

First Sunday after Christmas

INTRODUCTION

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.

As we kneel with the shepherds before the newborn Christ-child, we open our hearts in penitence and faith.

Lord Jesus, you were born for our salvation:
Lord, have mercy.

℟. **Lord, have mercy.**

You came as Saviour to bring wholeness and peace: Christ, have mercy.

℟. **Christ, have mercy.**

You come to bring light into the darkness of our lives: Lord, have mercy.

℟. **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 recited.

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 restored 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 is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Readings for Year B

FIRST READING

Isa 61.10–62.3

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

℟. 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; ℟.

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

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. ℟.

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. ℟.

SECOND READING

Gal 4.4-7

A reading from the letter of Paul to the
Galatians.

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.

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

Alleluia, 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 shep-
herds 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 to 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.

All may sit for the OFFERTORY. *The priest may praise God for his gifts, to which all respond:*
Blessed be God for ever.

All stand for 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, the sacrifice we offer you, and through the prayers of the Virgin Mother of God and Saint Joseph grant that our families may be secure 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:
Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
Dying, you destroyed our death;
rising, you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

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 said.

**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.**

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 his 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 overshadow-
ing 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.

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.**

∩. 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.**