



Saint Bartholomew
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
a house of prayer for all people

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

28 December 2014 at 10:30 a.m.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

THE PEOPLE GATHER

This service is based on the Order for Holy Eucharist: Rite Two found in the red Book of Common Prayer. It is customary for the people to prepare for worship in quiet and prayer.

THE WORD OF GOD

The people stand to sing

HYMN H-496 How bright appears the Morning Star Wie schön leuchtet

ACCLAMATION

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

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

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.

GLORY TO GOD Gloria in excelsis S280

THE 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 LESSONS

The people sit for

The First Reading: Jeremiah 31:15-17

Thus says the Lord: A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more. Thus says the Lord: Keep your voice from weeping, and your eyes from tears; for there is a reward for your work, says the Lord: they shall come back from the land of the enemy; there is hope for your future, says the Lord: your children shall come back to their own country.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Psalm: Psalm 124

If the Lord had not been on our side,
let Israel now say;

If the Lord had not been on our side,
when enemies rose up against us;

Then would they have swallowed us up alive
in their fierce anger toward us;

Then would the waters have overwhelmed us
and the torrent gone over us;

Then would the raging waters
have gone right over us.

Blessed be the Lord!

he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.

We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler;
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

Our help is in the Name of the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.

The Epistle: Revelation 21:1-7

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The people stand for the singing of the Sequence Hymn and the reading of the Gospel. Verses 1 & 2 are sung before the reading and verses 3 is sung after.

HYMN H-497 How bright appears the Morning Star Wie schön leuchtet

The Gospel: Matthew 2:13-18

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

Nisi quia Dominus

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Stephen Secaur

The people stand to say

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 people are led in

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM IV

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your mercy Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, especially... and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially...; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially...that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

PRAYERS OF SPECIAL INTENTION

The people may come forward to receive a special prayer or blessing

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

All greet one another in the name of Christ.

The people are seated for the