

# Lectionary

*You are invited to follow the first two readings while seated, and as is the custom, to just listen, standing if possible, as the Holy Gospel is proclaimed.*

## Midweek 3 1st December Christmas 1

### The Collect

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### First Reading: 1 John 2:18-21

*A reading from the first letter of John.*

Children, it is the last hour! As you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. From this we know that it is the last hour. They went out from us, but they did not belong to us; for if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us. But by going out they made it plain that none of them belongs to us. But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and all of you have knowledge. I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and you know that no lie comes from the truth.

This is the word of the Lord,

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### Second reading: Psalm 96:7-10

7. Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; • ascribe to the Lord honour and strength.  
8. Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name; • bring offerings and come into his courts.  
9. O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; • let the whole earth tremble before him.  
10. Tell it out among the nations that the Lord is king. • He has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity.

This is the word of the Lord,

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### The Holy Gospel: Luke 2:36-40

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.*

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

### Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home: help your Church to live as one family, united in love and obedience, and bring us all at last to our home in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

