

The Holy Eucharist – 2nd Sunday after Christmas (January 5, 2025)

Prelude

Opening Rites

The celebrant may begin with words of welcome using the following passages

Behold, the dwelling of God is with mankind. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them, and be their God. *Revelation 21:3*

A wonderful new year to everyone! As we come and encounter God today, commit to make God our God—making Him first in our lives for the year.

Let us all rise for the opening hymn.

Opening Hymn

#15 – “O God, Our Help In Ages Past” vv.1-4

Verse 1

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.

Verse 2

Under the shadow of Thy throne,
still may we dwell secure;
sufficient is Thine arm alone,
and our defense is sure.

Verse 3

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting, Thou art God,
to endless years the same.

Verse 4

A thousand ages, in Thy sight,
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night,
before the rising sun.

“上帝做咱世代幫助”

- 1 上帝做咱世代幫助，
也是將來盼望，
雖然大風大浪沖來，
靠祂安穩自在。
- 2 全能寶座蔭影下面，
聖徒居住安心，
祂的聖手咱可依靠，
攏總不免煩惱。
- 3 衆山尚未出現以前，
世界尚未形成，
祢從古昔就是上帝，
永遠無變無退。
- 4 由祢來看雖然千年，
親像過了一暝，
暗暝一更實在真短，
一目瞬久就過。阿們。

Greeting

All standing, the 1st and 5th responses should be used, the others are optional.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

V. I was glad when they said to me,

R. "Let us go to the house of the Lord."

V. O come, let us sing to the Lord;

R. Let us shout for joy to the Almighty Savior.

V. God is spirit.

R. Those who worship Him must worship in spirit and in truth.

V. Praise be to God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

R. And praise be to His kingdom now and forever.

The Celebrant may say the following prayer or any other appropriate prayer

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.*

Song of Praise

Gloria S280

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.

Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant 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.

People Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

The Lessons

The people sit. One or two Lessons, as appointed, are read, the Reader first saying

The First and Second Reading from Jeremiah 31:7-14 & Ephesians 1:3-14.

A citation giving chapter and verse may be added.

After each Reading, the Reader may say

The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Anthem - "O Magnify the Lord"

O magnify, O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His Name together.

O magnify the Lord; O magnify the Lord, and may His Name be lifted high forever.

King of kings and Lord of lords, may His Name be lifted high forever.

O for a thousand tongues to sing the glories of my God and King.

Magnify Him! Hallelujah!

Wonders of grace to God belong;

repeat His mercies in your song.

Magnify Him! Hallelujah!

Glorify Him! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

O worship Him; O worship Christ the Lord with me, and let us exalt His Name forever.

O worship Christ, the Lord;

O worship Christ, the Lord, and may His Name be lifted high forever.

Give to the Lord of lords renown;
the King of kings with glory crown.
Magnify Him! Hallelujah!

His mercies ever shall endure when lords and kings are known no more.
Magnify Him! Hallelujah!
Glorify Him! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

King of kings and Lord of lords,
may His Name be lifted high;
may His Name be lifted high;
may His Name be lifted high forever.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
O magnify the Lord!

The Gospel

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 2:41-52.

People Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Induction of Vestry

A hymn is sung as the Vestry processes towards the chancel.

315 - I Will Serve Thee

I will serve Thee because I love Thee,
You have given life to me;
I was nothing before You found me,
You have given life to me.

“我要服事祢”

我服事祢因為我愛祢，
祢放棄生命為我，
未認識主，我心靈空虛，
祢將生命賜給我，

Heartaches, broken pieces,
Ruined lives are why you died on Calvary,
Your touch was what I longed for,
You have given life to me.

人心破碎悲傷，
所以主釘十架寶體打破；
我心感動渴望祢，
祢放棄生命為我。

THE PRESENTATION

- Sponsor : Reverend Sir, I present unto you these persons, to be admitted to the Office of the Vestry in this Parish.
- Priest : Are the persons whom you present duly prepared by purity of life, regular attendance at Church, and acknowledgment of their duties, to exercise their ministry to the honor of God and the edifying of the Church?
- Sponsor : I believe them so to be.

