

READINGS & PRAYERS

CHRISTMAS DAY
(READINGS SET 3)

COLLECT

Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Isa 52.7–10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.' Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

from Ps 98



R. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. (*All repeat*)



Sing to the Lord | a new song,
for he has done mar-|vellous things.
With his own right hand and with his | holy
arm
he has brought de-|liverance. **R.**

The Lord has made known his | righteous
love
in the sight of | all mankind,
and his faithful-|ness and truth
toward the house of | Israel. **R.**

All the ends of the | earth have seen
the salvation | of our God.
Let all the world be | glad in him:
Sing, rejoice and | give him thanks. **R.**

Let music sound up-|on the harp,
let psalms be offered | to his praise.
With trumpets and with | songs of joy
shout the praise of | God our King. **R.**

SECOND READING

Heb 1.1–4

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us:
and we have seen his glory.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING

Jn 1.1-14

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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 were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Almighty God, the saving work of Christ made our peace with you. May our offering today renew that peace within us and give you perfect praise. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION

God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem: may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

SOLEMN 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 overshadowing Mary became the God-bearer, give you grace to carry the good news of Christ. **Amen.**

And the blessing ...