

First Sunday after Christmas

Year C

26th December 2021

White

Prayer of the Day

God of community,
whose call is more insistent than ties of family or blood:
may we so respect and love those whose lives are linked
with ours.

A reading from the First Book of Samuel,

Chapter 2 beginning at Verse 18

¹⁸Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁹His 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. ²⁰Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "May the Lord repay^[a] you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to^[b] the Lord"; and then they would return to their home.

²⁶Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people. [NRSV 1 Samuel 2.18–20, 26]

Hear the word of the Lord, ***thanks be to God.***

Psalm 148 [Page 378 APBA]

- ¹ Praise the Lord, praise the Lord from heaven:
O praise him in the heights.
- ² Praise him, all his angels:
O praise him, all his host.
- ³ Praise him, sun and moon:
praise him, all you stars of light.
- ⁴ Praise him, you highest heaven:
and you waters that are above the heavens.
- ⁵ Let them praise the name of the Lord:
for he commanded and they were made.
- ⁶ He established them for ever and ever:
he made an ordinance which shall not pass away.
- ⁷ O praise the Lord from the earth:
praise him, you sea-monsters and all deeps;

- 8 Fire and hail, mist and snow:
and storm-wind fulfilling his command;
- 9 Mountains and all hills:
fruit trees and all cedars;
- 10 Beasts of the wild, and all cattle:
creeping things and winged birds;
- 11 Kings of the earth, and all peoples:
princes, and all rulers of the world;
- 12 Young men and maidens:
old folk and children together.
- 13 Let them praise the name of the Lord:
for his name alone is exalted.
- 14 His glory is above earth and heaven:
and he has lifted high the horn of his people.
- 15 Therefore he is the praise of all his servants:
of the children of Israel, a people that is near him. Praise the Lord.

A reading from Letter of Paul to Colossians,
Chapter 3 beginning at Verse 12

¹²As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³Bear 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. ¹⁴Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let 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.[Ⓜ] ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. [NRSV Colossians 3.12–17]

Hear the word of the Lord, ***thanks be to God.***

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke,
Chapter 2 beginning at Verse 41

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

⁴¹Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸When 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." ⁴⁹He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"[Ⓜ] ⁵⁰But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years,[Ⓜ] and in divine and human favor.

[NRSV Luke 2.41–52]

This is the Gospel of the Lord, ***praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.***

Sentence

**Clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.
And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and be thankful.**