

December 30, 2018
First Sunday of Christmas

First Reading:

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

¹⁸Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁹His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. ²⁰Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, “May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the LORD”; and then they would return to their home.

²⁶Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.

Psalm 148

¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD | from the heavens;
praise God | in the heights.

²**Praise the LORD, | all you angels;**
sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.

³Praise the LORD, | sun and moon;
sing praise, all you | shining stars.

⁴**Praise the LORD, heav- | en of heavens,**
and you waters a- | bove the heavens.

⁵Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
who commanded, and they | were created,

⁶**who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever,**
giving them a law that shall not | pass away. R

⁷Praise the LORD | from the earth,
you sea monsters | and all deeps;

⁸**fire and hail, | snow and fog,**
tempestuous wind, do- | ing God’s will;

⁹mountains | and all hills,
fruit trees | and all cedars;

¹⁰**wild beasts | and all cattle,**
creeping things and | flying birds;

¹¹sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples,
princes and all rulers | of the world;

¹²**young | men and maidens,**
old and | young together. R

¹³Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over | earth and heaven.

¹⁴**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! R

Second Reading

Colossians 3:12-17

¹²As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.