



SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY
HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE ONE
8:00 AM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 323

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with thy Spirit.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 162

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, who didst wonderfully create, and yet more wonderfully restore, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14

Bulletin 4

PSALM 84:1-8

Bulletin 5

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

Bulletin 6

THE HOMILY

Bulletin 7

THE NICENE CREED

Bulletin 7

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Bulletin 7

THE CONFESSION OF SIN & ABSOLUTION

BCP 331

THE PEACE

BCP 332

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

THE PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.
People **And of thine own have we given thee. Amen.**

BCP 340

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

BCP 336

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 337

THE FRACTION AND PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

BCP 339

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Bulletin 13

THE BLESSING

Bulletin 13

THE DISMISSAL

We are a welcoming community of faith and love that serves one another and seeks to draw others to God through our ministries.

WELCOME TO ALL GUESTS

Thank you for joining us at worship. Restrooms are available in our parish hall and in the Christian Education building.

Children's faith formation is available during the 10:00 am service for children 0 years old to 5th grade. In the Nursery, those from 0-4 years old learn songs, hear Bible stories, do crafts, as well as play and have snack time. If you do choose to utilize our nursery, we hope you will bring your children back into church to receive communion or a blessing. During the school year we have "Children's Chapel" for the first part of the service. Children can process behind the cross where they will exit to go the CE Building. The children will return to the church from Children's Chapel at the Peace. For both the nursery and Children's Chapel, adults are welcome to accompany their child if that would be helpful. Please see an usher if you have any questions.

In the Episcopal Church, all baptized Christians, regardless of denomination or age, are invited to be fed at God's table. We use the "common cup" at St. Thomas. You can choose to eat your bread and sip from the chalice when it comes to you or you may hold on to your bread and dip it into the chalice when it comes to you. If you do not wish to receive wine, you may cross your arms over your chest. If you would like to come forward for a blessing, come to the railing and cross your arms over your chest to receive God's blessing. If you would like to learn more about the customs of our tradition, please contact The Rev. Colette Hammesfahr.

Please, fill out a visitor card from the pew rack and give to one of the clergy or the ushers so that we may greet you more formally in the days to come.

The Rt. Rev. Frank Sullivan Logue, Bishop of Georgia
The Rev. Colette Hammesfahr, Priest in Charge of
Parish Life, Worship, and Pastoral Care
Tripp Hardee, Minister of Music
Dionne Greenlee, Parish Administrator
Mallory Abshire, Bookkeeper
Greg Washabaugh, Sexton
Dianne Jones, Nursery Supervisor

The Vestry

Chris Conner, Senior Warden

Lizann Roberts & David Castleberry, Co-Junior Wardens

Mitch Green, Treasurer Jane Gilchrist, Clerk

Joseph Bernard

Jennifer Calver

David Castleberry

Chris Conner

Marie Centgraf

Betty Henderson

Mary Haley

Robert Hughes

Andrew Lyons

Amy Minis

Lizann Roberts

Claudia Welch

St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

2 St. Thomas Avenue, Savannah, GA 31406

Telephone: (912) 355-311 www.stthomasioh.org

If you would like to give electronically towards our offering today or if you are traveling during the year, there are two easy and safe options: through our website at www.stthomasioh.org/give or through Venmo @StThomasEpiscopalChurch.



HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO
10:00 AM & 11:30 AM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *In the Bleak Midwinter* arr. David Light

THE OPENING HYMN *What star is this, with beams so bright* Hymnal #124

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE GLORIA S-280

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo- ple on earth.

2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -

mighty God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we

3. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-
ceive our prayer.

6. For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A- - - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 212

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

THE FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:7-14

A Reading from Jeremiah.

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.

The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 84:1-8 (*read responsively by half verse*)

BCP 707

1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! *

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

2 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.**

3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.

4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

5 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.

6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

7 Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.

8 Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.

A Reading from Ephesians.

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 Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN

We three kings of Orient are

Hymnal #128

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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.

People The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Colette Hammesfahr

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

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 for 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Leader and People pray responsively.

Litanist Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

Litanist O God, you reveal yourself wherever two or three are gathered in your name. Be with us now, not only in the infant Jesus and resurrected Christ, but in the beloved people of this assembly. Hear us, O God.

People **Your mercy is great.**

Litanist You reveal yourself in the waters of the womb; in brooks, ponds, and oceans; and in the waters of baptism. Grant us wisdom to tenderly care for the earth as a garden watered by your grace. Hear us, O God.

People **Your mercy is great.**

Litanist You reveal yourself in blessed diversity. Help us to look for you in people near and far, in bodies of all kinds, and in kindred young and old. Let us seek you in many places, praising you in many tongues. Hear us, O God
Your mercy is great.

