

Sunday, 1 February 2026 – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

The Sundays after Epiphany are also referred to as Ordinary Time. Ordinary Time in the church year is divided in two sections, the first being between Epiphany and Ash Wednesday and the second between Pentecost and Advent. The liturgical color for the season is green.

Prelude

The chorale tune *Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier* was composed by Johann Rudolph Ahle (1625-1673). Ahle was an organist and composer from Mühlhausen, Germany.

Processional Hymn

Blessed Assurance was written in 1873 by blind hymn writer Fanny Crosby (1820-1915). Crosby had been visiting her friend Phoebe Knapp (1839-1908) who had just composed a new melody. She played it for Crosby and asked her what the tune said, to which Crosby replied “Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine.”

Offertory Anthem

Prayer for Unity

This is my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for lands afar and mine;
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine:
But other hearts in other lands are beating with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

We are created children of God’s love, sisters and brothers of God’s own dear son;
Descend, O Holy Spirit, like a dove into our hearts, that we may be as one:
As one with you, to whom we ever tend: As one with Christ, our brother and our friend.

We would be one in hatred of all wrong, one in our love of all things true and fair,
One with our joy that breaks forth into song, one with our pain that quiets into prayer,
One in the power that makes your children free to follow truth and serve you faithfully.

This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth’s kingdoms:
Your kingdom come, on earth your will be done.
Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him, and hearts united learn to live as one.
O hear my prayer, great God of all the nations: myself I give; now let your will be done.

Postlude

Maurice Duruflé’s (1902-1986) *Fugue on the Carillon of Soissons Cathedral* was published in 1962. Duruflé was a meticulous composer, constantly revising his music, which resulted in a smaller output of compositions than many of his contemporaries. This perfectionism resulted in pieces of the highest quality, which are held in high regard in the organ literature. One of his shorter pieces for the organ, this fugue is an example of this highly refined compositional style.