

## The Second Sunday after Christmas

### The Introit

Venerunt pastores, Luke 2:16/Psalm 128:1 [2-6]

STONE VII



### Antiphon:

The shep-herds came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, \*  
and the Babe lying in a manger.

**Psalm.** Blessed are all they who fear the Lord, \*  
and walk in his ways.

[You shall eat the fruit of your labor; \*  
happiness and prosperity shall be yours.

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine within your house, \*  
your children like olive shoots round about your table.

The man who fears the LORD \*  
shall thus indeed be blessed.

The LORD bless you from Zion, \*  
and may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem  
all the days of your life.

May you live to see your children's children; \*  
may peace be upon Israel. ]

**Gloria Patri.** Glo-ry to the Father, and to the Son↓,  
and to the Holy Spirit, \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever,  
for all ages of ages Amen **Antiphon:**

## **The Kyrie or Litany**

### **The Gloria in Excelsis Deo**

#### **The Collect:**

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 and the Holy Spirit, one God, for all ages of ages. *Amen*

#### **Or:**

Lord Jesus Christ, by your wondrous holiness you adorned a human home, and by your subjection to Mary and Joseph you consecrated the order of earthly families: Grant that we, enlightened by the example of your holy Family, and assisted by their prayers, may be joined with them in your eternal fellowship; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for all ages of ages. *Amen*

#### **The First Reading:** Jeremiah 31:7-14

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 labor, 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.

**Gradual** *Quam dilecta Psalm 84:1, with verses 1,2/3,4/5,6/7,8*

TONE III



**Antiphon.** How dear to me is your dwel-ling, \* O Lord of hosts!

V. My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD; \*  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

V. The sparrow has found her a house ↓  
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; \*  
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,  
my King and my God.

V. Blessed are they who dwell in your house! \*  
they will always be praising you.

V. Blessed are the people whose strength is in you! \*  
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

- V. Those who go through the desolate valley ↓  
will find it a place of springs, \*  
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- V. They will climb from height to height, \*  
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- V. LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; \*  
hearken, O God of Jacob.
- V. Behold our defender, O God; \*  
and look upon the face of your Anointed. **Antiphon**

**The Epistle:** Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a

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. I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.



## The Nicene Creed

Offertory **Reges Tharsis, Psalm 72:10,11**

TONE I



The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, \*  
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts;  
all kings shall bow down before him, \*  
and all the nations do him service.

### Prayer Over the Gifts

Heavenly Father, Source of love and life, receive all we offer you this day, and through the coming of your Son, help us to see in others, him who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for all ages of ages. *Amen.*

### The Preface of the Nativity

Because by the mystery of the Word made flesh,  
the light of your glory has shone upon the eyes of our mind;  
so that, while we acknowledge him to be God in visible form,  
he may draw us to the love of things invisible.

### Before the Pax Domini

*Priest:* May Almighty God, Who has made this day to be most sacred through the birth of His only Son, set His blessing upon you, and stir up within you a desire for Heavenly things.

*People:* Amen

