

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

ORDER OF WORSHIP



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

DECEMBER 7, 2025
7:30 a.m.

900 Broadway
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
615.255.7729
christcathedral.org

*Cathedral Parish of the
Diocese of Tennessee (Episcopal)*

Live God's Love

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE I

A Penitential Order

References to the BCP are to the red Book of Common Prayer in your pew rack.

Families may find materials for children behind the right lectern and near the font to the left of the pulpit.

OPENING ACCLAMATION (*BCP, p. 319*)

THE DECALOGUE (*BCP, p. 317*)

CONFESSION OF SIN (*BCP, p. 320*)

THE TRISAGION (*BCP, p. 324*)

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON – Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- 18 Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!
- 19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. Amen.

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON – Romans 15:4-13

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL LESSON – Matthew 3:1-12

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. †††

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE SERMON – The Right Reverend John C. Bauerschmidt

A moment of silence and reflection follows the sermon.

THE NICENE CREED (*BCP, p. 326*)

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (*BCP, p. 328*)

THE PEACE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY



You may leave your offering in the plates as they are passed or you may scan the QR code with your phone to give online.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Eucharistic Prayer 1, BCP, p. 333*)

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*BCP, p. 336*)

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD (*BCP, p. 337*)

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS (*BCP, p. 337*)

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER (*BCP, p. 339*)

THE ADVENT BLESSING

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL (*BCP, p. 339*)

PRAYERS

We pray for our parishioners, especially Fr. Butcher, Jojo, Jim, Phyllis, Tim, Jan, Susan, Paul, Phyllis, Scott, Peggy, Melanie, Rachel, Dee, Stacey, Ann, Geoff, Mimi, Roger, Jerry, Betsy, Bobby, and Shona.

We also pray for the families and friends of parishioners especially Rob, Colin, Darci, Bernie, Ashot, Patty, Sheila, Rusty, John David, Glynn, Olinka, Michael, Jackson, Liam, Xandre, Allison, Nancy, Kenneth, Gabrielle, Sandi, Polk, Kathryn, and Amy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 7, 2025

7:30 AM | Holy Eucharist, Rite I

8:45 AM | Holy Eucharist, Rite II

11:15 AM | Holy Eucharist, Rite II

6:00 PM | BB@6, Holy Eucharist and Taizé

Nursery and Toddler Atrium is available from 8:15 AM – 12:45 PM.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and Formation for all ages takes place during the 10:00-11:00 AM hour.

Join us for coffee and fellowship in our new Entry Hall after both the 8:45 and 11:15 AM services!

If you need a low-gluten communion wafer, please let us know at the communion railing.

We offer healing prayer in the Chapel during communion at our 8:45 and 11:15 AM services.

Upcoming Events

TODAY: BISHOP'S ANNUAL VISITATION Our Bishop John Bauerschmidt's annual visitation to Christ Church Cathedral takes place this morning, December 7 during all three morning services. Bishop Bauerschmidt is also facilitating our 10:00-11:00 AM adult formation hour. We're looking forward to this special day!

TODAY: CHRISTMAS PAGEANT Calling all shepherds, angels, wise people, and barnyard animals! We need you for our Christmas Pageant at 4:00 PM in the nave TODAY, December 7. Join us for this joyous and impromptu production that celebrates the birth of Jesus, our King and Savior. Children are asked to come to the Cathedral dressed in costume, but costumes will also be available to borrow. Contact the Rev. Canon Anna Russell Friedman at afriedman@christcathedral.org if you have any questions!

NASHVILLE UNLIMITED RITI FUNDRAISER Join us this Tuesday, December 9 at 7:00 PM for Nashville Unlimited! Over the past two decades, this popular annual event has showcased top Nashville commercial musicians, surprise guests, and notable figures performing holiday favorites to raise support for the city's homeless population through Room In The Inn. Suggested donation is \$20 at the door. More information at www.christcathedral.org!

FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS The Festival of Lessons and Carols returns on December 14 at 4:00 PM. The Cathedral Choir and Senior Choristers, under the direction of Canon Dr. Michael Velting and accompanied by Dr. Peter Rogahn, organ, will perform in this traditional Anglican Festival. The event features readings and carols that follow the story of prophecy and its fulfillment, starting from Advent and leading up to the birth of Christ.

