



The Weekly Word



Readings for Sunday, January 9, 2022
Second Sunday of Christmas

INTRODUCTION

Today's festival rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters...the rivers...fire." On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for reflection and personal confession.)

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:1-7

¹But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

³For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life.

⁵Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—
⁷everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

PSALM: : Psalm 29

¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. ²Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness. ³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

⁴The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor. ⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon; ⁶the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox. ⁷The voice of the LORD bursts forth in lightning flashes. ⁸The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. ⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!" ¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; the LORD sits enthroned asking forevermore. ¹¹O LORD, give strength to your people; give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

*"The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."
—Deuteronomy 31:8*

■ SECOND READING: Acts 8:14-17

¹⁴Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

■ THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22



P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.



■ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

A brief silence.

P: By the Holy Spirit, you gather your church and send it out in mission to share the good news of Jesus. Inspire your faithful people to be fervent in prayer and service, that all people know they are precious in God's sight. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

P: You reveal your love and power through water and the Spirit. Guard rivers, seas, and all bodies of water from destruction and pollution. Secure access to clean water for all, and protect the land from drought and flood. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

P: Establish among the nations the blessings of peace. Raise up leaders who will protect vulnerable people in their care. Strengthen advocates who risk reputation or retaliation for the sake of mercy and justice. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

P: You protect us through the fires and troubled waters of this life. Assure us that we will not be cut off from you by illness or despair, anxiety or pain, confusion or weakness. Comfort all who are in need, especially (*names*). God of grace,
hear our prayer.

P: We are joined in baptism to Christ and to one another. Bless those who are newly baptized and those who are preparing for baptism. Help us to be faithful in fellowship, worship, evangelism, service, and justice-seeking. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: You created each of your saints for your glory. We give thanks for those you have called by name into your eternal embrace, especially (*names*). Comfort us in grief and release us from fear. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

P: Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.



LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**



WORSHIP LEADER SCHEDULE

January 9	8:30	11:00
USHERS	VOLUNTEER	Mary Armbrister
LECTORS	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER

COMING UP *at Reformation...*



- Saturday, Jan. 8** **10:00 a.m.—Worship & Music ZOOM Retreat**
- Sunday, Jan. 9** **8:30 a.m.** —In-person WORSHIP
10:00 a.m.—ZOOM Service
11:00 a.m.—In-person WORSHIP
1:00 p.m.— Service on the Web
- Monday, Jan. 10** **12 noon —ANNUAL Ministry Reports due to Parish Office**
- Tuesday, Jan. 11** **8:30 a.m.—Reformation Coffee Group at Panera**
6:00 p.m.—COUNCIL MEETING via ZOOM
- Wednesday, Jan. 12** **HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MIKE KORB**
1:00 p.m.—Bible Study
- Friday, Jan. 14** **HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ANN HORTON**
- Saturday, Jan. 15** **HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DANNY LUBERTAZZI**

YEAR-END STATEMENTS for tax purposes are ready and available for pick-up at Sunday services. Please be sure to pick-up your statement no later than **Sunday, January 30th.**

MEMO



*Hope you can
join us!*

Reformation Coffee Group

Tuesday, January 11 at 8:30 a.m.
Panera on Jefferson

*They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching
and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the
prayers. —Acts 2:42*

Childcare and Parish Office are currently closed

Our Childcare Director, Joy Irick, was informed yesterday that a staff member had tested positive for COVID. This teacher was last within our daycare on Thursday of last week. Since she works with more than one classroom and has had possible contact with children and staff throughout the building, we took the extra precaution against the spread. In addition, we had other teachers and students who were out with symptoms, although, not confirmed due

to unavailability of rapid testing. **We decided it was necessary to close the building for the remainder of the week to do a deep cleaning and "airing out."** **The Childcare is scheduled to reopen on Monday and this WILL NOT affect our regular Sunday services.** Patti will be in the Parish Office periodically this week and, as always, will be checking emails throughout the day if you need any assistance.

