

2nd Sunday of Christmas

January 4, 2026

GATHERING BEFORE THE WORD

Prelude

Greeting and Announcements

Opening Sentences

*Doxology - all to sing

No. 592

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Prayer of Praise

*Call to Worship

Leader: Grace to you and peace in this new year.

People: We will bless God who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing.

Leader: In Christ we have obtained an inheritance.

People: We have been redeemed as God's own people. Praise be to God!

Leader: Let us worship God

*Opening Hymn

[“On This Day Earth Shall Ring”](#)

*Call to Confession

Leader: Who is worthy to stand before God? None but Christ alone. The Son of God came in the flesh of a human body to live among us. It is Christ who redeems us, gathering our tears and our fears, redeeming each and every one. God is gracious and always ready to forgive. With this confidence let us confess our sin before God and one another.

*Prayer of Confession (in unison)

God of love and compassion, you have come into the world and yet we have not recognized you. Forgive our lack of insight and open our eyes to see you here and now, that we may receive your grace through Jesus Christ.

A Time of Silent Prayer

*Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: Hear the good news of our salvation: God freely bestows God's grace on us through Jesus Christ. In Christ we receive redemption and forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of the grace that God lavishes on us. We are called to be reconciled to God and one another. This is good news!

All: Through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

*Response of Praise-all to sing “Angels We Have Heard On High”
(refrain) No. 23

*Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

*We Share God's Peace

Leader: May the peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

(You are invited to share God's peace as you greet those around you.)

Special Music

SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Supper

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving Words of Institution

LISTENING FOR THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading

[Jeremiah 31:7-14](#) (NRSV)

Hymn (seated) “Jesus Loves Me” No. 304
*Jesus loves me! This I know. For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong; They are weak, but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

Children's Message

(Children grades K-8 may be dismissed to Sunday School)

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading

[Ephesians 1:3-14 \(NRSV\)](#)

Sermon

“God’s Glorious Grace”

aloud with gladness

The Rev. M. Rex Espiritu

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People...The Lord's Prayer ('debts' and debtors')

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*Sending Hymn [“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”](#)

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

(We invite you to remain seated through the Postlude.)

*Indicates that those who are able may stand.

Lectionary readings for January 11, 2026

Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29

Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17