Sunday, December 27, 2026
The First Sunday after Christmas, Year B

Collect of the Day (Contemporary)

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

Readings and Psalms

Isaiah 61:10--62:3

Psalm 147

Psalm 147:13-21 (alternate)

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

John 1:1-18

First Reading: Isaiah 61:10--62:3

10 I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being 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 with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
11 For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

62:1 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
2 The nations shall see your vindication,
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.

Psalm: Psalm 147

[1]Hallelujah!
How good it is to sing praises to our God! *
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!
[2]The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; *
he gathers the exiles of Israel.
[3]He heals the brokenhearted *
and binds up their wounds.
[4]He counts the number of the stars *
and calls them all by their names.
[5]Great is our Lord and mighty in power; *
there is no limit to his wisdom.
[6]The Lord lifts up the lowly, *
but casts the wicked to the ground.
[7]Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; *
make music to our God upon the harp.
[8]He covers the heavens with clouds *
and prepares rain for the earth;
[9]He makes grass to grow upon the mountains *
and green plants to serve mankind.
[10]He provides food for flocks and herds *
and for the young ravens when they cry.
[11]He is not impressed by the might of a horse; *
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;
[12]But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, *
in those who await his gracious favor.
[13]Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion;
[14]For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
he has blessed your children within you.
[15]He has established peace on your borders; *
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.
[16]He sends out his command to the earth, *
and his word runs very swiftly.
[17]He gives snow like wool; *

he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
[18]He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
who can stand against his cold?
[19]He sends forth his word and melts them; *
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.
[20]He declares his word to Jacob, *
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.
[21]He has not done so to any other nation; *
to them he has not revealed his judgments.
Hallelujah!

Psalm (alternate): Psalm 147:13-21

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praise your God, O Zion;
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to them he has not revealed his judgments.
Hallelujah!

Second Reading: Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

[23]Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. [24]Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. [25]But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

[4:4]But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born

under the law, [5]in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. [6]And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” [7]So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Gospel: John 1:1-18

[1]In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. [2]He was in the beginning with God. [3]All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being [4]in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. [5]The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

[6]There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. [7]He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. [8]He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. [9]The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

[10]He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. [11]He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. [12]But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, [13]who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

[14]And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth. [15](John testified to him and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ ”) [16]From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. [17]The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. [18]No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.