

ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

The Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025 • 5 p.m.



"Prepare the Way [NOLA Map]" by Lauren Wright Pittman, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library

GRACE AND HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

Welcome! We are glad you are here.

- If you are a visitor or new attendee, we invite you to fill out a welcome card, found in your pew, and place it in the offering plate or complete the form online. Use this QR code to access the form.
- If you need a hearing assistance device, please ask an usher. Instructions to connect via Bluetooth are on the back table.
- Gendered restrooms are available in Founders' Hall. A non-gendered, accessible restroom is available at west end (rear) of the Cathedral.



Service Notes

- Please rise, as able, for portions of the service marked with an asterisk (*).
- Donations may be placed in the offering, made through the Cathedral website: kccathedral.org, by scanning the QR code to the right or by texting "GIVEToGHTC" to 73256. *Thank you for your generosity.*



VOLUNTARY: Chorale Prelude on *Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen* Op. 122

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

MATIN RESPONSORY

G.P. Palestrina (1525-1594); edited by Stephen Cleobury

I look from afar:
and lo, I see the power of God coming,
and a cloud covering the whole earth.
Go ye out to meet him and say:
Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy
people Israel?
High and low, rich and poor, one with another.

Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come:
to reign over thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
I look from afar: and lo, I see the power of God coming, and a
cloud covering the whole earth.
Go ye out to meet him and say:
Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy
people Israel?

Go ye out to meet him and say:
Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel,
Thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep,
Tell us, art thou he that should come?

CAROL: "Come, thou redeemer of the earth" *verse 1: choir; verses 2-4: all*



1 Come, thou re - deem - er of the earth, and
2 Be - got - ten of no hu - man will, but
3 From God the Fa - ther he pro - ceeds, to
4 All laud, e - ter - nal Son, to thee Whose



man - i - fest thy vir - gin - birth: let ev - ery age a -
of the Spi - rit, thou art still the word of God, in
God the Fa - ther back he speeds, His course he runs to
ad - vent sets thy peo - ple free, Whom with thy Fa - ther



dor - ing fall; such birth be - fits the God of all.
flesh ar - rayed, the pro - mised fruit to man dis - played.
death and hell, re - turn - ing on God's throne to dwell.
we a - dore, And Ho - ly Ghost for e - ver - more.

BIDDING PRAYER

Officiant Beloved in Christ, in this season of Advent, let it be our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, to see the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by his holy Child; and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within this city.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless; the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself has taught us:

People **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.**

Officiant The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and into the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

LESSON 1: Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-25 *God creates man and woman to live in obedience to him in the Garden of Eden.*

Reader

In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up-- for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground-- then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
this one shall be called Woman,
for out of Man this one was taken."

Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

ANTHEM: "The cherry tree carol"

arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)
text: English traditional

Joseph was an old man and an old man was he,
When he married Mary in the land of Galilee.

And as they were walking through an orchard so good,
Where were cherries and berries as red as any blood.

O then bespoke Mary, with words both meek and mild,
"Pluck me once cherry, Joseph, for that I am with Child."

"Go to the tree then Mary and it shall bow to thee,
And you shall gather cherries, by one, by two, by three!"

Then bowed down the highest tree unto our lady's hand,
"See," Mary cried, "see, Joseph, I have cherries at command."

"O, eat your cherries, Mary. Oh, eat your cherries now.
O, eat your cherries, Mary, that grow upon the bough."

Then Mary plucked a cherry as red as any blood,
Then Mary went she homewards all with her heavy load.

LESSON 2: Genesis 3:1-22 *Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden.*

Reader

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves. They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself."

He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate."

The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you."

And to the man he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

The man named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all living.

And the Lord God made garments of skins for the man and for his wife, and clothed them.

Then the Lord God said, "See, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever."

ANTHEM: "Adam lay ybounden"

Peter Warlock (1894-1930)
Text: Anonymous, 15th century

Adam lay ybounden, bounden in a bond:
Four thousand winter thought he not too long.

