

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY

January 4, 2026

Year A, Revised Common Lectionary

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Wisdom, detail, manuscript from J. Paul Getty Museum, ca. 1170.

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give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

Sirach 24:1-12 Wisdom praises herself and tells of her glory in the midst of her people. In the assembly of the Most High she opens her mouth, and in the presence of his hosts she tells of her glory: “I came forth from the mouth of the Most High and covered the earth like a mist. I encamped in the heights, and my throne was in a pillar of cloud. Alone I compassed the vault of heaven and traversed the depths of the abyss. Over waves of the sea, over all the earth, and over every people and nation I have held sway. Among all these I sought a resting place; in whose inheritance should I abide? “Then the Creator of all things gave me a command, and my Creator pitched my tent. He said, ‘Encamp in Jacob, and in Israel receive your inheritance.’ Before the ages, in the beginning, he created me, and for all the ages I shall not cease to be. In the holy tent I ministered before him, and so I was established in Zion. Thus in the beloved city he gave me a resting place, and in Jerusalem was my domain. I took root in an honored people; in the portion of the Lord is my inheritance.

Psalm 147:12-20

- ✘ Extol the Lord, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!
- ✘ For he strengthens the bars of your gates; he blesses your children within you.
- ✘ He grants peace within your borders; he fills you with the finest of wheat.
- ✘ He sends out his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly.
- ✘ He gives snow like wool; he scatters frost like ashes.
- ✘ He hurls down hail like crumbs— who can stand before his cold?
- ✘ He sends out his word and melts them; he makes his wind blow, and the waters flow.
- ✘ He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and ordinances to Israel.
- ✘ He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know his ordinances. Praise the Lord!

Wisdom of Solomon 10:15-21 Holy people and blameless offspring wisdom delivered from a nation of oppressors. She entered the soul of a servant of the Lord and withstood dread kings with wonders and signs. She gave to holy people the reward of their labors; she guided them along a marvelous way and became a shelter to them by day and a starry flame through the night. She brought them over the Red Sea and led them through deep waters, but she drowned their enemies and cast them up from the depth of the sea. Therefore the righteous plundered the ungodly;

they sang hymns, O Lord, to your holy name and praised with one accord your defending hand, for wisdom opened the mouths of those who were mute and made the tongues of infants speak clearly.

Ephesians 1:3-14 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, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. 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, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. 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; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

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SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY

January 4, 2026

Year A, Revised Common Lectionary

Jeremiah 31:7-14 For 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." 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. 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. 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." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. 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. 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. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

Sirach 24:1-12 *Wisdom praises herself and tells of her glory in the midst of her people. In the assembly of the Most High she opens her mouth, and in the presence of his hosts she tells of her glory: "I came forth from the mouth of the Most High and covered the earth like a mist. I encamped in the heights, and my throne was in a pillar of cloud. Alone I compassed the vault of heaven and traversed the depths of the abyss. Over waves of the sea, over all the earth, and over every people and nation I have held sway. Among all these I sought a resting place; in whose inheritance should I abide? "Then the Creator of all things gave me a command, and my Creator pitched my tent. He said, 'Encamp in Jacob, and in Israel receive your inheritance.' Before the ages, in the beginning, he created me, and for all the ages I shall not cease to be. In the holy tent I ministered before him, and so I was established in Zion. Thus in the beloved city he gave me a resting place, and in Jerusalem was my domain. I took root in an honored people; in the portion of the Lord is my inheritance.*

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