

**Prelude:** Recorded January 2, 2011  
Boyd Herforth, organist

## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS, JANUARY 4, 2026

**ENTRANCE HYMN (Hymnal #98 *Unto us a boy is born!*)**

**OPENING ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 355)**

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

**COLLECT FOR PURITY (BCP p. 355)**

*The Celebrant may say*

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.*

**OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE (S278)**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 357)**

*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, forever and ever. *Amen.*

**FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

<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.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.  
*People*      Thanks be to God.

*Silence may follow.*

### **PSALM: Psalm 84:1-8**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>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.  
<sup>2</sup>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.  
<sup>3</sup>Happy are they who dwell in your house! \*  
    they will always be praising you.  
<sup>4</sup>Happy are the people whose strength is in you! \*  
    whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.  
<sup>5</sup>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.  
<sup>6</sup>They will climb from height to height, \*  
    and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.  
<sup>7</sup>LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; \*  
    hearken, O God of Jacob.  
<sup>8</sup>Behold our defender, O God; \*  
    and look upon the face of your Anointed.

### **SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Ephesians.

<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>19a</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.  
*People*      Thanks be to God.

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN (#112 *Good Christian friends, rejoice*)**

*All stand.*

**GOSPEL: Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23**

*All stand.*

*Deacon*      The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People*      Glory to you, Lord Christ.

<sup>13</sup>After the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” <sup>14</sup>Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, <sup>15</sup>and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.”

<sup>19</sup>When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, <sup>20</sup>“Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.” <sup>21</sup>Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup>But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. <sup>23</sup>There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, “He will be called a Nazorean.”

*Deacon*      The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*      Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**THE SERMON (BCP p. 358)**

**THE CREED (BCP p. 358)**

*All stand.*

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.

#### **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Form VI (BCP p. 392)**

*All remain standing.*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;  
*For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.*  
For this community, the nation, and the world;  
*For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.*  
For the just and proper use of your creation;  
*For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.*  
For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
*For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.*  
For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
*For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.*  
For [N. our Presiding Bishop, and N. (N.) our Bishop(s); and for] all bishops and other ministers;  
*For all who serve God in his Church.*  
For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Hear us, Lord;  
*For your mercy is great.*

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own thanksgivings*

We will exalt you, O God our King;  
*And praise your Name for ever and ever.*

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
*Who put their trust in you.*  
[We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Leader and People*

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
in your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown,  
things done and left undone;  
and so uphold us by your Spirit  
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.]

*The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.*

## THE PEACE (BCP p. 360)

*All stand.*

*Celebrant*      The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People*            And also with you.

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

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE (BCP p. 376)

*The Celebrant says*

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.  
*Psalm 50:14*

## OFFERTORY HYMN (#107 *Good Christians friends, rejoice*)

## SURSUM CORDA (BCP p. 367)

*The People remain standing.*

*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.

### **PROPER PREFACE (BCP p. 367)**

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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:

### **HOLY, HOLY (S128)**

*Celebrant and People*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION (BCP p. 368)**

*The People stand or kneel.*

*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;

### **EPICLESIS (BCP p. 369)**

*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 LORD'S PRAYER (BCP p. 363)**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*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,  
    forever and ever. Amen.

### **FRACTION RITE**

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

### **LAMB OF GOD (S163)**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
    have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
    have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
grant us peace.

**INVITATION (BCP p. 364)**

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

**DISTRIBUTION (BCP p. 365)**

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [Amen.]

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 366)**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

Almighty and ever-living God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, Father, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

**PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY**

Holy One of Peace, we pray for wisdom for those who have been entrusted with the care of our government, that there may be peace both at home and abroad, obedience to the law, justice toward all people, and loving stewardship of our land. Save us from violence, discord and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties and unite us as one people, for we are more the same than we are different. In times of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in times of trouble, help us to hold fast to our faith. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

**BLESSING (BCP p. 366)**

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever. *Amen.*

**RECESSIONAL HYMN (#84 *love came down at Christmas*)****DISMISSAL (BCP p. 366)**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People*            Thanks be to God.

*The sanctuary candle burns in honor of Christ's presence in the Holy Eucharist.*

**Postlude:** Recorded January 2, 2011

Boyd Herforth, organist