

THE EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR
LORD JESUS CHRIST

10 p.m.



GRACE AND HOLY TRINITY
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

Welcome to Grace and Holy Trinity Episcopal Cathedral!

“For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

The celebration of the Nativity of our Lord is such a wonderful time to give thanks for our family and friends. This time of year is so special and sacred, and a time that we, as Christians, hold dear for remembering our salvation through the birth of Jesus. God gave us a great gift on that quiet night in Bethlehem, and we continue to enjoy it as we receive it over and over each year. God’s love for us is beyond anything we can imagine, and the best way we can respond to it is to love back. As Christ loves us, we are called to love one another. At this most sacred time of year I wish you peace, happiness, good health and great joy throughout this season and the New Year. May this season be a blessed one for all of you, and may the warmth of Christ’s light fill you with all hope.

Dean Amy +

Christmas Offering

Fifty percent of the Christmas offering will be used for local outreach. This year the offering for outreach will be donated to *Shelter KC: A Kansas City Rescue Mission*. Please consider making a generous and sacrificial gift. The remainder of the offering is used for the mission and ministry of the Cathedral.

Offerings may be placed in the offering plate, made securely [online](https://kccathedral.org) (kccathedral.org, click on “Give” or scan the QR code), by texting “GIVETOGHTC christmas” to 73256.



Christmas Offering

Shelter KC provides hot, filling meals and a safe place to sleep, nightly chapel services, health care, case management, educational opportunities, spiritual and mental health counseling, addiction recovery programs, transitional living, and career and job training resources.

About texting to give: This number will never send unsolicited texts to you. To cancel further messages, text STOP. If you need assistance with text giving, text HELP. Standard text message and data rates may apply. Privacy Policy - <https://legal.acst.com/privacy-policy> Terms of Service - <https://legal.acst.com/terms-service-use>

Service Notes

- Please rise, as able, for portions of the service marked with an asterisk (*).
- Children are welcome in all our services and activities for them are available on a shelf in the back aisle. The nursery is not open for this service.
- Restrooms are available in Founders’ Hall. A changing station is also available in the restroom at west end (rear) of the Cathedral.
- Page numbers listed are from The Book of Common Prayer.
- The offering plate will be passed during the offertory. Donations may also be made securely [online](https://kccathedral.org), by scanning the QR code to the right or by texting “GIVEtoGHTC” to 73256. Thank you for your generosity.



General Offering

FESTIVAL HOLY EUCHARIST

VOLUNTARY: Moderato, op. 70 no. 4
Ave Maria

Charles-Marie Widor
Franz Schubert

INTROIT: “Of the Father’s love begotten”

Plainsong

Of the Father’s love begotten
ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega;
He the source, the ending He,

of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see
evermore and evermore!

—Text: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius; Translation: John Mason Neale

The Word of God

* ENTRANCE HYMN: 83 "O come, all ye faithful"

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
 2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 *4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,
 *5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
 3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;
 4 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
 5 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
 3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;
 4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;
 5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
 born this happy morning;
 Jesus, to thee be glory given;
 Word of the Father,
 now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

* OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider Alleluia. Unto us a child is born.

People Unto us a Son is given. Alleluia.

* SONG OF PRAISE: 96 "Angels we have heard on high"

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
 4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
 What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
 Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

Refrain

Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -

- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt. Music: *Gloria*, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958). Copyright: Words: By permission of Fleming H. Revell Company. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

* COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

First Lesson: Isaiah 9:2-7

Lector The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sing to the Lord a new song; *
 sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
 Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *
 proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
 Declare his glory among the nations *
 and his wonders among all peoples.
 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
 he is more to be feared than all gods.
 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
 but it is the Lord who made the heavens.
 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
 Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *
 ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
 Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; *
 bring offerings and come into his courts.
 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
 let the whole earth tremble before him.
 Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King!" *
 he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."
 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
 let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord when he comes, *
 when he comes to judge the earth.
 He will judge the world with righteousness *
 and the peoples with his truth.

