

What light of truth is offered here
What covenant from heaven?
What hope of everlasting life
What wondrous word is given?
This, this is Christ the king
The sun come down from heaven
Oh, see and hear and sing!
The Word of God is given!

What wine of love is offered here
What crimson drink from heaven?
What stream of everlasting life
What precious blood is given?
This, this is Christ the king
The sweetest wine of heaven
Oh, taste and see and sing!
The Son of God is given!

Words by Delores Dufner OSB

'Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord' – (60)

'Love Came Down at Christmas' – (427)

POST COMMUNION

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home:
help your Church to live as one family,
united in love and obedience,
and bring us all at last to our home in heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

FINAL HYMN: 'Joy to the World' – (364)

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1st Sunday of Christmas

29th December 2024

GATHERING HYMN: 'Of the Father's Love Begotten' – (475)

COLLECT:

Almighty God,
who wonderfully created us in your own image
and yet more wonderfully restored us
through your Son Jesus Christ:
grant that, as he came to share in our humanity,
so we may share the life of his divinity;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

First Sunday of Christmas



FIRST READING

1 Samuel 2: 18-20

Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, 'May



the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the Lord'; and then they would return to their home.

Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favour with the Lord and with the people.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

SECOND READING

Colossians 3: 12-17

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

For the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

GOSPEL HYMN— 'Jesus Parents Left the Temple'

Jesus' parents left the Temple with a traveling caravan.
They were sure their son was with them as they left Jerusalem.
Soon they cried, "We cannot find him!"
He was somehow left behind them,
So they went to search for him.

They went back and finally found him with the teachers of the Law.
What they witnessed was astounding! What a wondrous sight they saw.
For the questions he was raising
Showed his knowledge was amazing;
All who heard him were in awe.

Still his mother had to scold him, for she'd known a parent's fear.
"We were worried!" Mary told him, "when we could not find you near!"
Jesus answered Mary, saying,
"Did you not know I'd be staying
In my Father's house, right here?"

We sing verse 4 after the Gospel Reading

God of love, with earthly parents, Jesus listened, learned, and grew.
In the Temple, in your presence, he knew he was home with you.
We're reminded of his wisdom;
He already knew his mission
And the work that he would do.

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GOSPEL

Luke 2: 41-52

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.



And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years,
and in divine and human favour.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE GIFTS: 'In the Bleak Midwinter' – (HON 318)

COMMUNION HYMNS: 'What Feast of Love'

What feast of love is offered here
What banquet come from heaven?
What food of everlasting life
What gracious gift is given?
This, this is Christ the king
The bread come down from heaven
Oh, taste and see and sing!
How sweet the manna given!