



1 Christmas

First Sunday after Christmas Day

COLLECT

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.*

FIRST READING : Isaiah 61:10-62:3

I WILL GREATLY REJOICE in the LORD; my soul 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 like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch. The nations shall see your righteousness, 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.

Refrain

The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

Psalm 147:13-21

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| 13 | Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; * praise your God, O Zion; | 18 | He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; * who can stand against his cold? |
| 14 | For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; * he has blessed your children within you. | 19 | He sends forth his word and melts them; * he blows with his wind, and the waters flow. |
| 15 | He has established peace on your borders; * he satisfies you with the finest wheat. | 20 | He declares his word to Jacob, * his statutes and his judgments to Israel. |
| 16 | He sends out his command to the earth, * and his word runs very swiftly. | 21 | He has not done so to any other nation; * to them he has not revealed his judgments. Hallelujah! |
| 17 | He gives snow like wool; * he scatters hoarfrost like ashes. | | |

SECOND READING : Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

NOW BEFORE faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ... But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under

the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

GOSPEL : John 1:1-18

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 were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.