

# CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

## ORDER OF WORSHIP



### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

#### A CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

DECEMBER 14, 2025

8:45 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 II

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.

VOLUNTARY

Prelude on *Rorate caeli* (Drop down, ye heavens)

Melissa Dunphy  
(b. 1980)

### A Penitential Order

HYMN

Rejoice, rejoice, believers

*Llangloffan*  
#68 *The Hymnal 1982*

OPENING ACCLAMATION

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE DECALOGUE (*standing or kneeling*)

*Celebrant* Hear the commandments of God to his people: I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.

*People* **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

*Celebrant* You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*People* **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

*Celebrant* You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*People* **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

*Celebrant* Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

*People* **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

*Celebrant* Honor your father and your mother.

*People* **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

*Celebrant* You shall not commit murder.

*People* **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

*Celebrant* You shall not commit adultery.

*People* **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

*Celebrant* You shall not steal.

*People* **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

*Celebrant* You shall not be a false witness.

*People* **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

*Celebrant* You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*People* **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

## THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Minister and People*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

## THE ABSOLUTION

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

TRISAGION S 102

*Sung three times by all.  
S page numbers are found in the front of the Hymnal.*

*after Archangelsky*

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **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.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Standing as you are able*

*Valet will ich dir geben*  
#74 *The Hymnal 1982*

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: 'Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All things are in his hand, all a - ges and all peo - ples, till time it - self shall end!' The score ends with a double bar line.

Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of  
God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of  
God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All things are in his  
hand, all a - ges and all peo - ples, till time it - self shall end!

THE GOSPEL LESSON – Matthew 11:2-11

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

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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 to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON – The Reverend Canon Anna Russell Friedman

*A moment of silence and reflection follows the sermon.*

## THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son, he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## THE PEACE

*Celebrant*        The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### THE OFFERTORY



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

### HYMN

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

*Winchester New  
#76 The Hymnal 1982*

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *(Eucharistic Prayer D)*

*Please turn to page 372 in your Book of Common Prayer to follow along. S page numbers are found in the front of the Hymnal.*

Sanctus S 124

*New Plainsong*

David Hurd

The Lord's Prayer *(BCP, p. 364)*

The Breaking of the Bread *(BCP, p. 364)*

Agnus Dei S 161

*New Plainsong*

David Hurd

### THE INVITATION

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*Please be seated.*

### THE SACRAMENT IS DISTRIBUTED

*All baptized Christians (including children) are invited to take the Bread and the Wine. **Please fill the communion railing from the center to the outside.** You may kneel or stand.*

*If you wish to receive the Sacrament by intinction please leave the Bread in your hand. The chalice bearer will dip the Bread in the Wine and return it to your hand. You may also receive a blessing from one of the priests instead of the Bread and Wine. Let us know if you need a low-gluten wafer when you are at the communion railing.*

*If you wish to receive Healing Prayer, please proceed to the Chapel after receiving Communion.*

### MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

*Please join in the singing of the Communion hymns.*

Hymn

What is the crying at Jordan

*St. Mark's, Berkeley  
#69 The Hymnal 1982*

Hymn

"Thy kingdom come!"

*St. Flavian  
#615 The Hymnal 1982*



SENDING FORTH OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS (*as scheduled, please stand*)

*We share the consecrated bread and wine from our worship today with those who are unable to attend in person.*

*Celebrant* In the name of this congregation I send you forth bearing these Holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

*People* **We who are many are One Body, because we share one bread, one cup. Amen.**

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of  
heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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.**

HYMN

Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes *Richmond*  
#72 *The Hymnal 1982*

THE DISMISSAL

*Deacon* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

*Praeludium* in F

Vincent Lübeck  
(1654–1740)

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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*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

The Very Reverend Serena Sides, *Dean and Rector*

PREACHER

The Reverend Canon Anna Russell Friedman,  
*Canon and Associate Rector for Family Ministries*

DEACON

The Reverend Mary McCarthy, *Deacon*

MUSICIANS

Canon Dr. Michael Velting, *Organist and Choirmaster*  
Dr. Peter Rogahn, *Associate Organist and Choirmaster*  
Dr. Marlayna Maynard, *Soprano*  
Jason Peterson, *Baritone*

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Eleanor Weaver, Sheri Sellmeyer, Jennifer Murray, Susan Barge

SACRISTAN

Pete Stringer

ACOLYTES

Bea Robbins, Max Robbins, Edgar Robbins

LECTORS

John Whitaker, Keith Simmons

EUCCHARIST VISITOR

Betsy Stubblefield

HEALING PRAYER

Shelley Cammack

USHERS

Donald McKenzie (*Head Usher*), Gina Lodge, Virginia Payne, Buzz Martin

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Roger Rhoads

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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