

**CHRISTMAS 1****KJV****COLLECT**

Almighty God,  
who hast wonderfully created us in thine own image  
and hast yet more wonderfully restored us  
through thy Son Jesus Christ:  
grant that, as he came to share in our humanity,  
so we may share the life of his divinity;  
who liveth and reigneth with thee,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**FIRST READING****1 Samuel 2.18–20, 26***A reading from the first book of Samuel*

But Samuel ministered before the Lord, being a child, girded with a linen ephod. Moreover his mother made him a little coat, and brought it to him from year to year, when she came up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. And Eli blessed Elkanah and his wife, and said, The Lord give thee seed of this woman for the loan which is lent to the Lord. And they went unto their own home. And the child Samuel grew on, and was in favour both with the Lord, and also with men.

**Reader:** This is the Word of the Lord**Thanks be to God****SECOND READING****Colossians 3.12–17***A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians*

Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

**Reader:** This is the Word of the Lord**Thanks be to God**

**GOSPEL****Luke 2.41–52***Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke***Glory to thee O Lord**

Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast. And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it. But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance. And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him. And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions. And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers. And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing. And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business? And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them. And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord*  
**Christ**

**Praise to thee O****POST COMMUNION**

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