Second Lesson: Titus 2:11-14

Lector For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

* GOSPEL HYMN: 89 "It came upon the midnight clear"

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are as follows:

1	It	came	up - on	the	mid - night	clear,	that
2	Still	through	the	clov - en	skies	they	come
3	Yet	with	the	woes	of	sin	and
4	For	lo!	the	days	are	haste - ning	on, by

glo - rious song of old, from an - gels bend - ing
 peace - ful wings un - furled, and still their heaven - ly
 world has suf - fered long; be - neath the heaven - ly
 pro - phets seen of old, when with the ev - er -

near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
 mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world;
 hymn have rolled two thou - sand years of wrong;
 cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,

“Peace on the earth, good will to men, from
 a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they
 and war - ring hu - man - kind hears not the
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its

heaven's all - gra - cious King.” The world in sol - emn
 bend on hov - ering wing, and ev - er o'er its
 tid - ings which they bring; O hush the noise and
 an - cient splen - dors fling, and all the world give

still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
 Ba - bel - sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
 cease your strife and hear the an - gels sing!
 back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Words: Edmund H. Sears (1810-1876), alt. Music: Carol, Richard Storrs Willis (1819-1900).

* ANTHEM: “Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light”

Johann Sebastian Bach

Break forth, O beauteous heav'nly light, and usher in the morning;
O shepherds, shrink not with affright, but hear the angel's warning.
This Child, now weak in infancy, our confidence and joy shall be;
the pow'r of Satan breaking,
our peace eternal making.

—Text: Johann Rist; Translation: John Troutbeck

* THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-20

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

Deacon In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

All

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.

* PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon

Good and gracious God, on this holy night you gave us your Son, the Lord of the universe, wrapped in swaddling clothes, the Savior of all, lying in a manger.

On this holy night draw us into the mystery of your love. Join our voices with the heavenly host, that we may sing your glory on high. Give us a place among the shepherds, that we may find the one for whom we have waited, Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, in the splendor of eternal light, God forever and ever. **Amen.**

Intercessor

On this holy night in which God joins heaven and earth, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Let us pray for the Church around the world as it celebrates the birth of Christ. Bless all those who are entrusted with Christian ministry that your Word might be proclaimed with truth and courage across our world. We pray especially for Michael our Presiding Bishop, Diane our Bishop Provisional; and for all bishops and other ministers.

Lord in your mercy,

People

Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Bestow your wisdom on all who govern, that in honoring the earth and its diverse races, cultures, and religions, we may celebrate the light of this holy night.
Lord in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Grant reconciliation to those besought with conflict and violence, that they may live in the peace of this holy night. We pray especially for those affected by war or gun violence.
Lord in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Let us pray for all who are cold, hungry, or alone this night. Embrace with your tender care all who wander or have no place to lay their head, that they may experience the hope of this holy night.
Lord in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Let us pray for all who are anxious, depressed, or ill. Draw near to those who find this season a source of pain or grief, and to all who are suffering or sick, especially those we mention now, either silently or aloud, that they may feel the comfort of this holy night.
Lord in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Let us pray for parents, families, and newborn infants. Strengthen families in the bonds of love and commitment, that they may delight in the joy of this holy night.
Lord in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Let us pray for ourselves and for the blessings of Christmas. Open our hearts to your presence, that we may be transformed by the new birth of this holy night.
Lord in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Let us give thanks for all the faithful departed who have been bearers of the Word made flesh. Give us grace to follow your holy ones in lives of faith and commitment, that we may we join with the hosts of heaven in singing the praises of this holy night.
Lord in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor O God, grant us all these things for the sake of him who died and rose again, and now lives and reigns in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People Amen.

