



# Apostles

## Anglican Church

**The Second Sunday of Christmas**

1/4/2026

**Liturgy for the Traditional Service**

The Anglican Church of North America

**THE PRELUDE:** Trio on "We Three Kings" - Rebecca TeVelde

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST

**THE BELL** (*congregation standing*)

**HYMN:** We Three Kings of Orient Are



1. We three kings of O - ri - ent are, bear - ing gifts we trav - erse a - far,
2. Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown Him a - gain,
3. Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I, in - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh;
4. Myrrh is mine, its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom:
5. Glo - rious now be - hold Him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice;



field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.  
prayer and prais - ing, voic - es rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God on high.  
sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! sounds through the earth and skies.

*Refrain*



O star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light.

## THE ACCLAMATION

Priest: For unto us a child is born.

**People:** *Unto us a son is given.*

Priest: Let us pray.

## THE 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.**

## THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

*Matthew 22:37-40*

## THE GLORIA



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus



### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Priest: The Lord be with you.

**People:** *And with your spirit.*

Priest: 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 our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE LESSONS *(congregation seated)*

### **Jeremiah 31:7-14**

For 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 labour, 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.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

**People: *Thanks be to God.***

### **Psalm 84**

- 1 How lovely are your dwellings, \*  
O LORD God of hosts!
- 2 My soul has a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the LORD; \*  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 3 Indeed, the sparrow has found her a house, and the swallow a nest where she may lay  
her young, \*  
even your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.
- 4 Blessed are they who dwell in your house; \*  
they will be always praising you.
- 5 Blessed is the one whose strength is in you, \*  
in whose heart are your ways,
- 6 Who going through the valley of misery uses it for a well; \*  
indeed, the early rains fill the pools with water.
- 7 They will go from strength to strength, \*  
and the God of gods shall be seen by them in Zion.
- 8 O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; \*  
hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 9 Behold, O God, our defender, \*  
and look upon the face of your Anointed.
- 10 For one day in your courts \*  
is better than a thousand;
- 11 I would rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God \*  
than dwell in the tents of ungodliness.
- 12 For the LORD God is a light and defense; \*  
the LORD will give grace and honor, and no good thing shall he withhold from those who  
live a godly life.
- 13 O LORD God of hosts, \*  
blessed is the one who puts his trust in you.

**All:** *Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.*

### **Ephesians 1:3-14**

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. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** *Thanks be to God.*

### **The Gospel** *(congregation standing)*

**Deacon:** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

### **Matthew 2:1-12**

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.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## THE SERMON

**THE NICENE CREED** (*congregation standing*)

***We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, visible and invisible.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten 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,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** *(congregation standing or kneeling)*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Almighty and everliving God, we are taught by your holy Word to offer prayers and supplications and to give thanks for all people. We humbly ask you mercifully to receive our prayers. Inspire continually the universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all who confess your holy Name may agree in the truth of your holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

**People: Hear our prayer.**

We pray that you will lead the nations of the world in the way of righteousness; and so guide and direct their leaders, especially Donald, our President, Andy, our Governor, and Linda, our Mayor, that your people may enjoy the blessings of freedom and peace. Grant that our leaders may impartially administer justice, uphold integrity and truth, restrain wickedness and vice, and protect true religion and virtue.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

***People: Hear our prayer.***

Give grace, heavenly Father, to all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, and especially to your servants Bishops Ray Sutton and Julian Dodds, Steve, our Archbishop, Mark and Allen, our Bishops, and all our clergy, that by their life and teaching, they may proclaim your true and life-giving Word, and rightly and duly administer your holy Sacraments And to all your people give your heavenly grace, especially to this Congregation, that with reverent and obedient hearts we may hear and receive your holy Word, and serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of our lives.

