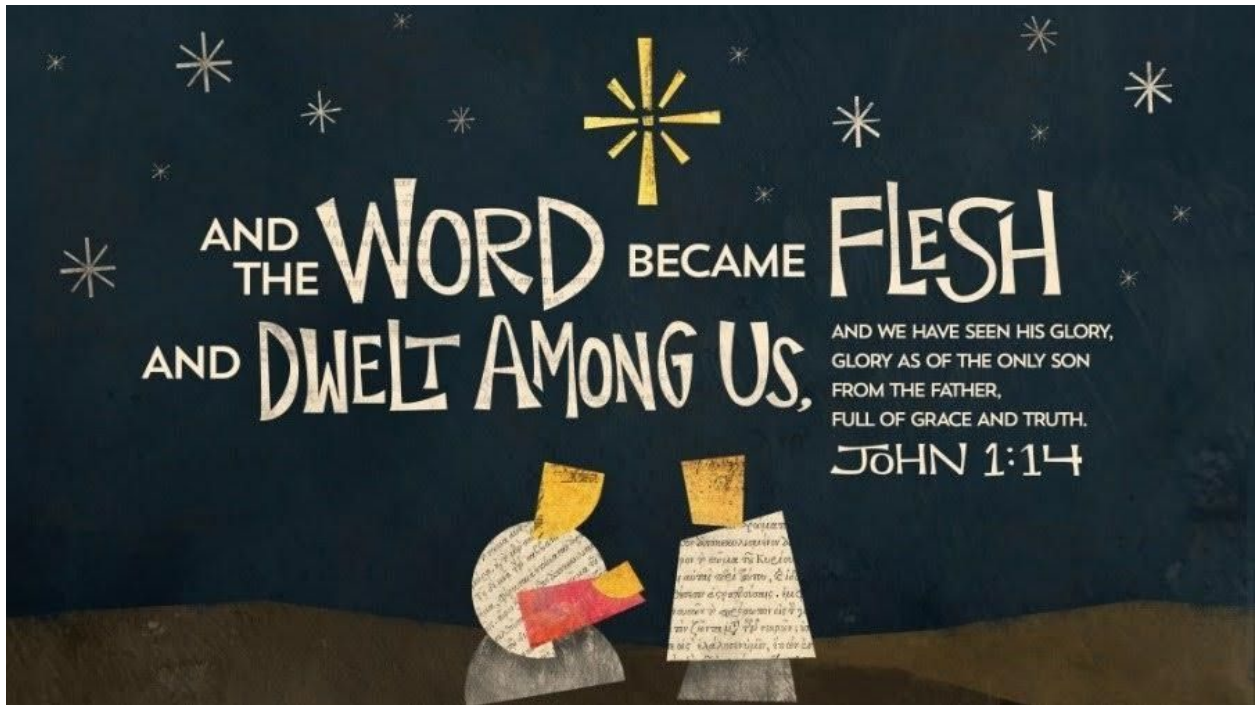


The First Sunday after Christmas Day

December 27, 2020 ~ 10:30 am

## ONLINE WORSHIP BULLETIN



## GATHER

### Acclamation

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.  
**Glory to God for ever and ever.**

### Song of Praise *Angels we have heard on high*

*Gloria*

***Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night  
and the mountains in reply, echoing their brave delight.  
GLORIA - in excelsis Deo. GLORIA - in excelsis Deo.***

### The Collect of the Day

May God be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## WORD

### 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 Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 147

Hallelujah!

How good it is to sing praises to our God! \*

**how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!**

The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; \*

**he gathers the exiles of Israel.**

He heals the brokenhearted \*

**and binds up their wounds.**

He counts the number of the stars \*

**and calls them all by their names.**

Great is our Lord and mighty in power; \*

**there is no limit to his wisdom.**

The Lord lifts up the lowly, \*

**but casts the wicked to the ground.**

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; \*

**make music to our God upon the harp.**

He covers the heavens with clouds \*

**and prepares rain for the earth;**

He makes grass to grow upon the mountains \*

**and green plants to serve mankind.**

He provides food for flocks and herds \*

**and for the young ravens when they cry.**

He is not impressed by the might of a horse; \*

**he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;**

But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, \*

**in those who await his gracious favor.**

Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; \*

**praise your God, O Zion;**

For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \*

**he has blessed your children within you.**

He has established peace on your borders; \*

**he satisfies you with the finest wheat.**

He sends out his command to the earth, \*

**and his word runs very swiftly.**

He gives snow like wool; \*

**he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.**

He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \*

**who can stand against his cold?**

He sends forth his word and melts them; \*

**he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.**

He declares his word to Jacob, \*

**his statutes and his judgments to Israel.**

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 Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Sequence Hymn** *Hark the herald angels sing v.1*

*Mendelssohn*

***Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic host proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem!  
Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!***

## **The Holy Gospel** *(John 1:1-18)*

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.  
**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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 Gospel of Christ.  
**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Sequence Hymn** *Hark the herald angels sing v.2*

*Mendelssohn*

*Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity.  
Please as man with us to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel!  
Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!*

## **The Homily**

*The Rev. Kristin Krantz*

### **The Nicene Creed**

**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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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.**

## **The Prayers of the People**

*Liturgy for the Whole Church (adapted)*

Wondrous God, whose love was made flesh, hear us as we pray, and take to your heart all of our longings and thanks. **Hear us and help us, O God.**

Wonderful Counselor, give wisdom to the leaders of the nations, that they might guide us to peace and bring an end to wars. **Wonderful Counselor, may your justice and righteousness be established on the earth.**

Mighty God, make your church to be one, in spirit and truth, strong with courage and rich with grace. Help us to tell the sweet, good news of your love in all we say and do. **Mighty God, may your church be united in serving the world.**

Everlasting Father, help all who suffer to remember your love. Bring relief and strength to endure to all those who are lonely, dying, and in pain. Stay near to those in prison. **Everlasting Father, may the day come soon when our tears are wiped away by your own hand.**

Prince of Peace, help us to bring an end to poverty and racism, which keep your children hungry and powerless. Grant that your peace would rule in our hearts and in our lives. **Prince of Peace, may you come soon to reign among us.**

Son of David, may all who live with you in glory help us by their example prayer to find our way home. Give us, especially, the courage of Isaiah, of Mary, and of John. Grant us the wonder of the shepherds and magi. Fill us with the songs of the angels. **Son of David, make us one with all your saints who enjoy your presence day and night.**

We pray for the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*You are invited to name, silently or aloud, prayers of intercession and thanksgiving.*

### *Celebrant*

Wondrous God, thank you for the miracle and grace of Christmas. May we be true all the year long to its call to believe the impossible that you made humanity the place of your dwelling. Hear us we pray, and take to your heart all of our longing and thanks, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Savior Christ taught us, we now pray:

**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.**

## **The Peace**

May the peace of Christ be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

## **Welcome & Announcements**

### **Thanksgivings of the Community**

*You are invited to come forward to offer public thanks for the movement of God's Spirit in your own life: thanks for a birthday, an anniversary, a new job, and unexpected act of compassion, or another grace-filled change in your life. We close this time with the following prayer:*

**O God, our times are in your hands: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they mark this day. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **The Blessing**

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.**

**Closing Music:** *The First Nowell*

Erin Snedecor, cello

Richard Drehoff Jr., organ

The First Nowell

**Dismissal**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

**Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia!**