

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear 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. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let 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. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

On this most sacred morning, whether you slip on your favorite bathrobe to greet the day with family and friends around the tree or put on your holiday finery to join with fellow faithful in the sanctuary, know that you are clothed in Christ Jesus – the gift of our baptisms – so that we might pursue the holy work of compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. And in that holy work, we live as one body, praising our awesome God, through whom all things are made new. May it be so. Alleluia!

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