

# Readings December 28, 2025 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 63:7-9

<sup>7</sup> I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD,  
the praiseworthy acts of the LORD,  
because of all that the LORD has done for us  
and the great favor to the house of Israel  
that he has shown them according to his mercy,  
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.  
<sup>8</sup> For he said, "Surely they are my people,  
children who will not act deceitfully,"  
and he became their savior  
<sup>9</sup> in all their distress.  
It was no messenger or angel  
but his presence that saved them;  
in his love and pity it was he who redeemed them;  
he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 148

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights.  
<sup>2</sup> **Praise the LORD, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**  
  
<sup>3</sup> Praise the LORD, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.  
<sup>4</sup> **Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.**  
  
<sup>5</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD, who commanded, and they were created,  
<sup>6</sup> **who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away.**  
  
<sup>7</sup> Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;  
<sup>8</sup> **fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**  
  
<sup>9</sup> mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;  
<sup>10</sup> **wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;**  
  
<sup>11</sup> sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;  
<sup>12</sup> **young men and maidens, old and young together.**

<sup>13</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

<sup>14</sup> **The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah!**

## **SECOND READING: Hebrews 2:10-18**

<sup>10</sup> It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. <sup>11</sup> For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, <sup>12</sup> saying,

“I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters;  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

<sup>13</sup> And again,

“I will put my trust in him.”

And again,

“Here am I and the children whom God has given me.”

<sup>14</sup> Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup> and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. <sup>16</sup> For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. <sup>17</sup> Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup> Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

**Reader:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**