

2nd Sunday After Christmas
January 5th, 2025



“...{I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel”

-Jeremiah 31:9

Prelude:	Blessed Jesus We Are Here <i>(guest organist, Jeff Higbie)</i>	J.S. Bach
Opening Hymn:	# 497 How Bright Appears the Morning Star	
Invocation		
<i>Presider</i>	Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.	
<i>People</i>	And blessed by his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.	

Collect for Purity

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.**

Gloria

WLP 900

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.

Please stand

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah

31:7-14

Thus says the Lord:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say,

"Save, O Lord, your people,
the remnant of Israel."

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here.

With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say,
"He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.

Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

Lector The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God**

Hymn: #517 How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place (*a paraphrase of Psalm 84*)

Reading from the Letter to the Ephesians

1:3-6,15-19a

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, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

Lector The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God**

Gradual Hymn: #84 Love Came Down at Christmas

The Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews?"

For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

Fr. Frank

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.

Prayers of the People

Form VI

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. *Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work; **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world; **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation; **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble; **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God; **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and Jennifer, our Bishop; for Bishop Mauricio and the Diocese of Brasilia, and for Frank our priest; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. In the diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for the leaders and parishioners Trinity, Bloomington, the Rev'd Matthew Seddon, the Venerable Connie Pepler. **For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. For **Justin, Kaitlyn, Taylor, Marjorie, Emma, Marilyn, Mollie, Abby, Larry, Amanda, Roger, Eva Mae, Troy, Alan, Jan, Jim, Cecelia, Roger, Damon, Sonia, Jon, Jane, Kevin, Papa Ed, Judy, Cheryl, Mark, Ian, Katy, Keith, Bernie, Emma, Margaret Denise, Adolfo and Doris.** *(Please add your own prayers in silence or by naming aloud those for whom you wish to pray.)* Hear us, Lord; **For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. *(Please add your own prayers of Thanksgiving in silence or by naming aloud that for which you wish to pray.)* We will exalt you, O God our King; **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. *(Please add your own prayers in silence or by naming aloud those for whom you wish to pray.)* Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them; **Who put their trust in you.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Offertory Anthem: Shepherds arr. Wilbur Held

Presentation Hymn: 380, stanza 3 *Old 100th*

As the Ushers are passing the Collection Plate, please come forward with your gift for our Food Pantry donation and place it at the foot of the altar.

After the Presentation Hymn

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

All things come of thee oh Lord; **and of thine own have we given thee.**

Let us pray:

You are our Bread of Life that sustains us as we strive to be your disciples and build up Your kingdom on earth. As we are fed by You, may we feed those who are hungry for bread, for justice, for understanding, and for compassion. May we share your mercy and grace with all we meet. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer B

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

S-130

**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. Then the Presider continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Presider and People

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

The Presider continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Matthew and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

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 Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

S-164

Jesus Lamb of God, have mercy on me
Jesus bearer of our sins, have mercy on us
Jesus redeemer, redeemer of the world.
Give us your peace, give us your peace

Communion Hymn: #336 Come With Us, O Blessed Jesus

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

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

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: #93 Angels From The Realms Of Glory

Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia!

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude: Allegro Vivo

L. Raffy

If you would like to donate altar flowers, please sign up in the narthex. The 2025 signup sheet is up.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

LECTORS	Robin Edwards, Jennifer Albrecht	USHERS/GREETERS	Greg Staab, Missy Ellis
INTERCESSOR:	Steve Albrecht	COUNTERS	Terry Kee, Angie Wilkinson
CRUCIFER:	Andy Wilkinson	OBLATIONS	LeRoy Brown, Cheryl Croghan
CHALICE:	Joan Porter	ALTAR GUILD:	Team 1



St. Matthew's Episcopal Church | Indianapolis

is a parish of

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