THE EXAMINATION

Inductees raise their right hands.

- Priest : Dearly beloved, who desire to be admitted to the Office of the Vestry in this Church, are you convinced that the work of this ministry is so important that, while you are appointed thereto, you should be diligent in performing the same?
- Answer : I am so convinced.
- Priest : Will you try faithfully and reverently to execute the duties of your Office to the best of your ability, as unto the Lord and not unto men?
- Answer : I will try to do so.
- Priest : Will you strive to live in accordance with the sacredness of this Office?
- Answer : I will so strive, the Lord being my helper.
- Priest : May God guide and bless you in the doing of this work.

Inductees put down their hands.

Congregation stand

- ALL : Praise the Lord, ye servants, O praise the Name of the Lord.

Psalm 100 Jubilate Deo

- V : O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands, serve the Lord with gladness, and come before His presence with a song.
- R : Be ye sure that the Lord He is God, it is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.
- V : O go your way into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise; be thankful unto Him, and speak good of His name.
- R : For the Lord is gracious, His mercy is everlasting; and His truth endureth from

generation to generation.
V : Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
R : As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The congregation is seated

The Lesson : Numbers 11: 16-17

So, the Lord said unto Moses, "Gather to Me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people, and officers over them; bring them unto the tabernacle of meeting that they may stand there with you. Then I will come down and talk with you there; and I will take of the Spirit that is upon thee and will put the same upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with you, that you may not bear it yourself alone."

The Induction and Admission

Priest: I admit you to the Office of the Vestry in this Church; and I give you this Book of Canons as a token of your Ministry. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Without counsel, purposes are disappointed, but in the multitude of counselors they are established...

Vestry: I am Thy servant, O grant me understanding, that I may know Thy testimonies.

Priest: Let us pray.

O eternal God, the Foundation of all wisdom, enlighten with Thy grace the Vestry of Thy Church, and so rule their minds and guide their counsels, that in all things they may seek Thy glory and the welfare of Thy Holy Church, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Priest: Dearly beloved, welcome your Vestry men and women for this year.

THE CONCLUSION

Minister and people say together

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Teach me Thy way, O Lord, and I will walk in Thy truth.
O knit my heart unto Thee, that I may fear Thy Name
So will I always sing praise unto Thy Name;
That I may daily perform my vows.

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And with Thy spirit.

Priest: Let us pray.

Regard, we beseech Thee, O Lord, our supplications, and confirm with Thy heavenly benediction these Thy servants whom we have admitted to the lay ministry of Thy Church, that with sincere devotion of mind and body they may offer a service acceptable to Thy divine Majesty, through Jesus Christ our Lord, to Whom, with Thee and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

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 men and for our salvation
He came down from heaven:
conceived by 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.

Mission and Vision (1st Sunday only)

Celebrant

Together, let us also declare our Mission and Vision.

Mission:

Celebrant

Church, what are we to do?

People

To raise up generations of mature followers of Christ to be salt and light in the world who will love God, love others, and make disciples.

Vision:

Celebrant

What do we aim to be?

People

To be a church that impacts its community through members who are diligent in making disciples wherever they are, rooted in the word, reverent in worship, and fervent in prayer.

The Prayers of the People

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of Your coming, we pray to You, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Nestor, our Prime Bishop, for James, our own Bishop, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to You, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who fear God and believe in You, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as You and the Father are one, we pray to You, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to You, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith, that they may receive the light of the Gospel, we pray to You, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to You, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those in positions of public trust, [especially in our country, the Philippines] that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to You, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who live and work in this community, we pray to You, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For a blessing upon all human labor, and for the right use of the riches of creation, that the world may be freed from poverty, famine, and disaster, we pray to You, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to You, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this congregation, for those who are present, and for those who are absent, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth Your glory in all that we do, we pray to You, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to You, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

To You, O Lord our God.

Let us now pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect, or the following Doxology

For Yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Confession

The Celebrant may read one of the following sentences

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:14,16

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People

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, we pray You of Your mercy: forgive what we have been, amend what we are, direct what we shall be; that we may delight in Your will, and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your Name. Amen.

