

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS



The Readings for today speak of joy, for in the birth of Jesus Christ righteousness, hope, and grace have been given to us.

Introit



The Word became flesh and lived
for a while among us.*

We have seen his glory, the glory of the
one and only Son, who came from the
Father, full of grace and truth.

How good it is to sing praises
to our God,*

how pleasant and fitting to praise him!
Great is our Lord and mighty in power;*
his understanding has no limit.

The Lord delights in those who fear him,*
who put their hope in
his unfailing love.

Extol the Lord, O Jerusalem;*
praise your God, O Zion.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen

The Word became flesh and lived
for a while among us.*

We have seen his glory, the glory of the
one and only Son, who came from the
Father, full of grace and truth.

*(Antiphon, John 1:14;
Ps. 147:1, 5, 11-12)*

Collect of the Day

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, who wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature, grant that we may ever be alive in him who made himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Gradual

To us a child is born, to us a son is given,*
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,*
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Sing to the Lord a new song,*
for he has done marvelous things. *(Is. 9:6; Ps. 98:1)*

For Daily Devotions

January 4: Ps. 32; Mark 5; 5: Ps. 33; Mark 6; 6: Ps. 34; Mark 7; 7: Ps. 35; Mark 8; 8: Ps. 36; Mark 9; 9: Ps. 37; Mark 10; 10: Ps. 38; Mark 11.

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Isaiah 61:10–62:3

I delight greatly in the LORD;
my soul rejoices in my God.
For he has clothed me with garments of
salvation
and arrayed me in a robe of
righteousness,
as a bridegroom adorns his head like a
priest,
and as a bride adorns herself with her
jewels.
For as the soil makes the sprout come up
and a garden causes seeds to grow,
so the Sovereign LORD will make
righteousness and praise
spring up before all nations.
For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain
quiet,
till her righteousness shines out like the
dawn,
her salvation like a blazing torch.
The nations will see your righteousness,
and all kings your glory;
you will be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will
bestow.
You will be a crown of splendor in the
LORD's hand,
a royal diadem in the hand of your
God.

Ephesians 1:3–6, 15–18

Praise be to the God and Father of our
Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in
the heavenly realms with every spiritual
blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him
before the creation of the world to be
holy and blameless in his sight. In love
he predestined us to be adopted as his
sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance
with his pleasure and will—to the praise
of his glorious grace, which he has freely
given us in the One he loves. . . .

For this reason, ever since I heard
about your faith in the Lord Jesus and
your love for all the saints, I have not
stopped giving thanks for you, remem-
bering you in my prayers. I keep asking
that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the
glorious Father, may give you the Spirit

of wisdom and revelation, so that you
may know him better. I pray also that the
eyes of your heart may be enlightened
in order that you may know the hope to
which he has called you, the riches of his
glorious inheritance in the saints.

John 1:1–18

In the beginning was the Word, and
the Word was with God, and the Word
was God. He was with God in the begin-
ning.

Through him all things were made;
without him nothing was made that has
been made. In him was life, and that life
was the light of men. The light shines in
the darkness, but the darkness has not
understood it.

There came a man who was sent from
God; his name was John. He came as a
witness to testify concerning that light, so
that through him all men might believe.
He himself was not the light; he came
only as a witness to the light. The true
light that gives light to every man was
coming into the world.

He was in the world, and though the
world was made through him, the world
did not recognize him. He came to that
which was his own, but his own did not
receive him. Yet to all who received
him, to those who believed in his name,
he gave the right to become children
of God—children born not of natural
descent, nor of human decision or a hus-
band's will, but born of God.

The Word became flesh and made his
dwelling among us. We have seen his
glory, the glory of the One and Only,
who came from the Father, full of grace
and truth.

John testifies concerning him. He cries
out, saying, "This was he of whom I said,
'He who comes after me has surpassed
me because he was before me.'" From
the fullness of his grace we have all
received one blessing after another. For
the law was given through Moses; grace
and truth came through Jesus Christ. No
one has ever seen God, but God the One
and Only, who is at the Father's side, has
made him known.