

# CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

## ORDER OF WORSHIP



### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

#### A CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

DECEMBER 14, 2025

7:30 a.m.

900 Broadway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37203  
615.255.7729  
[christcathedral.org](http://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.

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON –Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk

there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

### CANTICLE 3

My soul doth magnify the Lord, \*  
    and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.  
For he hath regarded \*  
    the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
For behold from henceforth \*  
    all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, \*  
    and holy is his Name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him \*  
    throughout all generations.  
He hath showed strength with his arm; \*  
    he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, \*  
    and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things, \*  
    and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy has holpen his servant Israel, \*  
    as he promised to our forefathers,  
    Abraham and his seed for ever.

### THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON – James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

## THE GOSPEL LESSON – Matthew 11:2-11

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

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

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

*Gospeller*    The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON – The Reverend Canon Madeleine Rebouché

*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 Billy, Jojo, Jim, Phyllis, 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, June, Colin, Darci, Bernie, Patty, Shiela, Rusty, John David, Dede, Glynn, Olinka, Michael, Jackson, Liam, Xandre, Allison, Nancy, Kenneth, Gabrielle, Sandi, Buena, Polk, Kathryn, and Amy.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**December 14, 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

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.

**The Cathedral Giving Hope Gift Market** will take place today during the 10:00-11:00 AM hour. Coffee and fellowship in the Entry Hall will be offered after the 11:15 AM service!

*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.*

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## **Upcoming Events**

**GIVING HOPE GIFT MARKET** Join us today, 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.

**FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS** The Festival of Lessons and Carols returns this afternoon 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.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS AND GIFTS OF MUSIC** We are accepting donations from those who would like to give a gift of flowers or music for Christmas Eve and Christmas in loving memory of, thanksgiving for, or honor of friends or family members. The deadline for inclusion of names in the Christmas and Christmas Eve bulletins is this Thursday, December 18. To donate flowers or music, please fill out the form by scanning this QR code.



**UPCOMING ORDINATIONS** We hope you will attend the ordinations of Heather Daugherty and Ed Smith at St. Bartholomew's on Monday, December 15 at 6:00 PM and of Brad Daugherty at St. Mark's in Antioch on Wednesday, December 17 at 6:00 PM. Heather and Brad were members of the Cathedral for many years and Ed was recently our seminarian. For more information, please contact Diocesan Administrator Sandra Beld at [sbeld@edtn.org](mailto:sbeld@edtn.org).

**LESSONS AND JAZZ WITH ST. ANSELM'S** Our Walking Together Partnership with St. Anselm's Episcopal Church in North Nashville is offering Lessons and Jazz on Sunday, December 21 at 2:00 PM. Join us for the reading of Scripture and the celebration of seasonal jazz standards! St. Anselm's is located at 2008 Meharry Blvd.

**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](mailto:eberry@christcathedral.org) with any questions.

**EPIPHANY BLESSED CHALK BAGS** If you missed it last Sunday, the LGBTQ+ Faith Alliance has made Epiphany Blessed Chalk Bags to give to parish families. Each bag contains blessed chalk, a rainbow ribbon, and an instruction card for chalking a home's door frame on Epiphany with a blessing. This initiative supports the LGBTQ+ Faith Alliance's mission to foster formation, inclusivity, and outreach and to celebrate God's invitation to all people to find belonging and blessing within the life of the church. Chalk bags are available for pickup today!

**CHRISTMAS OFFERING** As in past years, the Vestry has approved a special designation of our Christmas Offering. All donations designated for this offering (by check or online—look for Christmas Offering in the dropdown) before December 31 or collected in worship on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will be shared equally among our outreach ministries: Church in the Yard, Room in the Inn, Urban Bicycle Food Ministries, and Wayfarers. This offering will allow us to provide meals, gift cards, and other essentials. Through this gift, Christ Church Cathedral will share the spirit of Christmas in a meaningful and heartfelt way.

**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](http://www.christcathedral.org).

## **SAVE THE DATE**

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

**Journey in Faith Information Session** — Sunday, January 4, 10:00 AM

**Cathedral Arts Icon Retreat** — Monday, February 23 - Friday, February 27

## **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](mailto:info@christcathedral.org).**

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### **Weekly Happenings Email**

Sign up on the Cathedral website  
[www.christcathedral.org](http://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 Reverend Canon Madeleine Rebouché,  
*Canon and Associate Rector for Outreach and Formation*

SACRISTAN  
Perry Macdonald

USHER  
Richard Goode

*Names and contact information for the Cathedral staff  
may be found at [christcathedral.org](http://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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