

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

ORDER OF WORSHIP



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

DECEMBER 14, 2025
11:15 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 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.

after Archangelsky

Sp page numbers are found in the front of the Hymnal.

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

Mode 8

The congregation joins the Choir in singing the Refrain



My soul doth magnify the Lord, *
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded *
the lowliness of his handmaiden. **Refrain**
For behold from henceforth *
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, *
and holy is his Name. **Refrain**
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. **Refrain**
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. **Refrain**

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.**

HYMN

Blest be the King whose coming

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

THE GOSPEL LESSON – Matthew 11:2-11

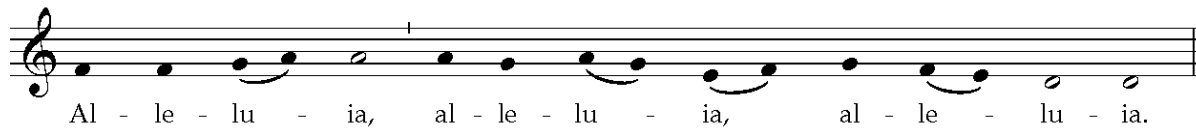
Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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.**

ALLELUIA VERSE



The Spirit of the Lord is up on me; he has anointed me to preach good tidings to the poor.

Luke 4:18

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.

ANTHEM

The white dove

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

A dove as white as winter from heaven came to earth,
and, as an angel, greeted a maid of humble birth.
She bowed her head and listened to his words,
that she, above all others, was favored by the Lord.
Kyrie eleison.

The heavn'ly gates will open, Thou shalt have a Son.
Emmanuel, the most high, the King, the Chosen One.
For know, a blessed Mother shalt thou be,
all coming generations will laud and honor thee.
Kyrie eleison.

Our hope and expectation, O Jesus appear;
arise, thou Son so longed for, above this darkened sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted, Lord to see
the day of earth's redemption and ever be with thee.
Kyrie eleison.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Eucharistic Prayer D*)

Please turn to page 372 in your Book of Common Prayer to follow along.

Sanctus S 124

New Plainsong

David Hurd

Spa ge numbers are found in the front of the Hymnal.

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

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

Fraction Anthem: 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

Anthem

Never weather-beaten sail

Gary Davison

(b. 1961)

Never weather-beaten sail more willing bent to shore,
never tired pilgrim's limbs affected slumber more
than my wearied sprite now longs to fly out of my troubled breast.
O come quickly, sweetest Lord, and take my soul to rest!

Ever blooming are the joys of heaven's high paradise,
cold age deafs not there our ears, nor vapour dims our eyes.
Glory there the sun outshines; whose beams the blessed only see.
O come quickly, glorious Lord, and raise my sprite to thee!

Thomas Campion

Please join in singing the Communion hymn.

Hymn

“Thy kingdom come!”

St. Flavian
#615 *The Hymnal 1982*

SENDING FORTH OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS (as scheduled)

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*
descant: C. S. Lang

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.

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*
The Cathedral Choir
The Cathedral Senior Choristers

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Rebecca Collins, Deaver Collins, Brent Luther, Matthew Kenny

SACRISTAN

Ellen Wright

ACOLYTES

George Sprinkle

LECTORS

Anne Gaither, Pam Claybaker

EUCCHARIST VISITOR

Debbie Webster

HEALING PRAYER

Susan Hudson

USHERS

John Bridges, Ginny McCoy, Ben Turnage, Joseph Watson

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*)

FOLLOW US

info@christcathedral.org | christcathedral.org | youth@christcathedral.org
ChristCathedralNashville (Facebook) | @christcathedralnashville (Instagram) | ChristCathedralNash (YouTube)

Permission to reprint, podcast, and / or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE
with license #A-702235. All rights reserved.
Christian Copyright Solutions WorshipCAST License #4431746.

A Center for the Community of the Cross of Nails ~ Printed on recycled paper