Presider O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

* THE PEACE

page 360

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

page 376

Presider Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.
Ephesians 5:2

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "A babe is born"

William Mathias

A babe is born all of a may,
To bring salvation unto us.
To him we sing both night and day.
Veni Creator Spiritus ("Come, Holy Spirit")
At Bethlehem, that blessed place,
The child of bliss now born he was;
And him to serve God give us grace,
O lux beata Trinitas. ("O light, blessed Trinity")
There came three kings out of the East,
To worship the King that is so free,
With gold and myrrh and frankincense,
A solis ortus cardine. ("From the pivot of the sun's rising")
The angels came down with one cry,
A fair song that night sung they
In worship of that child:
Gloria tibi Domine ("Glory to you, Lord")
A babe is born all of a may,
To bring salvation unto us.
To him we sing both night and day.
Veni Creator Spiritus. ("Come, Holy Spirit")
O lux beata Trinitas. ("O light, blessed Trinity")
A solis ortus cardine. ("From the pivot of the sun's rising")
Gloria tibi Domine ("Glory to you, Lord")
Noel!

—Text: Anonymous, 15th century

All

S125: The Holy Eucharist II, Holy, holy, holy Lord: *Sanctus*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

Presider

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Presider

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

All

AMEN.

Presider And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
 All Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy Name,
 thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread.
 And forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those who trespass against us.
 And lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
 and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

* BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
 People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

S161: The Holy Eucharist, Fraction Anthem: Jesus, Lamb of God: *Agnus Dei*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
 have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

Presider 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.

COMMUNION

*All are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.
 Intinction of wafers is offered, if desired. For gluten-free bread, cross your hands palms down.
 For a blessing, cross your hands over your chest.*

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN: 79 "O little town of Bethlehem"

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!
 *4 Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child,
 5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 2 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
 3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
 4 where mis - er - y cries out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild;
 5 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
 2 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
 3 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 4 where char - i - ty stands watch - ing and faith holds wide the door,
 5 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 2 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
 3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 4 the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes once more.
 5 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893). Music: St. Louis, Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908).

COMMUNION HYMN: 115 "What child is this"

Unison or harmony

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,

Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with
 ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for
 peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -

an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

Refrain

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds

guard and an - gels sing; haste, haste to

bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

COMMUNION HYMN: 112 "In the bleak midwinter"

1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
 2 Our God, heaven can - not hold him, nor — earth sus - tain;
 3 An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - ered there,
 4 What — can I give him, poor — as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
 heaven and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign:
 cher - u - bim and se - ra - phim throng - ed the air;
 If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;

snow had fal - len, snow on snow, snow — on — snow,
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble - place suf - ficed
 but his mo - ther on - ly, in her maid - en bliss,
 if I were a wise — man, I would do my part;

in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
 the Lord — God in - car - nate, Je - sus Christ.
 wor - shiped the be - lov - ed with a kiss.
 yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

Words: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894). Music: Cranham, Gustav Theodore Holst (1874-1934).

* POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.

All Almighty and everliving God,
 we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
 of the most precious Body and Blood
 of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
 and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
 that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
 and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
 And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do,
 to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
 To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
 be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

* CANDLE LIGHTING

Please pass the flame to your neighbor.

* ANTHEM: "Sleeps Judea Fair"

Hugh A. MacKinnon

Sleeps Judea fair,
 Bides the Christ Child there:
 Shepherds, haste ye! flocks forsaking,
 swift your way to Him be taking,
 Babe, of Israel's prayer.

Christ from God is come,
 Choosing earthly home:
 Royal pomp and splendor never,
 But with love which naught can sever,
 He will heal the dumb;
 Christ from God is come.

Lowly bend the knee,
 Thou from sin set free:
 Let the Christ Child, meekly smiling,
 Infantwise all woe beguiling,
 Grant His grace to thee!

—Text: Hugh A. MacKinnon

* BLESSING OF A CRÈCHE

Presider The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us:

People And we beheld his glory.

Presider Let us pray.

O God our Creator, to restore our fallen race you spoke the effectual word, and the Eternal Word became flesh in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary: be pleased to bless and hallow this image of his sacred birth, so that those who gaze upon it may behold this mystery, whereby humanity shares in your very nature; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

* HYMN: 111 "Silent night, holy night"

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
 at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
 hea - ven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
 birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885). Music: *Stille Nacht*, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824-1910).

Please extinguish your candle. Following the service, place your candle in one of the baskets near the exits.

* CHRISTMAS BLESSING

Presider

May Almighty God, whose Son was sent to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

* DISMISSAL

The Deacon dismisses the people.

