

2nd Sunday of Christmas

January 4, 2026

Opening Hymn #2 ***To Thy Temple I Repair***

1. To Thy temple I repair;
Lord, I love to worship there
When within the veil I meet
Christ before the mercy-seat.

2. I through Him am reconciled,
I through Him become Thy child.
Abba, Father, give me grace
In Thy courts to seek Thy face.

3. While Thy glorious praise is sung,
Touch my lips, unloose my tongue,
That my joyful soul may bless
Christ the Lord, my Righteousness.

4. While the prayers of saints ascend,
God of Love, to mine attend.
Hear me, for Thy Spirit pleads;
Hear, for Jesus intercedes.

5. While I hearken to Thy Law,
Fill my soul with humble awe

Till Thy Gospel bring to me
Life and immortality.

6. While Thy ministers proclaim
Peace and pardon in Thy name,
Through their voice, by faith, may I
Hear Thee speaking from the sky.

7. From Thy house when I return,
May my heart within me burn
And at evening let me say,
"I have walked with God today."

Invocation

*P: We worship today in the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit.*

C ♪: Amen.

Confession & Absolution

*P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and
confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the
name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.*

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C ♪: Who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C ♪: And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sins.

**P & C: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miser-
able sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities
with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved
Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily**

sorrow for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.

C ♪: Amen.

Gloria Patri

C ♪ 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

C ♪ Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis – (Hymn #238 v.1)

All glory be to God alone,
Forevermore the Highest One,
Who doth our sinful race befriend,
And grace and peace to us extend.
Among mankind may His good will
All hearts with deep thanksgiving fill.

The Salutation

P: The Lord be with you.

C ♪: And with thy spirit.

The Collect for the Day

P: Let us pray..... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C ♪: Amen.

The First Reading – 1 Kings 3:4-15

⁴ 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. ⁵At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I shall give you.” ⁶And 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. ⁷And 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. ⁸And 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. ⁹Give 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?” ¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹And 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, ¹²behold, 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. ¹³I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. ¹⁴And if you will walk in my ways,

keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.” ¹⁵And 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.

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 119:97-104
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Antiphon – At the works of Your hands, O Lord, I lift up my voice in song; I sing for joy.

97 Oh how I | love your law!*

It is my meditation | all the day.

98 Your commandment makes me wiser than my | enemies,*

for it is ever | with me.

99 I have more understanding than all my | teachers,*

for your testimonies are my medi- | tation.

100 I understand more than the | aged,*

for I keep your | precepts.

101 I hold back my feet from every | evil way,*

in order to | keep your word.

102 I do not turn aside from your | just decrees,*

for you have | taught me.

103 How sweet are your words | to my taste,*

sweeter than honey | to my mouth!

104 Through your precepts I get under- | standing;*

therefore I hate every | false way.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;

**as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

*Antiphon – At the works of Your hands, O Lord, I lift up my
voice in song; I sing for joy.*

The Second Reading – Ephesians 1:3-14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In 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, ¹²so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Verse of the Day – Luke 2:40

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

The Gospel Reading – Luke 2:40-52

⁴⁰The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him. ⁴¹Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴but 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, ⁴⁵and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸And 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." ⁴⁹And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. ⁵¹And 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. ⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

Confession of Faith ***The Nicene Creed***

P & C: 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 Ghost 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 sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe 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.

Hymn of the Day #133
Within the Father's House

1. Within the Father's house
The Son hath found His home,
And to His Temple suddenly
The Lord of Life hath come.
2. The doctors of the Law

Gaze on the wondrous Child
And marvel at His gracious words
Of wisdom undefiled.

3. Yet not to them is given
The mighty truth to know,
To lift the earthly veil which hides
Incarnate God below.

4. The secret of the Lord
Escapes each human eye,
And faithful pondering hearts await
The full epiphany.

5. Lord, visit Thou our souls
And teach us by Thy grace
Each dim revealing of Thyself
With loving awe to trace,

6. Till from our darkened sight
The cloud shall pass away
And on the cleansed soul shall burst
The everlasting day;

7. Till we behold Thy face
And know as we are known
Thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Coequal Three in One.