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

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.*

Prayer of Humble Access

Most merciful Lord, we do not trust in our own merits to come to Your table, but in Your boundless grace. You have invited us to come to the table of the Kingdom of Heaven. Help us to partake of the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that we may ever-more live in Him, and He in us. Amen.

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

Our Lord Jesus Christ says: “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you.”

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The people exchange the peace of the Lord.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory

Celebrant

I appeal to you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. *Romans 12:1*

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

Offertory Hymn

#319 - “The Longer I Serve Him”

William J. Gaither

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Verse 1

Since I started for the Kingdom,
Since my life He controls,
Since I gave my heart to Jesus,
The longer I serve Him, the sweeter He grows.

Chorus

The longer I serve Him,
the sweeter He grows,
The more that I love Him,
more love He bestows;
Each day is like heaven,
my heart overflows,
The longer I serve Him
the sweeter He grows.

Verse 2

Every need He is supplying,
Plenteous grace He bestows;
Every day my way gets brighter,
The longer I serve Him, the sweeter He grows.

After the offerings are collected, the people sing

All things come of Thee, O Lord. And of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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.

“我事奉祂越久”

1 自我歸向主的國度，
我生命主眷顧；
自我將心奉獻給主，
我事奉祂越久越甜蜜豐富。

和：我事奉祂越久，
越甜蜜豐富，
我事奉祂越久，
主慈愛長留；
在地如同在天，
滿心樂歌唱，
我事奉祂越久，
越甜蜜豐富。

2 祂供給我一切需要，
祂賜恩典奇妙；
每日道路光明順序，
我事奉祂越久越甜蜜豐富。

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:

Celebrant and People

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.
Glory be to Thee, O Lord Most High! Amen.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In Your infinite love You made us in Your image, and, when we fell into sin and become subject to evil and death, You, in Your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, Your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us. He stretched out His arms upon the cross, and offered Himself, in obedience to Your will, a perfect sacrifice for all mankind, to reconcile us to You, the God and Father of all.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night He was betrayed, 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, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving and we offer You these gifts, recalling His death, resurrection, and ascension.

Sanctify them by Your Holy Spirit to be for Your people the Body and Blood of Your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve You in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all Your saints into the joy of Your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Your Son Jesus Christ. All honor and glory is Yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. *Amen.*

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,
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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

V. We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

R. Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on Him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and 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

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, may bless the people with either of the following

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be amongst you, and remain with you always. Amen.

Announcements

1. Having witnessed the induction of our new Vestry members earlier, we would also like to acknowledge the five Vestrymen who have finished their three-year term.

Arthur Ang
Christian Ong
Fitzgerald Chee
Arthur Lu
Edward Yu

Thank you for your service for the past years and may God reward you richly for doing so.

2. The Prayer and Fasting Manuals are now available near the entrance. We printed limited copies for those who prefer it. Digital copies are also available for download from our website.

Our Prayer and Fasting starts on January 13, next week Monday. But do look through our manuals already so you can prepare what to do ahead of time.

3. Our Church Calendars are also out already. We request that those who have gotten copies already to give way to those who have not yet. Afterwards, you may get extras once everyone has gotten their copies.

Closing Song

#242 – “Blessed Assurance”

Verse 1

Blessed assurance Jesus is mine,
O what a foretaste of glory divine;
Heir of salvation purchase of God,
Born of His spirit, washed in His blood.

Chorus

This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Saviour, all the day long.

Verse 2

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending bring from above,
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“讚美主救恩”

- 1 讚美我救主無窮恩愛，
曾為我罪人降生世界，
用祂的寶血將我贖回，
靠祂的功勞赦我無罪。

和：這就是福音，我要宣傳，
讚美主救恩，直到永遠，
常誇口主的救贖恩情，
讚美我救主日夜無停。

- 2 完全獻給主就有幸福，
完全順服主才有快樂，
真理的聖靈充滿我心，
助我做見證到主降臨。