

## **AN ELEPHANT IN MOUSE TRUNKS?**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Christmas

Text and Meditation

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### **SCRIPTURE**

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known (John 1:14-18 NRSV).

### **MEDITATION**

An elephant was thoroughly enjoying himself as he splashed about in the river. A mouse was perched on the sandy shore. It was obvious that he was disturbed about something. The mouse yelled at the elephant, "Come out of the water at once." The elephant laughed and said, "Why should I come out?" But the mouse was not about to be humiliated by this monstrous beast. He kept yelling and yelling.

The elephant realized that if he wanted any peace and quiet he had better come out of the water. Slowly the elephant lumbered out of the water and stood towering over the mouse. "Now, why did you want me to come out of the water?" The mouse looked up and said, "I wanted to see if you were wearing my bathing suit."

What a silly story! It is absurd to think of an elephant in mouse trunks. And yet, wouldn't you agree, that it is easier for us to understand how an elephant could wear a mouse's bathing suit than it is for us to understand the awesome mystery of the incarnation—How God could wear our suit of flesh?! But this is in fact what has happened.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth (John 1:14 NRSV).