Prelude: *In Dulci Jubilo*—Johann Michael Bach (1648-1694)

Introit: Plainsong, Mode II, Sedulius

Salve, sancta Parens, enixa puerpera Regem: qui coelum, terramque regit in saecula saeculorum.

*Psalm 45:2* Eructavit cor meum verbum bonum: dico ego opera mea Regi. Gloria Patri...  

Hail, holy Parent, that did bring forth the King who rules heaven and earth for ever and ever. (*Ps. 45:2*)

My heart has uttered a good word: I speak of my works to the King. Glory be to the Father...

**First Reading: NM 6:22-27**

The LORD said to Moses: “Speak to Aaron and his sons and tell them: This is how you shall bless the Israelites. Say to them: The LORD bless you and keep you! The LORD let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you! The LORD look upon you kindly and give you peace! So shall they invoke my name upon the Israelites, and I will bless them.”

**Responsorial Psalm: PS 67:2, 3, 5, 6, 8**

May God bless us in his mercy. May God have pity on us and bless us; may he let his face shine upon us.

So may your way be known upon earth; among all nations, your salvation.

May the nations be glad and exult because you rule the peoples in equity; the nations on the earth you guide.

May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you!

May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear him!

**Second Reading: GAL 4:4-7**

Brothers and sisters: When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to ransom those under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. As proof that you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying out, “Abba, Father!” So you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son then also an heir, through God.

**Gospel: LK 2:16-21**

The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them. When eight days were completed for his circumcision, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

**Offertory Antiphon: Plainsong, Mode I**

*For you are happy, O holy Virgin Mary, and are worthy of all praise, because from you arose the Sun of justice, Christ our God.*

**Communion Chant: Plainsong, Mode IV, ZAC 9:9 (with verses from PS 34)**

*Exsulta, filia Sion, lauda, filia Jerusalem: ecce Rex tuus venit sanctus, et Salvator mundi.*

*Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Sion, shout for joy, O daughter of Jerusalem; behold your king comes, holy, the Savior of the world.*

**Communion Motet (11): Viderunt Omnes Fines Terrae—Mikolaj Zielenski (1560-1620)**

*Viderunt omnes fines terrae salutare Dei nostri. Alleluia.*

*All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Alleluia.*

**Postlude: In dir ist Freude (In Thee is Gladness), BWV 615—JS Bach (1685-1750)**


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Come, Holy Ghost, Creator blest,
and in our hearts take up Thy rest;
come with Thy grace and heav'nly aid,
To fill the hearts which Thou hast made.

O Comforter, to Thee we cry,
Thou heav'nly gift of God most high,
Thou Fount of life, and Fire of love,
and sweet anointing from above.

O Finger of the hand divine,
the sevenfold gifts of grace are thine;
true promise of the Father thou,
who dost the tongue with power endow.

Thy light to every sense impart,
and shed thy love in every heart;
thine own unfailing might supply
to strengthen our infirmity.

Drive far away our ghostly foe,
and thine abiding peace bestow;
if thou be our preventing Guide,
no evil can our steps betide.

O, may Thy grace on us bestow
the Father and the Son to know;
and Thee, through endless times confessed,
of both the eternal Spirit blest.

Now to the Father and the Son,
Who rose from death, be glory given,
with Thou, O Holy Comforter,
henceforth by all in earth and heaven.
Amen.