

# 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS – DEC 26, 2010

**Isaiah 61:10-62:3**

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.  
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.  
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.  
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.  
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the  
LORD,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

**Psalms 147 or 147:13-21**

**Alleluia! How good it is to sing praises to you, O God; \*  
how pleasant it is to honor you with praise!**

**For you rebuild Jerusalem \*  
and gather the exiles of Israel.**

**You heal the brokenhearted \*  
and bind up their wounds.**

**You count the number of the stars \*  
and call them all by their names.**

**Great are you and mighty in power; \*  
there is no limit to your wisdom.**

**You lift up the lowly, \*  
but cast the wicked to the ground.**

**We sing to you, Most High, with thanksgiving; \*  
we make music to you upon the harp,**

**For you cover the heavens with clouds \*  
and prepare rain for the earth;**

**You make grass to grow upon the mountains \*  
and green plants to serve humankind.**

**You provide food for flocks and herds \*  
and for the young ravens when they cry.**

**You are not impressed by the might of a horse; \*  
you have no pleasure in human strength;**

**But you have pleasure in those who fear you, \*  
in those who await your gracious favor.**

**Jerusalem will worship you, O God, \*  
and Zion will praise your name.**

**For you have strengthened the bars of our gates \*  
and have blest our children within them.**

**You have established peace on our borders \*  
and satisfied us with the finest wheat.**

**You send out your command to the earth, \*  
and your word runs very swiftly.**

**You give snow like wool \*  
and scatter hoarfrost like ashes.**

**You scatter your hail like bread crumbs; \*  
who can stand against your cold?**

**You send forth your word and melt them; \*  
you blow with the wind, and the waters flow.**

**You declare your word to Jacob, \*  
your statutes and judgments to Israel.**

**You have not done so to any other nation; \*  
to them you have not revealed your judgments.  
Alleluia!**

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

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

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

**John 1:1-18**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the

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beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

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

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

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.

## **Collect**

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.