People Thanks be to God.

* SENDING HYMN: 87 "Hark! the herald angels sing"

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!
 2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
 3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.
 Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Refrain

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: Mendelssohn, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915).

Serving Today

Presider	The Rev. W. James Yazell
Preacher	The Very Rev. Dr. Andrew C. Keyse
Deacon	The Rev. Barbara Wegener
Musicians	The Trinity Choir, Mary Mullis Keyse, Dr. Lucas Fletcher, Dr. Paul Meier
Lector	Donna Knoell
Intercessor	Joan Bergstrom
Eucharistic Ministers	Bob Johnson, Charles Shipley
Altar Guild	Leticia Porter
Verger	Glen Wesner
Acolytes	Curtis Hamilton
Ushers	Richard Fanolio, Nigel Jones, Gary Brandt, John Braum
Livestreaming/Sound	Chris Morrison, Christine Morrison

Thank you to all the volunteers who help make our Christmas services successful. You are greatly appreciated!



Take home a 2024 calendar today.

The calendar features the liturgical calendar on one side and key Cathedral events on the other side.



Thanksgivings and Memorials for Flowers and Greens



- in memory of John Brown by Peg Brown
- in thanksgiving for my husband, children and grandchildren by Paget Higgins
- in memory of Alice Lindquist, Gertrude Lewandowski, Jeri Bugh and Jesse Hockett by the Lewandowski family
- in thanksgiving for our grandchildren, Maddie and Jack by John & Ellen Goheen
- in memory of Calvia Hillhouse by Brent Barr
- in memory of Shawsie & Coleman Branton by Page & Bruce Reed
- in thanksgiving for our family by Day & Whitney Kerr
- in memory of Don Livengood and William Hawley by Sally Livengood
- in thanksgiving for our children Siras and Mary Mullis by Beth and Andy Keyse
- in memory of Joe Finnie by Jackye and the Finnie family
- in memory of Leona Schaefer by Randal J. Loy
- in thanksgiving for our family by Michael and Cathy Thomas
- by Jan and Terry Duncan
- in thanksgiving for our family by Janet & Ric Sweeting
- in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Howard W. Keyse, Mr. and Mrs. Siras A. Stocks, Mr. and Mrs. Carl F. Grauer, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph L. Johnson, Dr. S. Allan Stocks by Beth and Andy Keyse
- in memory of John and Lillian Knoell, Marie Knoell, Ethyl B Woodley, and Florence and Merritt Royer by Donna Knoell and Jim Royer
- in memory of Sara Gaggens by Ruth Music
- in thanksgiving for my children, Jennifer and John by Joan Bergstrom
- in memory of Joyce Liming, Terry Van Gorp and Charles E. Thomas by Michael and Cathy Thomas
- in memory of my husband, Harley, and mother, Hortense Lambert by Pat Miller
- in memory of Dr. Charles Chapple by Sally Chapple
- in thanksgiving for the Cathedral Staff: Julie, Steve B., James, Melissa, Clare, Holly, Joan, Barbara, Lucas, Paul, Angie, Bianca, Mike, Brian, Jenae, Farzana and RhiAna by Dean Andy

Flower Donations

Donations toward the Christmas or weekly flowers can be given by anyone who wants to acknowledge special events or people in their lives. Gifts are accepted in any amount. You can mail a check to the Cathedral office, put your donation in a flower envelope and place in the offering or make a payment through our online payment site.

See kccathedral.org/flowers for more information or contact Julie Toma, jtoma@kccathedral.org.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY IN 2023.

The end of the year is a great time to consider giving toward Cathedral ministries. Donations you wish to include for the current tax year must be submitted by December 31. Gifts received or processed online after December 31 will be included in the following year giving statement.

If you have a question about your pledge or other giving, please contact Cathedral Administrator Julie Toma at jtoma@kccathedral.org or 816.214.9936.

End of year gifts can be made online or you can mail a check to the Cathedral office.