Father, we ask that you continue to bless our search process for a new rector. Raise up for us, we pray, a priest and pastor who will boldly proclaim your Gospel, faithfully administer your sacraments, and serve your people with love and compassion, that we may be a home for spiritual orphans and seekers.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

***People: Hear our prayer.***

Prosper, we pray, all those who proclaim the Gospel of your kingdom throughout the world, and strengthen us to fulfill your great commission, making disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to obey all that you have commanded.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

***People: Hear our prayer.***

We ask you in your goodness, O Lord, to comfort and sustain all who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

***People: Hear our prayer.***

We remember before you all your servants who have departed this life in your faith and fear, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we ask you to give us grace to follow the good examples of all your saints, that we may share with them in your heavenly kingdom.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

**People:** *Hear our prayer.*

Priest: Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SIN

**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,**

*have mercy on us and forgive us;*

*that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,*

*to the glory of your Name. Amen.*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Priest: Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. 1 John 2:1-2

## THE PEACE *(congregation standing)*

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** *And with your spirit.*

## THE DOXOLOGY *(congregation standing)*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise Him, all creatures here below;*

***Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.***

### **THE OFFERTORY**

Celebrant: Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for everything in heaven and on earth is yours; yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as Head above all.

All things come from you, O Lord,

***People: And of your own have we given you.***

### **THE SURSUM CORDA** *(congregation standing)*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

***People: And with your spirit.***

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.***

It is right, our duty and our joy, 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 Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary his mother, was made truly man, yet without the stain of sin, that we might be cleansed from sin and given the right 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:

## THE SANCTUS



## THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION *(congregation kneeling)*

All praise and glory is yours, O God our heavenly Father, for in your tender mercy, you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption. He made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and he instituted, and in his Holy Gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

So now, O merciful Father, in your great goodness, we ask you to bless and sanctify, with your Word and Holy Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine, that we, receiving them according to your Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

For on the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me."

Therefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of your dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we your humble servants celebrate and make here before your divine Majesty, with these holy gifts, the memorial your Son commanded us to make; remembering his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and his promise to come again.

And we earnestly desire your fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; asking you to grant that, by the merits and death of your Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his Blood, we and your whole Church may obtain forgiveness of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present to you, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice. We humbly pray that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, be filled with your grace and heavenly benediction, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, because of our many sins, to offer you any sacrifice, yet we ask you to accept this duty and service we owe, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

***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 FRACTION:**

**This is Jesus**  
*This is Jesus, Emmanuel  
God is with us in this sacrament  
Come receive him, adore him  
This is Jesus Christ our Lord*

**THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS**

*We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness,  
but in your abundant and great mercies.  
We are not worthy so much as to gather up  
the crumbs under your table;  
but you are the same Lord  
whose character is always to have mercy.  
Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,  
and to drink his blood,  
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,  
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,  
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.*

**THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

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 PRAYER OF CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP**

*Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us, in these holy mysteries,  
with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us, through this Sacrament, of your favor and goodness towards us:*

*that we are true members of the mystical body of your Son,  
the blessed company of all faithful people;  
and are also heirs, through hope,  
of your everlasting kingdom.*

*And we humbly ask you, heavenly Father,  
to assist us with your grace,  
that we may continue in that holy fellowship,  
and do all the good works that you have prepared for us to walk in;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.*

### **THE BLESSING**

The peace of God, which passes 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 among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### **THE RECESSIONAL** *(congregation standing)*



## HYMN: What Child is This



1. What Child is this Who, laid to rest on Ma-ry's lap is sleep - ing?  
2. Why lies He in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?  
3. So bring Him in - cense, gold and myrrh, come, peas-ant, king, to own Him;



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet, while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?  
Good Chris-tians, fear, for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing,  
the King of kings sal - va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne Him.

### *Refrain*



This, this is Christ the King, Whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;



haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the son of Ma - ry.

## THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

**People:** Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## THE POSTLUDE: Intonation on "The First Noel" - J. Carter







## Apostles Anglican Church

Sunday, 8:30 and 10:55 am  
[www.apostleslex.com](http://www.apostleslex.com)  
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859-245-1318



Scan this QR Code with  
your phone's camera to  
access our online giving,  
website, upcoming events,  
and more.

### **Friendly Reminders:**

*Please place your bulletins in a blue recycling bin after services.*

*We kindly ask that children stay on the Sanctuary level during  
discipleship hour and after services for their safety.*

*If you would like prayer following the service, please reach out to one of  
the clergy.*