

Grace Episcopal Church
December 28, 2025
The First Sunday after Christmas
Grace's Mission

We are disciples of Jesus, helping one another be the hands and feet of Christ
by sharing God's love with the world.

Opening Hymn
Holy Eucharist Rite Two

The snow lay on the ground

Blue Hymnal #110
Red Book of Common Prayer (BCP) p355

Trisagion

S-99(Front of Praise Book)

The Collect

BCP p 211

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

A Reading from the Book of **Isaiah 61:10-62:3**

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.

Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 147

Laudate Dominum

[1 Hallelujah!

How good it is to sing praises to our
God! *

how pleasant it is to honor him with
praise!

2 The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem; *
he gathers the exiles of Israel.

3 He heals the brokenhearted *
and binds up their wounds.

4 He counts the number of the stars *
and calls them all by their names.

5 Great is our LORD and mighty in power; *
there is no limit to his wisdom.

6 The LORD lifts up the lowly, *
but casts the wicked to the ground.

7 Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; *
make music to our God upon the harp.

8 He covers the heavens with clouds *
and prepares rain for the earth;

9 He makes grass to grow upon the
mountains *
and green plants to serve mankind.

10 He provides food for flocks and herds *
and for the young ravens when they cry.

11 He is not impressed by the might of a
horse; *
he has no pleasure in the strength of a
man;

12 But the LORD has pleasure in those who
fear him, *
in those who await his gracious favor.]

13 Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion;

14 For he has strengthened the bars of your
gates; *
he has blessed your children within you.

15 He has established peace on your borders;
*
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

16 He sends out his command to the earth, *
and his word runs very swiftly.

17 He gives snow like wool; *
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
who can stand against his cold?

19 He sends forth his word and melts them;
*
he blows with his wind, and the waters
flow.

20 He declares his word to Jacob, *
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.

21 He has not done so to any other nation; *
to them he has not revealed his
judgments.
Hallelujah!

A reading from **Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7**

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But 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.

Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

Of the Father's love begotten

Blue Hymnal #82

The Holy Gospel according to John 1:1-18

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into

being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

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

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

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

"The Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. J. Jeffrey Baker

The Nicene Creed

BCP p 358

Prayers of the People

Form III

BCP p 387

A Prayer for Change: Lord, give us the courage to view the future with hope and expectancy and, most of all, with faith. In the face of change, help us set aside our fears, and urge us to seek and see your hand at work, while opening our hearts to recognize that change brings new life. *Amen.*

Let his resurrection power bring healing and hope to those for whom we pray, For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. Especially we pray for Valorie Lephart, Vivian, Paul, Sue & Michael. Baby Drake, Aria, 8 yr old Charlie, Willow, George & Sandy Luther, Clare McElroy, Martha Mackey, Phil Bennett, Beth and Ray, Bill, Janet, Chris, Matthew, Janice, Carolyn Stacks, David Petro, Judith Junda, Sheila Smith, Kathy Hill, Sherry Occkial , Franny E., Kevin, Patty, Erin, Pat, Doug Newyear, Gail, Sue, Susan Shepherd, Riley Gumto and the Stoldt, Dearborn and Baker families.

Confession of Sin

BCP 359

The Peace

BCP 360

Announcements

Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

Grace Choir

The Doxology

Front of Praise Book

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharist Prayer A

BCP 361

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy, Lord

Front of Praise Book

The Great Amen

Front of Praise Book

The Breaking of the Bread

BCP p 364

Fraction Hymn

Lamb of God

Front of Praise Book

Communion Hymn

Let all mortal flesh keep silence

Blue Hymnal #324

The Post-Communion Prayer

BCP p 366

The Blessing

Closing Hymn

Go tell it on the mountain

Blue Hymnal #99

The Dismissal