MAKE YOUR YEAR END GIFT
BY DECEMBER 31, 2023

WEEKLY YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAYS

Youth Formation at 9:15 a.m.
with light breakfast

Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Youth Group at 6 p.m.
Dinner is provided!



QUESTIONS? CONTACT CLARE,
CSTERN@KCCATHEDRAL.ORG.

DAY OF SERVICE AND FUN WITH ST. PAUL'S KCMO

3rd-9th graders may participate

Friday, December 29

8:30- Early Drop-off and Breakfast

9-12- Food Pantry

1:15-2:45 Sky Zone (Shawnee, KS)

3-5 Snacks and Boardgames
(pickup anytime between 3 and 5)

5:30 Late Pick-up

Email Clare to sign up!
cstern@kccathedral.org

CHILDREN'S FORMATION

Children K-5th grade are invited to join us Sundays in Haden Hall.

9:15 a.m. • Formation Class

Join us for formation hour and wonder about God with your friends and teachers and hear sacred stories as told with the help of Godly Play resources!

10:30 a.m. • Cathedral Kids

Cathedral Kids meets during the first half of the 10:30 a.m. worship service and during this time we weave together our sacred stories and our Episcopal identity with the Weaving God's promises curriculum! Children attending Cathedral Kids will meet their parents or guardians inside the tower doors during the passing of the peace.

Questions? Contact Clare: childrensformation@kccathedral.org.

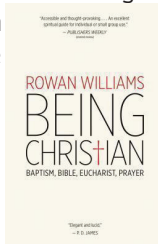
Adult Formation

Sundays in January

Baptism, Bible, Eucharist & Prayer

9:15 a.m. • Common Room

There is an incredible variety of thought and practice among the various Christian traditions. But there remain four activities that almost all Christians continue to engage in: Baptism, Bible, Eucharist, and Prayer. Join us as we discover together what these activities can tell us about the Christian life, and about the kinds of people we might hope to become in a community that practices them. Each week we'll discuss one of these four Christian activities using Rowan Williams' *Being Christian*.



Tuesdays

GHTC's Virtual Cafe • 7:30 a.m.

Please join us for our weekly conversation in GHTC's Virtual Cafe! Tuesday mornings from 7:30–9 a.m. For details, visit kccathedral.org/other-activities.

Women's Bible Study • 12:30 p.m.

Conversation is lively, thought-provoking, and often irreverent. All are welcome. Visit the WBS page, kccathedral.org/adultformation/wbs for more information.

Lectionary Bible Study • 6:45 p.m.

We study the lessons for the upcoming Sunday. Join the Lectionary Bible Study group in Realm or visit the LBS page, kccathedral.org/adultformation/lbs for more details.

Coming in January

Get more information about these and other upcoming events at kccathedral.org/upcoming-events



12th Night
Friday, January 5
6 p.m.

Bring your favorite pot of chili to celebrate the Twelfth Day of Christmas. We will have games for all ages for this night of fun and fellowship.

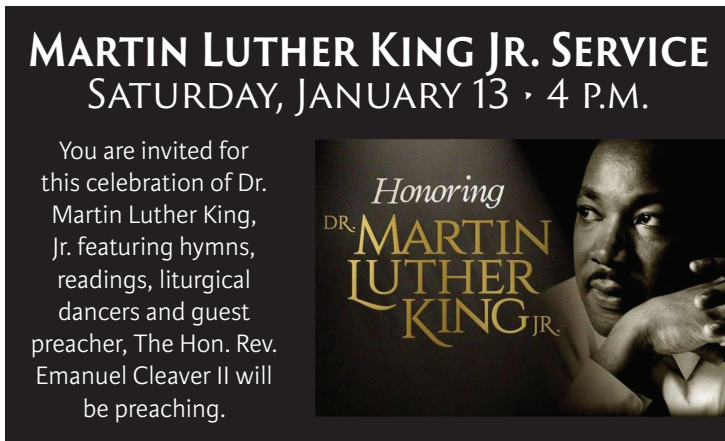
Chili Potluck & Game Night

Sign up here: 