GIVING HOPE GIFT MARKET Join us *next Sunday*, December 14 during the 10:00-11:00 AM hour for a heartwarming event where every purchase becomes a gift of hope for both local and global outreach agencies. Whether you're shopping for family, friends or colleagues, this is your chance to make the season brighter and more meaningful for everyone! Remember to bring your giving spirit, checkbook, credit cards or smartphone for direct digital

donations—agencies will collect donations directly at the event this year. The full list of participating agencies is available online on the events page at www.christcathedral.org.

COLLEGE AND YOUTH ADVENT EVENTS On Sunday, December 21 during the 10:00-11:00 AM hour, CCC college and graduate students who are home for the holidays are invited to come catch up with friends and check out the new youth space. Coffee and brunch will be provided! For youth in grades 6-12, we'll be hosting a Christmas Progressive Dinner that evening from 5:00-8:00 PM, where we'll eat appetizers, a main course, and dessert at three different locations around the Cathedral. We'll also have a white elephant gift exchange! Pick up is 8:00 PM. Email Director of Youth Ministries Emily Berry at eberry@christcathedral.org with any questions.

OUTREACH CLOSET CLOTHING DRIVE Our outreach clothing closet for those we serve through Wayfarers, Urban Bicycle Food Ministry, and Room in the Inn needs restocking as the weather gets colder. The most needed items are new or gently used winter coats, jeans, sweatshirts/hoodies, sweatpants, long underwear, and warm hats and gloves. Please drop off clothing in the Baptistery through Sunday, December 14. Feel free to bring your donations anytime the church is open!

JESSE FLOWERS This year we are delivering amaryllis bulbs as a part of our Jesse Flowers ministry to those who need a little bit of extra love this holiday season. Deliveries will start the first week of Advent. If you'd like to sign up to deliver flowers or learn more, email the Rev. Deacon Mary McCarthy at mmccarthy@christcathedral.org!

WOMEN'S RETREAT REGISTRATION Registration for the Christ Church Cathedral 2026 Women's Retreat is happening now! Guided by Varina Buntin Willse—writer, fellow Cathedral parishioner, and author of the forthcoming *Beneath and Between: And Other Overlooked Words that Illuminate God*—this weekend will be a time of community, rest, fellowship, prayer, music and more at the beautiful Montgomery Bell State Park. Early registration is encouraged! Get all the details and put down your deposit by visiting the events page at www.christcathedral.org.

SAVE THE DATE

Church in the Yard & Lunch Ministry— Sunday, December 7, 1:00 PM

Bible Buddies — Wednesday, December 10, 11:00 AM

LGBTQ+ Faith Alliance Monthly Meeting — Saturday, December 13, 10:00 AM

Women's Bible Study — Saturday, December 13, 10:00 AM

CCC Book Club — Thursday, December 18, 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM

Parking Information

On Sundays, anyone may park in the lot adjacent to the Cathedral, but please reserve those spots for those with limited mobility. The Southern Baptist garage is free on Sunday mornings until 1:30 PM (no green parking tag required), and the Tempo Hotel garage is free all day on Sundays and for any church events (green parking tag required). For more parking information, please email info@christcathedral.org.

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Weekly Happenings Email

Sign up on the Cathedral website
www.christcathedral.org
at the bottom of the page

For your awareness, we often have photography at our services and events. Some photos may be used online or in print materials. To opt out, please notify the photographer. Also, most services are live-streamed and saved online. Your image may be visible in the recording.

CELEBRANT AND PREACHER

The Right Reverend John C. Bauerschmidt, *Bishop of Tennessee*

ASSISTING

The Very Reverend Serena Sides, *Dean and Rector*

SACRISTAN

Bill Koch

USHER

Richard Goode

*Names and contact information for the Cathedral staff
may be found at christcathedral.org*

CATHEDRAL VESTRY

2026

Billy Ballard
Christina Isbell
Donald McKenzie
David Morton
Sarah Tally (*Senior Warden*)

2027

Susan Barge
Sam Bessey (*Junior Warden*)
Ellie Teal Gardner
Anna Grimes
David Paine

2028

Maura Black Sullivan
Lawrence Blank-Cook
Deaver Collins
Gina Lodge
Keith Simmons

Ellen Wright (*Clerk*)
Dale Maxfield (*Treasurer*)

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*A Center for the Community of the Cross of Nails
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