

Sunday Message

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY

THE WORD

Year A • 4 January 2026 • Colour: White • Psalter Week 2



THE WORD BECAME FLESH

JOHN 1:1-18 (SHORTER FORM JN 1:1-5,9-14)

John's Gospel begins not with a story of shepherds or wise men, but with a great mystery: "In the beginning was the Word." These words remind us of the first line of the Bible — "In the beginning, God created..." John wants us to know that Jesus was there from the very start. He is the eternal Word of God — not just sent by God, but truly God Himself.

John says that everything was made through Jesus. He is the source of life and light for all people. But when He came into the world, many did not recognize Him. Some even rejected Him. Still, for those who welcomed Him, He gave a new gift — the chance to become children of God.

The most powerful line is this: "The Word became flesh and lived among us." God chose to become one of us — not distant or above us, but right here, walking our roads, sharing our troubles. In Jesus, we see what God is really like — full of grace and truth.

This passage is not just about who Jesus is, but about how close God wants to be to us. He doesn't shout from far away. He comes near — in love, in mercy, and in person. ■

DO

Take five minutes today in quiet prayer, thanking Jesus for coming close to us — and ask Him to help you see His light in someone you meet today.

LEARN

God became one of us in Jesus, so that we could come to know Him, receive His love, and live as His children.

REFLECT

"In the beginning was the Word." With these opening words, St John takes us beyond Bethlehem, beyond time itself. He draws us into the mystery of Christ — the eternal Word, who was with God, and who is God. This is no ordinary birth story. This is a proclamation: the Creator has stepped into His creation.

"The Word became flesh and dwelt among us." God has come close. Not as a thunderclap from the heavens, but wrapped in human skin, lying in a manger. The eternal enters time, not to overwhelm us, but to walk with us — to teach, to heal, to weep, and to redeem.

Many missed Him. "He came to his own and his own received him not." That line echoes still. It's possible to miss the presence of God even in the middle of religion, even at Christmas. But, "to those who did receive him... he gave power to become children of God."

This Gospel invites us not just to admire Jesus, but to receive Him — into the clutter and complexity of our lives. In the Word made flesh, we see God's glory: not distant, but tender, truthful, and full of grace. Let us make room for Him — not just in church, but in our hearts. ■

SAY

**St. John, beloved disciple,
you saw the glory of the Word
made flesh.**

**Help me to love Jesus as you did,
to stay close to Him in light and in
darkness,
and to share His love with others
through gentle words and faithful
living.
Amen.**