Diaper Drive for HappyBottoms

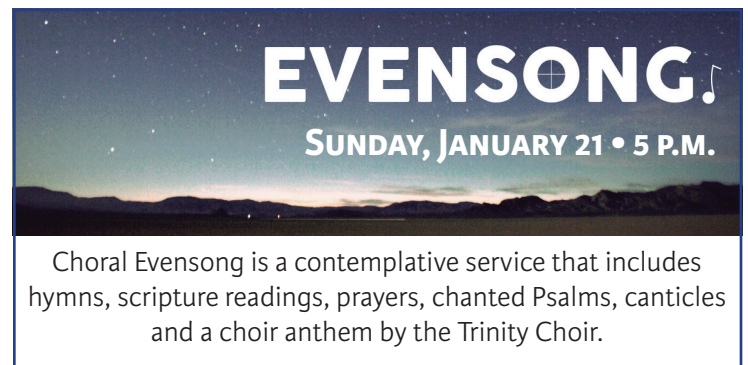
Because of your support, HappyBottoms, the KC metro area's diaper bank, is able to provide thousands of children each month with clean diapers. Since diapers are not covered by safety-net programs, your donations of diaper packages (including already opened packs) help cover the gap and enable families to have at least a few clean diapers on hand every day. During the month of January, please bring your diapers to the blue bin in the Cathedral entryway.



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. SERVICE
SATURDAY, JANUARY 13 • 4 P.M.

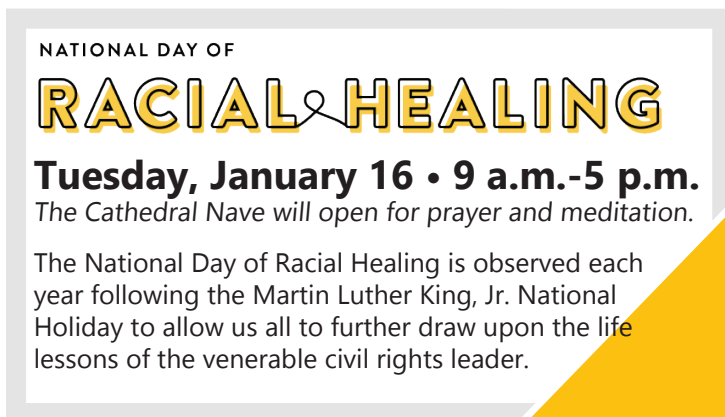
You are invited for this celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. featuring hymns, readings, liturgical dancers and guest preacher, The Hon. Rev. Emanuel Cleaver II will be preaching.

Honoring
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.



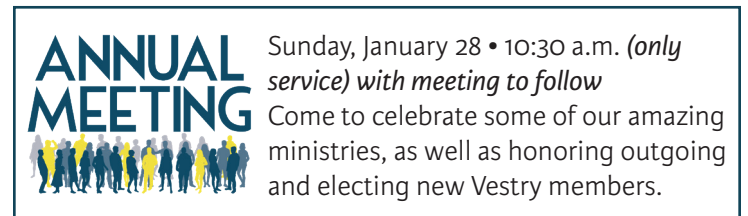
EVENSONG.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 21 • 5 P.M.

Choral Evensong is a contemplative service that includes hymns, scripture readings, prayers, chanted Psalms, canticles and a choir anthem by the Trinity Choir.



NATIONAL DAY OF
RACIAL HEALING
Tuesday, January 16 • 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
The Cathedral Nave will open for prayer and meditation.

The National Day of Racial Healing is observed each year following the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Holiday to allow us all to further draw upon the life lessons of the venerable civil rights leader.



ANNUAL MEETING
Sunday, January 28 • 10:30 a.m. (only service) with meeting to follow
Come to celebrate some of our amazing ministries, as well as honoring outgoing and electing new Vestry members.

Upcoming Children & Youth Formation Schedule

Sunday, December 31

No Formation (Children or Youth), Cathedral Kids or Nursery.
No Sunday evening Youth Group

Sunday, January 7

No Formation (Children or Youth) or Cathedral Kids but the Nursery will be available. No Sunday evening Youth Group

Sunday, January 14

Our regular schedule resumes.