Sermon Text – Psalm 119:97-104

Sermon

***The Lord Jesus Is Found in the
Temple of His Church***

Offertory

C ♪ 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.

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Prayer of the Church

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

P: Almighty God, Your own Son became incarnate for us and grew from childhood into maturity filled with wisdom, and Your favor was upon Him. Grant to parents and children the wisdom and courage to know You as Savior and Redeemer and to gather at Your bidding around Your Word and table. Help us form within our children the knowledge of what is right and good according to Your Word, as well as the will to do it.

**1. Lord Jesus Christ, the children's friend,
To each of them Your presence send;
Call them by name and keep them true
In loving faith, dear Lord, to You.**

P: O Lord, to Solomon You granted wisdom and a discerning mind. Give Your people such wisdom from Your Word and a mind to discern truth from error, that we may know Jesus Christ and not depart from Him amid the winds of change and doubt that challenge our faith.

**2. In Christian homes, Lord, let them be
Your blessing to their family;**

**Let Christian schools Your work extend
In living truth as You intend.**

P: Heavenly Father, You have blessed us in Christ, Your beloved Son, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. Preserve Your Church by the preaching of the Gospel of salvation and the seal of the promised Holy Spirit in Baptism. Raise up among us faithful preachers to the praise of Christ's glory, until we acquire the inheritance promised us in Him.

**3. That caring parents, gracious Lord,
And faithful teachers find reward
In leading these, to whom You call,
To find in Christ their all in all.**

P: O Lord, as blessed Mary treasured all things in her heart, grant us to know what is worthy of our attention and what will pass away, that approaching the table of our Lord we may be well-prepared to receive with repentance and faith His flesh for the life of the world and His blood that cleanses us from all our sin.

**4. For by Your Word we clearly see
That we have sinned continually;
But show us too, forgiving Lord,
Your saving Gospel's great reward.**

P: Merciful God, give patience and endurance to all who are sick or in any need, [*especially* _____,] and heal them according to Your will. Give comfort and hope to all who mourn [*especially* _____]. Receive our thanksgiving for every blessing and kindness You have shown to Your people in Christ.

**5. That all of us, Your children dear,
By Christ redeemed, may Christ revere;
Lead us in joy that all we do
Will witness to our love for You.**

P: Gracious Lord, You set apart kings and governments to safeguard Your people. Bless, we pray, our president; the Congress; our governor; our legislature; and all those who make, administer and judge our laws. Make them wise, and give them a discerning heart in the pursuit of justice for the offender, peace between the nations, and protection for the unborn and those least able to defend themselves.

**6. Then guard and keep us to the end,
Secure in You, our gracious friend,
That in Your heav'nly family
We sing Your praise eternally.**

P: All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

Amen.

The Communion Liturgy

P: The Lord be with you:

C ♪: And with Thy Spirit.

P: Lift up your hearts:

C ♪: We lift them up unto the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God:

C ♪: It is meet and right so to do.

P: It is truly, meet, right and salutary...Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Thy glorious name, evermore praising Thee and saying:

The Sanctus

**C ♪: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory;
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, Blessed is He, Blessed is He that cometh in
the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

The Lord's Prayer

P: 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;

**C ♪: For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,
Forever and ever. Amen.**

The Words of Institution

P: The peace of the Lord be with you alway!

C ♪: Amen.

The Agnus Dei

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, Have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, Have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, Grant us Thy peace. A-men.

The Distribution

The Nunc Dimittis

C ♪: Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, According to Thy word. For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation: which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a Light to lighten the Gentiles And the Glory of Thy people Israel. 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 Thanksgiving

P: Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good:

C ♪: And His mercy endureth forever.

The Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C ♪: Amen, Amen, Amen.

Closing Hymn #785 WS

Children of the Heavenly Father

1. Children of the heav'nly Father
Safely in His Bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven
Such a refuge e'er was given.

2. God His own doth tend and nourish;
In His holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things He spares them;

In His mighty arms He bears them.

3. Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord His children sever;
Unto them His grace He showeth,
And their sorrows all He knoweth.

4. Though He giveth or He taketh,
God His children ne'er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy.

Silent Prayer

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