

First Sunday after Christmas

INTRODUCTION

INTROIT HYMN— **553**

Hymns Old & New

In the name of the Father,
and of ✠ the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All respond: Amen.

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

The PRAYERS OF PENITENCE are introduced.

God our Father, you sent your Son full of grace
and truth: forgive our failure to receive him.

Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

Jesus our Saviour, you were born in poverty
and laid in a manger: forgive our greed and
rejection of your ways.

Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

Spirit of Love, your servant Mary responded
joyfully to your call: forgive the hardness of
our hearts.

Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us ✠ our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS is sung.

**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.**

All remain standing for the COLLECT.

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in
your own image and yet more wonderfully re-
stored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant
that, as he came to share in our humanity, so
we may share the life of his divinity; who lives
and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit, God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Readings for Year C

FIRST READING

1 Sam 2:18–20, 26

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy
clothed with a linen ephod. And his mother
used to make for him a little robe and take it
to him each year when she went up with her
husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Then
Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and
say, “May the Lord give you children by this
woman for the petition she asked of the Lord.”
So then they would return to their home.

Now the young man Samuel continued to
grow both in stature and in favour with the
Lord and also with man.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

R. Alleluia, alleluia! We will praise the name
of the Lord. (*All repeat*)

Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea creatures and all deeps;
fire and hail, snow and mist,
stormy winds that obey his word; R.

Mountains and all hills,
fruitful trees and all cedars;
beasts wild and tame,
reptiles and birds on the wing; R.

Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;
youths and maidens, old and young together.
Let them praise the name of the Lord. R.

For his name alone is exalted;
his glory is above earth and heaven.
He raises up strength for his people and praise
for his saints,
for the children of Israel who are near to him.
L. R.

SECOND READING

Col 3.12–17

A reading from the letter of Paul to the
Colossians.

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and
beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness,
humility, meekness, and patience, bearing
with one another and, if one has a complaint
against another, forgiving each other; as the
Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.
And above all these put on love, which binds
everything together in perfect harmony. And
let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to
which indeed you were called in one body.
And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell
in you richly, teaching and admonishing one
another in all wisdom, singing psalms and
hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness
in your hearts to God. And whatever you do,
in word or deed, do everything in the name
of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the
Father through him.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Heb 1.1–2

Alleluia.

In the past God spoke to our fathers through
the prophets:
but now he has spoken to us through his Son.
Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING

Lk 2.15–21

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When the angels went away from them into
heaven, the shepherds said to one another,
“Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this
thing that has happened, which the Lord
has made known to us.” And they went with
haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the
baby lying in a manger. And when they saw
it, they made known the saying that had been
told them concerning this child. And all who
heard it wondered at what the shepherds
told them. But Mary treasured up all these
things, pondering them in her heart. And the
shepherds returned, glorifying and praising
God for all they had heard and seen, as it had
been told them.

And at the end of eight days, when he was
circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name
given by the angel before he was conceived in
the womb.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

A SERMON *may follow.*

All stand to recite 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,

(all bow) **was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**

(all rise) **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, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped 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 INTERCESSIONS are introduced, and all kneel. One of these responses may be used:

☩. Lord, hear us. 🙏. **Lord, graciously hear us.**
or ☩. Lord, in your mercy, 🙏. **Hear our prayer.**

At the Commemoration of the Departed:

☩. Rest eternal ☩ grant unto them, O Lord;
🙏. **And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

The Intercessions end:

Merciful Father,
Accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

All stand as the priest introduces the PEACE.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The people unite their prayers with the priest, who says the PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS.

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.

Accept, Lord, we pray, the sacrifice which makes our peace with you and, through the prayers of the Virgin Mother of God and of blessed Joseph, unite our families in your grace and peace; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

The PREFACE follows.

All respond with the SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS.

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.

All kneel. After the Consecration, all acclaim:

Christ is the bread of life:

When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory (× 2).

The Eucharistic Prayer continues, and ends:

... for ever and ever. **Amen.**

RITE OF COMMUNION

The priest introduces the LORD'S PRAYER.

**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,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The priest breaks the Host; AGNUS DEI is sung.

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the
world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the
world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the
world: grant us peace.**

The priest gives the COMMUNION INVITATION.

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Holy Communion is distributed.

COMMUNION HYMN— **572**

The priest says the POST-COMMUNION prayer.

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son shared
at Nazareth the life of an earthly home: help
your Church to live as one family, united in
love and obedience, and bring us all at last to
our home in heaven; through Jesus Christ our
Lord. **Amen.**

CONCLUSION

The priest gives the BLESSING and DISMISSAL.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

May the Father, who has loved the eternal Son
from before the foundation of the world,
shed that love upon you his children.
Amen.

May Christ, who by his incarnation gathered
into one things earthly and heavenly, fill
you with joy and peace. **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit, by whose overshadowing
Mary became the God-bearer, give you grace
to carry the good news of Christ. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father,
the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, be among
you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL HYMN— **273**

The service may be followed by the ANGELUS.

∨. The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary:

℞. **And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;
blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

**Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners, now,
and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

∨. Behold the handmaid of the Lord:

℞. **Be it unto me according to thy word.**

Hail Mary ...

∨. And the Word was made flesh:

℞. **And dwelt among us.**

Hail Mary ...

∨. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God:

℞. **That we may be made worthy of the
promises of Christ.**

Let us pray. Pour forth, we beseech you, O
Lord, your grace into our hearts; that we to
whom the Incarnation of Christ, your Son,
was made known by the message of an angel,
may by his Passion and Cross ✠ be brought
to the glory of his Resurrection; through the
same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**