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## The First Sunday after Christmas December 31, 2023

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Hymns are found in the blue *Hymnal 1982* in your pew.  
The 'S' numbers are located at the front of the hymnal.

The service begins in quiet and prayer.

**Prelude:** *All Glory Be to God on High* Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)  
Cary Dumas, Guest Organist

### THE WORD OF GOD

**Processional Hymn 82:** *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

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

*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*People* **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.**

**Hymn of Praise 96:** *Angels we have Heard on High*

**Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray. 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.**

**The First Lesson:** *Isaiah 61:10-62:3*

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being 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 with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, 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.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 147:13-21**

<sup>13</sup>Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; \*

praise your God, O Zion;

<sup>14</sup>For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \*  
he has blessed your children within you.

<sup>15</sup>He has established peace on your borders; \*  
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

<sup>16</sup>He sends out his command to the earth, \*  
and his word runs very swiftly.

<sup>17</sup>He gives snow like wool; \*  
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

<sup>18</sup>He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \*  
who can stand against his cold?

<sup>19</sup>He sends forth his word and melts them; \*  
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.

<sup>20</sup>He declares his word to Jacob, \*  
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.

<sup>21</sup>He has not done so to any other nation; \*  
to them he has not revealed his judgments.  
Hallelujah!

**The Second Lesson:** *Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7*

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Sequence Hymn 633:** *Word of God*

*Reader* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**The 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 came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

*Reader* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon**

**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: 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**

Rejoicing that we have seen the salvation of God in the birth of Jesus, let us pray for the church, the world, and all people in need. *A brief silence* In Jesus, your love takes on human form to seek us out and guide us home; may Christ be born in us today to lead us into the lives for which we were made.

*People* **God of love, draw us together in peace.**

Holy God, we pray that your church may proclaim your light in dark times. We give you thanks for our St. Andrew's family, this community of prayer, support, and service. May we reach out to all who are in darkness and show forth the good news of the gospel. **God of love, draw us together in peace.**

Your Word comes with justice to rule the earth with fairness; inspire the leaders of all nations and the citizens of the world to order our economic lives to promote dignity and equality for all in your global household. **God of love, draw us together in peace.**

Mountains and rivers clap and sing as your Word makes all things new; awaken us to the damage we do to your world and mend our ways, that all creation might breathe again the liveliness of your blessing. **God of love, draw us together in peace.**

From your majesty on high to the lowliness of the stable, your Word has power to sustain all things, and through him we become your precious children; comfort those who are hungry, sick, or suffering, remembering especially those on our prayer list. *Pause* Make us mindful of the needs of those who are homebound. Bless them with your presence and help us attend to their needs. **God of love, draw us together in peace.**

In a moment of silence, let us pray for those who are dear to us. *Silence* Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours; grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. **God of love, draw us together in peace.**

We give thanks for the witness of those faithful servants whose earthly life has ended, remembering especially Samuel Warren, in whose memory the flowers are given this week and all those we love but see no longer. *Silence* Grant to them eternal rest. **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

O God, receive our prayers through Christ who is our glorious light. May we, like him, shine forth like the sun in bodies, breath, and beating hearts to sing your praise forevermore, and, as holy partners in a heavenly calling, dwell with you eternally. **Amen.**

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence*  
**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

### The Peace

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

*People* **And also with you.**

**Offertory Voluntary:** *Meditation on "Once in Royal David's City"* David Lasky (b. 1957)  
Cary Dumas, Guest Organist

**Presentation Hymn 84:** *Love Came Down at Christmas*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Eucharistic Prayer B

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you. *People* And al - so 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.

*The Celebrant offers our thanks to God for the grace and mercy made available to us in Christ.*

**Sanctus: Hymn S-130:** *Holy, holy, holy Lord*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people stand or kneel as the Celebrant gives thanks for the reconciling work of Christ through his passion and resurrection and prays over the bread and wine.*

*Celebrant* Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*People* **We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic prayer.*

*Celebrant* By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit of all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

*People*   
A - men.

*Celebrant* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,  
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

**Fraction Anthem: Hymn S-164:** *Jesus, Lamb of God*

*Please come forward and stand or kneel at the rail. The priest will place the bread in your outstretched palm (Consecrated rice wafers are available for those with wheat allergies - simply ask the priest). You may dip (intinct) the wafer in the wine in the small cup held by the Eucharistic minister. Alternatively, you may indicate your desire to drink from the common chalice by consuming the bread and remaining at the rail after the Eucharistic minister passes; another Eucharistic minister will bring the large chalice over for you to drink from directly. Please know that Christ is fully present in both the bread and the wine - there is no requirement to receive both. If you do not wish to receive communion, you may come forward, cross your hands over your chest, and receive a blessing.*

**Communion Hymn 324:** *Let all Mortal Flesh keep Silence*

*When Lay Eucharistic Visitors are taking Holy Communion to those unable to be with us in person, we say the following*

*Celebrant* In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

*People* **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

**Post-Communion Thanksgiving**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*People* **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Blessing**

**Closing Hymn 421:** *All Glory be to God on High*

*The young people are invited to come forward during the hymn to participate in the dismissal.*

*Young people* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude:** *Rhapsody on Sussex Carol* Norberto Guinaldo (b. 1937)  
Cary Dumas, Guest Organist



**LEADERS IN TODAY'S LITURGY**

**Combined Altar Guild**

**Bread Baker:** Stephen Bates

**8:00 am**

**Celebrant/ Preacher:** Paul Frolick

**Acolyte:** Ann Garvin

**Lector:** Bob Edwards

**Intercessor:** Mary Edwards

**10:00 am**

**Celebrant/ Preacher:** Paul Frolick

**Guest Organist:** Cary Dumas

**Acolytes:** Bill Harper, Carol Bennett,  
Scott Gerstenberger

**Lectors:** Jackie Doneghy, Norm Richert

**Intercessor:** Robert Westveer

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Jim Wortley,  
Ann Scott, Robert Westveer

**Ushers:** Stephanie Barker, Elaine Mouradian

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of **SAMUEL WARREN** by *Dennis & Jeanie Powers*

### Anglican Cycle of Prayer

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for *Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda*.

In our own diocese we pray for the clergy and people of *St. Andrew's (Waterford)*.

We pray for the clergy and people of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

And we pray for all those throughout the world who suffer for their faith.



GIVE ONLINE!

Ushers will receive your offering during the Offertory or you can give online via WeShare using the QR code shown here.