Litanist You reveal yourself in new life. Support those beginning a new job, a new relationship, or a new living situation, especially those displaced because of tragedy or loss. Be with all others who need your life-giving touch this day especially those we name now (*brief silence*). Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Litanist You reveal yourself in holy communion. Sustain all who provide food and fellowship in this congregation and in the wider community. Make our tables signs of your welcoming presence among us. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Litanist You promise to turn mourning into joy and to comfort those who weep. We remember those who have died and look to being united with them in your glory especially those we name now (*brief silence*). Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Litanist With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept
 Minister and People*

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.

THE ABSOLUTION

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

ANNIVERSARY & BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Great is the Lord

arr. Jay Althouse

THE DOXOLOGY (10:00 am)

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674
Music: Trad. English Carol

THE FIRST NOEL
Irr. with Refrain

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.
People **And of thine own have we given thee. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

BCP 367

The people remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them 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, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.

SANCTUS

S-125

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Ho - san-na in the high-est.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: 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 for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the blessed Virgin Mary, St. Thomas, Anna Alexander, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Adaptation: Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant 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.

HYMNS AT COMMUNION

Come with us, O blessed Jesus

Hymnal #336

A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Those unable to take communion today may pray this prayer

Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. Though I cannot consume these gifts of bread and wine, I thank you that I have received the sacrament of Christ's presence, the forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ's passion. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may I embody your desire and be renewed for your service through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

THE COMMISSIONING OF THE LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITOR

Celebrant In the name of God and of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People **We who are many are one body as we all share the one bread and the one cup. Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

Celebrant Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path. And the blessing of God Almighty: Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you this day and always. **Amen.**

THE CLOSING HYMN

How bright appear the Morning Star

Hymnal #497

THE DISMISSAL

BCP 366

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE

How Brightly Shines the Morning Star

arr. Gilbert M. Martin

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Acolyte: Billy Steinhauer

Lay Eucharistic Minister: (8:00 am) Howard Bacon

(10:00 am) Henry Aguilar and Karen Otto

Lectors: (8:00 am) Howard Bacon (10:00 am) Joanna Ellis (11:30 am) Bill Franklin

Lay Eucharistic Visitor: Rick Lantz

Ushers: (10:00 am) Bob Lupacchino & David Castleberry (11:30 am) Bill Franklin

Vestry on Duty: (10:00 am) Jennifer Calver (11:30 am) Chris Conner

Worship Tech: Luke Varner

Altar Guild: Sandra Calver, Jennifer Calver, Kelley Marshall, Beth Wall and Sheldon White

Hospitality: Marie Centgraf & Judy Holland

Nursery: Dianne Jones and Barbara Arnott

Children's Chapel: Piper Ochsner and Elizabeth Varner

Cantors: Emma Reardon and Larry Roberson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, January 4

5:30 pm AA Meeting in the CE Building

Monday, January 5

10:00 am Plarning in the CE Building

2:00 pm Women Sharing Wisdom

2:00 pm Open Play Mahjong with Martie Gay in the Parish Hall (Register at: IOH Mahjong FB page)

Tuesday, January 6

9:00 am Staff Meeting

11:00 am Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, January 7

11:30 am Healing Service

5:30 pm Wymberley Garden Club Meeting – CE Bldg.

Friday, January 9

3:00 pm Hammesfahr Rehearsal in the Church

Saturday, January 10

4:00 pm Hammesfahr Wedding/Reception



Altar Flowers

2026 Flower Sign Up

Altar flowers are needed for Jan 25th and Feb. 22nd. Please call Dee Greenlee at (912) 355-3110 to purchase and dedicate on one of these Sundays.

Calendar of Events Meeting

On Tuesday, January 13th at 5:30 pm we will have a meeting to organize events for the upcoming year. If you have ideas for an event we can host, please come and join the discussion!

Sunday Morning Faith Formation

Sunday morning faith formation begins on January 18th at 9:00 am. We're still working out all the details so keep an eye out for more information in the Sunday bulletins and Monday emails.

Annual Parish Meeting

Save the Date for our Annual Parish Meeting on Sunday, January 25th at 10:50 am in the church.

January Outreach

For our January service project, we will be collecting grocery store gift cards for Unseen Guests. Unseen Guests is a mission of St. Thomas. They cook and pack over 200 meals once a month for the residents of Union Mission's Phoenix House, a 10-bed housing program for those living with HIV/AIDS that also offers short-term rental and utility assistance. Next time you're shopping, please consider purchasing a gift card (from ANY grocery store!) to help them replenish their pantry for the new year. Gift cards can be put in the box in the parish hall by January 30th.



