



First Sunday after Christmas

December 28, 2025

Prayer of the Day

God of Majesty, may your Holy Spirit guide us to follow your Son in all obedience and humility, growing in spiritual wisdom and maturity, so that through us, all creation will come to know the praise of your glory. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 63:7-14

⁷I will recount the steadfast love of the Lord, the praises of the Lord, according to all that the Lord has granted us, and the great goodness to the house of Israel that he has granted them according to his compassion, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. ⁸For he said, “Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely.” And he became their Savior. ⁹In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old. ¹⁰But they rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit; therefore he turned to be their enemy, and himself fought against them. ¹¹Then he remembered the days of old, of Moses and his people. Where is he who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of his flock? Where is he who put in the midst of them his Holy Spirit, ¹²who caused his glorious arm to go at the right hand of Moses who divided the waters before them to make for himself an everlasting name, ¹³who led them through the depths? Like a horse in the desert, they did not stumble. ¹⁴Like livestock that go down into the valley, the Spirit of the Lord gave them rest. So you led your people, to make for yourself a glorious name.

Lessons for Next Week: 1 Kings 3:4-15; Psalm 119:97-104;
Ephesians 1:3-14; Luke 2:40-52

Psalm 111

¹Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

²Great are the deeds of the Lord, they are studied by all who delight in them.

³His work is full of majesty and splendor, and his righteousness endures forever.

⁴He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

⁵He gives food to those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.

⁶He has shown his people the power of his works in giving them the lands of the nations.

⁷The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; all his commandments are sure.

⁸They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.

⁹He sent redemption to his people; he commanded his covenant forever; holy and awesome is his Name.

¹⁰The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; those who act accordingly have a good understanding; his praise endures forever.

Second Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir through God.

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23

¹³When the wise men had departed, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him."

¹⁴And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called my son." ¹⁶Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: ¹⁸"A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more." ¹⁹But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, ²⁰saying, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." ²¹And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. ²³And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.