

GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH
200 West Anderson Lane - Austin, Texas 78752
Called by grace, led by faith, welcoming all to share God's love.

SECOND SUNDAY
OF CHRISTMAS



JANUARY 4, 2026

✝ You are invited to make the sign of the cross

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE Alex Chacon
WELCOME TO WORSHIP Pr. Ray Hagan Presiding
ANNOUNCEMENTS
CONFESSION AND FORGIVNESS *(responses in bold type)*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and
given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and
humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and
unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do.
Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may
live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our
Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been
saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG All My Heart Again Rejoices + ELW 273

GREETING

CANTICLE OF PRAISE Angels from the Realms of Glory+ ELW 275
verses 3 & 4

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your
incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in
all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

(Please be seated)

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

FIRST READING Jeremiah 31:7-14
...Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 147:12-20
¹²Worship the Lord, ¹ O Jerusalem;
praise your ¹ God, O Zion,
¹³who has strengthened the bars ¹ of your gates
and has blessed your chil- ¹ dren within you.
¹⁴God has established peace ¹ on your borders
and satisfies you with the ¹ finest wheat.
¹⁵God sends out a command ¹ to the earth,
a word that runs ¹ very swiftly.
¹⁶God gives ¹ snow like wool,
scattering ¹ frost like ashes.
¹⁷God scatters ¹ hail like bread crumbs.
Who can stand a- ¹ gainst God's cold?
¹⁸The Lord sends forth the ¹ word and melts them;
the wind blows, and the ¹ waters flow.
¹⁹God declares the ¹ word to Jacob,
statutes and judg- ¹ ments to Israel.
²⁰The Lord has not done so to any ¹ other nation;
they do not know God's judgments. ¹ Hallelujah!

SECOND READING Ephesians 1:3-14
...Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God. *(Please stand)*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Angels We Have Heard on High + ELW 289
verse 1

GOSPEL John 1:1-18
The holy gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord...
...The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ. *(Please be seated)*

SERMON *(Please stand following)*
HYMN OF THE DAY Word of God, Come Down on Earth + ELW 510
APOSTLES' CREED ELW page 105 *(on insert)*
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION
...Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great ...
...With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our
prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and
eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE *(Please be seated following)*

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

GATHERING OF OFFERING JoAnn Gerbig
OFFERTORY Of the Father's Love Begotten + ELW 265, verse 5
OFFERING PRAYER
Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your
goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time,
and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in
feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave
himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING
(Please stand)
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise... It is indeed right...

...and join their unending hymn... *(Holy, Holy, Holy + ELW 191)*
...Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.
**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION *(Please be seated following)*
SONGS DURING COMMUNION
Lamb of God + ELW 196
When Long Before Time + ELW 861
He Came Down + ELW 253

TABLE BLESSING & PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this
gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move
us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of
our lives, through Christ born in us. **Amen.**

SENDING
God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING
The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One, abiding
Comforter, ✝ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy. **Amen.**
(Please stand for the sending song)

SENDING SONG Let All Together Praise Our God + ELW 287
DISMISSAL verses 1, 3, 5, & 6
Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Alex Chacon

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14

⁷ Thus says the Lord:
Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
“Save, O Lord, your people,
the remnant of Israel.”
⁸ See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor together;
a great company, they shall return here.
⁹ With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back;
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path where they shall not stumble,
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

¹⁰ Hear the word of the Lord, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him
and will keep him as a shepherd does a flock.”
¹¹ For the Lord has ransomed Jacob
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.
¹² They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.
¹³ Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.
I will turn their mourning into joy;
I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow.
¹⁴ I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,
says the Lord.

PSALM 147:12-20

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us
in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ just as he
chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and
blameless before him in love. ⁵ He destined us for adoption as his children
through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the
praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷ In
him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our
trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸ that he lavished on us. With
all wisdom and insight ⁹ he has made known to us the mystery of his will,
according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰ as a plan for the
fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things
on earth. ¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been
destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things
according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our

Participating In Worship

Pr. Ray Hagan, *presiding minister*
Glenn Like, *liturgist*
Alex Chacon, *organist*
Michael Harrison, *cantor*
JoAnn Gerbig, *music director*

The Second Sunday of Christmas

Within the gospel reading’s profound words lies the simple message that
God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand
how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder
we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us.
Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters
of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we
receive the fullness of God’s grace and truth.

Second Reading continued

hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also,
when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and
had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy
Spirit; ¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God’s
own people, to the praise of his glory.

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
overtake 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 the only Son, himself God, who is close to the
Father’s heart, who has made him known.

