First Sunday after Christmas  December 27, 2020

Prelude  “We Praise You, Jesus, at Your Birth”  Kevin Hildebrand

Opening Hymn:  #367

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

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

Confession and Absolution
Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

who made heaven and earth.

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

O almighty God, merciful Father,

I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

Amen.

**SERVICE OF THE WORD**

**Kyrie**

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Gloria in Excelsis**

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit. (sung)

P Let us pray.

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen. (sung)
Old Testament Lesson  Isaiah 61:10-62:3

10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
11 For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations.
1 For Zion’s sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem’s sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch.
2 The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give.
3 You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Epistle  Galatians 4:4-7

4 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.
6 And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” 7 So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia


P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.
C Glory be to Thee, O Lord. (sung)
22 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 23(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) 24and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” 25Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. 26And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. 27And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, 28he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,
29“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word;
30for my eyes have seen your salvation
31that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
32a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel.”
33 And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. 34 And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed 35(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”
36 And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, 37and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. 38And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.
39And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. 40And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Thee, O Christ. (sung)

Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: #376

“Once in Royal David’s City”

1 Once in royal David’s city Stood a
lowly cattle shed, Where a mother laid her
God and Lord of all, And His shelter was a
own redeeming love; For that child so dear and
baby In a manger for His bed: Mary
stable, And His cradle was a stall; With the
gentle Is our Lord in heaven above; And He
was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.
poor and mean and lowly Lived on earth our Savior holy.
feels for all our sadness, And He shares in all our gladness.
leads His children on To the place where He is gone.

2 He came down to earth from heaven, Who is
day like us He grew; He was little, weak, and
God and Lord of all, And His shelter was a
own redeeming love; For that child so dear and

3 For He is our childhood’s pattern, Day by
and Lord of all, And His shelter was a
day like us He grew; He was little, weak, and
own redeeming love; For that child so dear and

4 And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His
God and Lord of all, And His shelter was a
day like us He grew; He was little, weak, and
own redeeming love; For that child so dear and

5 Not in that poor, lowly stable
With the oxen standing by
Shall we see Him, but in heaven,
Set at God’s right hand on high.
Then like stars His children, crowned,
All in white, His praise will sound!
Offertory

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Lord’s Prayer

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 forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance on you and give you peace. Amen, amen, amen.
Closing Hymn:  

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”  

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O’er si-lent flocks by night, 
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled When lo, a - bove the earth 
3 Down in a lone-ly man-ge r The hum - ble Christ was born; 

Be - hold, through-out the heav - ens There shone a ho - ly light. 
Rang out the an - gel cho - r us That hailed our Sav - ior’s birth. 
And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ - mas morn. 

Postlude  Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme  by Johann Gottfried Walther