

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY

Anthem of the Chancel

Hear this, all you nations.

O nations and peoples, come, let us sing praise to Christ Jesus, who saved our nature and turned our darkened estate to the light of his knowledge, giving us in his grace eternal life.

Henceforth, O nations, sing praise with him.

O nations and peoples, come, let us sing praise to Christ Jesus, who saved our nature and turned our darkened estate to the light of his knowledge, giving us in his grace eternal life.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; from everlasting, and for ever and ever. Amen.

May the Cross, which was for us a cause of good things, be for us, O my Lord, a mighty bulwark, and by it may we conquer the Evil One and all his wiles.

The Lections

Exodus 2:1-10

Now a man from the house of Levi went and took to wife a daughter of Levi. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months. And when she could hide him no longer she took for him a basket made of bulrushes, and daubed it with bitumen and pitch; and she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds at the river's brink. And his sister stood at a distance, to know what would be done to him. Now the daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, and her maidens walked beside the river; she saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to fetch it. When she opened it she saw the child; and lo, the babe was crying. She took pity on him and said, "This is one of the Hebrews' children." Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and call you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Go." So the girl went and called the child's mother. And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child away, and nurse him for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed him. And the child grew, and she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son; and she named him Moses, for she said, "Because I drew him out of the water."

Isaiah 49:1-6

Listen to me, O coastlands,
and hearken, you peoples from afar.
The LORD called me from the womb,
from the body of my mother he named my name.
He made my mouth like a sharp sword,
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow,
in his quiver he hid me away.
And he said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
But I said, "I have labored in vain,
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my right is with the LORD,
and my recompense with my God."

And now the LORD says,
who formed me from the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD,
and my God has become my strength—
he says:
"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the preserved of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

The Shuraya

Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns!
And he establishes the world that it cannot be moved;
He will judge the peoples with equity."
Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice.

The Apostle

2 Timothy 2:16-end

Avoid [disputing about words], for it will lead people into more and more ungodliness, and their talk will eat its way like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, who have swerved from the truth by holding that the resurrection is past already. They are upsetting the faith of some. But God's firm foundation stands, bearing this seal: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Let every one who names the name of the Lord depart from iniquity."

In a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver but also of wood and earthenware, and some for noble use, some for ignoble. If any one purifies himself from what is ignoble, then he will be a vessel for noble use, consecrated and useful to the master of the house, ready for any good work. So shun youthful passions and aim at righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call upon the Lord from a pure heart. Have nothing to do with stupid, senseless controversies; you know that they breed quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kindly to every one, an apt teacher, forbearing, correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant that they will repent and come to know the truth, and they may escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.

The Zumara

Weighty things are spoken in you, O city of our God. I will mention Rahab and Babylon, my acquaintances; behold, Philistia and Tyre, with the nation of the Cushites—

A mighty man was born in her, and he has established her. The LORD shall number his people, "This one was born there."

The Gospel

Luke 2:21-end

And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

And when the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel, and the

Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And inspired by the Spirit he came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

"Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation which thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to thy people Israel."

And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother,

"Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed."

And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher; she was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years from her virginity, and as a widow till she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she gave thanks to God, and spoke of him to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. And when they had performed everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom; and when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing him to be in the company they went a day's journey, and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintances; and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking 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. And when they 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 looking for you anxiously." And he said to them, "How is it that you sought me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" And they did not understand the saying which he spoke to them. And he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man.

Anthem of the Mysteries

Praise the Lord from the heavens: let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice,

The heavens and the earth were renewed through the glorious Child who appeared from the Virgin. From the time that the angels proclaimed peace, creation was filled with a good hope through their songs. No longer would it be occupied with the wearisome toil of sin, for there appeared in Bethlehem one who takes away the inclination. No more would it be left to the corruption of death, but it rejoices and exults in the salvation which the Creator brought about in his love through the Mediator whom he assumed for the revelation of his hiddenness. The height and the depth rejoiced on the day of your birth, O our Savior. Glory be to you!

Let the heavens and the earth glorify him.

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Anthem of the Bema

Let us confess the Son of the King who descended to us and by his grace made our mortal race worthy of the exalted gift of the fearful Mysteries. Companies of angels in great fear and trembling rise up and hallow his name, and in great wonder all of them, with holy voices, cry aloud with us, saying, Holy is the Lord, holy is God, and glorious is the Holy One who is eternal.

Verses:

Generation to generation shall tell of your deeds and show forth your might,
And in great wonder all of them cry aloud with us, saying, Holy is the Lord, holy is God, and glorious is the Holy One who is eternal.

They shall speak of your fearful power and tell of your greatness,
And in great wonder all of them cry aloud with us, saying, Holy is the Lord, holy is God, and glorious is the Holy One who is eternal.