

1st After Christmas
Sunday 29 December 2024

FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of the First Book of Samuel:

Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. His 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. Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife and say, ‘May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the loan that she made to the LORD,’ and then they would return to their home. ... Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favour with the LORD and with the people.

(1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26)

For the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 148, PSALTER 155

Response: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

1. Praise the Lord from the heavens; give praise in the heights.
Praise the Lord, all angels above; give praise, all hosts.
2. Praise the Lord, sun and moon; give praise, shining stars.
Praise the Lord, highest heavens, all waters above the heavens.

Response

3. Praise the Lord, you heavens above, for God spoke and you were created.
You were established forever; your courses shall not pass away.
4. Praise the Lord from the earth, creatures of the sea and all oceans,
fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy winds that yield to God’s
command,

Response

5. all mountains and hills, all fruit trees and cedars,
beasts and all cattle, reptiles and flying birds,
6. all rulers and peoples, you that govern the nations.
Children and older ones, too, join to praise the Lord.

Response

7. Praise the name of the Lord, for God alone is exalted.
The splendor of God's name reaches beyond heaven and earth.
8. God gives strength to the people. God be praised by all the saints,
By the children of Israel who are near to the Lord.

Response

SECOND READING

A reading from the First Letter to the Colossians:

Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear 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. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let 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. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

(Colossians 3:12-17)

For the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL

Alleluia, **Alleluia**

Open our heart O Lord,
to listen to the word of your Son.

Alleluia

The Lord be with you: **And also with you.**

A reading from the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Luke:

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Jesus said: ‘There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in a cloud” with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.’ Then Jesus told them a parable: ‘Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place and to stand before the Son of Man.’ Every day Jesus was teaching in the temple, and at night he would go out and spend the night on the Mount of Olives, as it was called. And all the people would get up early in the morning to listen to him in the temple.

(Luke 2:41-52)

For the Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**