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## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS – JAN 3, 2021

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ANNOUNCEMENTS/MUSICAL PRELUDE—KIMBERLY BAZEMORE

ENTRANCE HYMN LBW #358 “Glories of Your Name Are Spoken” (*Stand, Sung*)

**Glories of your name are spoken, Zion, city of our God;  
He whose word cannot be broken Formed you for his own abode.  
On the Rock of Ages founded, What can shake your sure repose?  
With salvation’s walls surrounded, You may smile at all your foes.**

**See, the streams of living waters, Springing from eternal love,  
Well supply your sons and daughters, And all fear of want remove.  
Who can faint, while such a river Ever will their thirst assuage?  
Grace which like the Lord, the giver, Never fails from age to age.**

**Round each habitation hov’ring, See the cloud and fire appear  
For a glory and a cov’ring, Showing that the Lord is near.  
Thus deriving from their banner Light by night and shade by day,  
Safe they feed upon the manna Which God gives them on their way.**

**Savior, since of Zion’s city I through grace a member am,  
Let the world deride or pity, I will glory in your name.  
Fading are the worldlings’ pleasures All their boasted pomp and show;  
Solid joys and lasting treasures None but Zion’s children know.**

CONFESSION (*Spoken*)

P: In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **C: Amen**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open...through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen** (*Silent Reflection*)

P: Most merciful God, **C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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 nor loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

P: Almighty God, in his mercy...in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen**

KYRIE (*Spoken*)

P: For the peace of the world. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the unity of the church. **C: Christ, have mercy.**

P: For the salvation of all people. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord. **C: Amen**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of your Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all that we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen**

FIRST READING—1 KINGS 3:4-15      EPISTLE READING - Ephesians 1:3-14 (*See below*)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE - Melissa Osteen

CHRISTMAS VERSE (*Stand, Sung*)

**Let our gladness have no end, Alleluia! For to earth did Christ descend, Alleluia!  
Son of God now in the flesh, Alleluia! Living Word our lives to bless, Alleluia!**

GOSPEL READING & RESPONSES - Luke 2:40-52 (*Spoken, See Below*)

**C: Glory to you, O Lord / C: Praise to you, O Christ**

MESSAGE (*Sit*) "The Choice" - *Pastor Rod Stephenson*

HYMN OF THE DAY LBW #520 "Give to Our God Immortal Praise!" (*Stand, Sung*)

**Give to our God immortal praise! Mercy and truth are all his ways;  
Wonders of grace to God belong; Repeat his mercies in your song.**

**He sent his Son with pow'r to save From guilt and darkness and the grave.  
Wonders of grace to God belong; Repeat his mercies in your song.**

**Give to the Lord of lords renown; The King of kings with glory crown.  
His mercies ever shall endure When lords and kings are known no more!**

NICENE CREED (*Spoken*)

**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 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**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

OFFERTORY (*Stand, Sung; Tune: What Child is This*)

**So bring him incense, gold and myrrh; Come peasant, king, to own him. The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone him. Raise, raise the song on high, The virgin sings her lullaby;  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!**

OFFERING PRAYER (*Spoken*)

**C: We offer, Father, our gifts and praise, a joyful return for the gift of your Son. Amen**

COMMUNION DIALOG (*Sung; Tune: Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful*)

P: The Lord God be with you. **C: And with you, His servant.**

P: Oh, come, let us lift our hearts unto the Lord. **C: With hearts uplifted, thanks to Him we render, With joy we come before Him, In gratefulness implore Him, With thankful hearts adore Him evermore!**

P: Thanks and praise be to You, our Father, Almighty Creator, Merciful Lord, God of Promise and Fulfillment. Of old Your faithful people waited for the day of visitation, manifest at last when the time had fully come and You sent forth Jesus Christ, Your Son. Having seen His glory, now we wait for the day of consummation, when He will come

again as Judge and King. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

THE SANCTUS (*Sung: Tune: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord! God of hosts, by all adored! Heav'n and earth cannot contain All the glory of your name! Hail hosanna, God most high! Blest is He who now draws nigh, In the name of God the King! Hallelujahs glad we sing. Hail, Hosanna! Praises due, Be forever, Lord to you!**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION + LORD'S PRAYER (*Spoken*)

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT (*Sit*)

DISMISSAL PRAYER (*Spoken*)

P: Send us forth into your Father's world, O Lord of Glory, and let the love and unity of your table find a place in our hearts and homes.

**C: Make us ever your humble stewards of saving grace. Amen**

DISMISSAL (*Spoken*)

P: Go forth and tell the good news!

**C: Christ has come. Christ has risen. Christ shall come again!**

P: May the blessing of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit abide with you until that day. **C: Amen**

SENDING HYMN LBW #39 "Joy to the World" (*Sung*)

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy  
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy**

**No more let sin and sorrow grow Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make his blessings flow Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as, the curse is found.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness And wonders of his love,  
And wonders of his love, And wonders, wonders of his love.**

MUSICAL POSTLUDE - KIMBERLY BAZEMORE

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Loving God + Living the Word + Serving Others + Sharing Christ**

### **First Reading: 1 Kings 3:4-15**

<sup>4</sup> And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. <sup>5</sup> At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." <sup>6</sup> And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. <sup>7</sup> And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. <sup>8</sup> And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. <sup>9</sup> Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?"

<sup>10</sup> It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. <sup>11</sup> And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, <sup>12</sup> behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. <sup>13</sup> I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. <sup>14</sup> And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days."

<sup>15</sup> And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

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

<sup>3</sup> 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, <sup>4</sup> even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love <sup>5</sup> he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, <sup>8</sup> which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup> making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ <sup>10</sup> as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

<sup>11</sup> In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, <sup>12</sup> so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup> In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup> who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

### **Gospel: Luke 2:40-52**

<sup>40</sup> And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

<sup>41</sup> Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. <sup>42</sup> And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. <sup>43</sup> And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, <sup>44</sup> but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, <sup>45</sup> and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. <sup>46</sup> After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup> And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup> And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." <sup>49</sup> And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" <sup>50</sup> And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. <sup>51</sup> And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

<sup>52</sup> And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.