

Order of Service, Readings, and Prayer

Second Sunday of Christmas

January 4, 2026

THE GATHERING

Welcome	
Parish Announcements	
Prelude	
*Confession and Forgiveness	p. 94
*Hymn <i>"Angels From The Realms of Glory"</i>	No. 275
*Greeting & Kyrie	p. 138
*Canticle of Praise	p. 140
*Prayer of the Day	Insert

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading –	Jeremiah 31:7-14
Psalm 147 (read responsively)	Insert
Second Reading	Ephesians 1:3-14
*The Gospel Acclamation	p. 142
*Holy Gospel	John 1:[1-9]10-18
Children's Message	James Pyatt

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

The Message	James Pyatt
*Hymn <i>"Angels We Have Heard on High"</i>	No. 289
The Nicene Creed	back of hymnal
*Blessing of Offerings	
*The Prayers of Intercession	p. 143
P: Hear us, O God.	
C: Your mercy is great.	
*The Great Thanksgiving	p. 144
*The Lord's Prayer – Traditional	p. 145
The Communion	
*The Prayer after Communion	p. 146

SENDING

*The Blessing	p. 146
*The Sending Song <i>"Go Tell It On The Mountain"</i>	No. 290
*The Dismissal	p. 146
<i>*The Congregation will stand in reverence</i>	

Psalm, continued

¹⁷God scatters ¹ hail like bread crumbs.
Who can stand a- ¹ gainst God's cold?
¹⁸The LORD sends forth the ¹ word
and melts them;
the wind blows, and the ¹ waters flow.

¹⁹God declares the ¹ word to Jacob,
statutes and judg- ¹ ments to Israel.
²⁰The LORD has not done so to any
¹ other nation;
they do not know God's judgments.
¹ Hallelujah!

or Wisdom 10:15-21 [not printed]

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:3-14

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, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his

good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Gospel

John 1:[1-9] 10-18

[In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

⁶There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.]

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and

his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And 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. ¹⁵(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.' ") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

TODAY'S READINGS January 4, 2026

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Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17.

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7 of 13
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