And all was for an apple, an apple that he took,
As clerkès finden written in their book.

Nè had the apple taken been, the apple taken been,
Nè had never our lady abeen heavenè queen.

Blessèd be the time that apple taken was.
Therefore we moun singen: Deo gracias!

CAROL: 270 "Gabriel's message does away"

1 Ga - briel's mes - sage does a - way Sa - tan's curse and
 2 He that comes de - spised shall reign; he that can - not
 3 Weak - ness shall the strong con - found; by the hands, in
 4 Art by art shall be as - sailed; to the cross shall

Sa - tan's sway, out of dark - ness brings our Day:
 die, be slain; death by death its death shall gain:
 grave clothes wound, Ad - am's chains shall be un - bound:
 Life be nailed; from the grave shall hope be hailed:

Refrain
 so, be - hold, all the gates of heaven un - fold.

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LESSON 3: Isaiah 40:1-11 *God comforts his people and calls on them to prepare for redemption.*

Reader Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

ANTHEM: "A spotless Rose"

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

text: 16th century; trans. Catherine Winkworth

A spotless Rose is blowing,
Sprung from a tender root,
Of ancient seers' foreshowing,
Of Jesse promised fruit;
Its fairest bud unfolds to light
Amid the cold, cold winter,
And in the dark midnight.

The Rose which I am singing,
Whereof Isaiah said,
Is from its sweet root springing
In Mary, purest Maid;
For through our God's great love and might,
The Blessed Babe she bare us
In a cold, cold winter's night.

CAROL: 75 "There's a voice in the wilderness crying"



1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a
2 O _____ Zi - on, that bring - est good tid - ings, get thee
3 but the word of our God _____ en - du - reth, the _____



call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a
up to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late
arm of the Lord is strong; he stands in the midst _____ of



high - way, a high - way for our God! The _____
peo - ple the com - ing of their King. Like the
na - tions, and he will right the wrong. He shall



val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the
flowers of the field they _____ per - ish, like
feed his _____ flock like a shep - herd, the



lof - ty hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed
grass our works de - cay, the power and pomp of
lambs he'll gent - ly hold; to pas - tures of peace he'll



pla - ces where the Lord our _____ God _____ may go!
na - tions shall _____ pass like a dream _____ a - way;
lead them, and _____ bring them _____ safe to his fold.

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LESSON 4: Jeremiah 31:31-34 *A new covenant is promised which will be written in our hearts*

Reader The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt-- a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

ANTHEM: "O Radiant Dawn"

James MacMillan (b. 1959)
Text: Antiphon for December 21

O Radiant Dawn, Splendour of eternal Light, Sun of Justice:
come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.
Isaiah had prophesied, "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone." Amen.

LESSON 5: Micah 5:2-4 *The one who is to rule Israel will be born in the village of Bethlehem.*

Reader But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
 who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
 one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
 from ancient days.
Therefore he shall give them up until the time
 when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
 to the people of Israel.
And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,
 in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
 to the ends of the earth.

ANTHEM: "Canite tuba"

Francisco Guerrero (1528-1599)
Text: Joel 2:1; Isaiah 40:4

*Canite tuba in Sion,
quia prope est dies Domini.
Ecce venit ad salvandum nos:
erunt prava in directa
et aspera in vias planas:
Veni, Domine, et noli tardare.*

Blow the trumpet in Zion,
for the day of the Lord is nigh.
Lo, He comes to our salvation:
the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways plain:
Come, Lord, and do not delay.

LESSON 6: Zephaniah 3:14-18 *The Lord will be among us; we are summoned to rejoice and sing.*

Reader Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
 shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
 O daughter Jerusalem!
The Lord has taken away the judgments against you,
 he has turned away your enemies.
The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;
 you shall fear disaster no more.
On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion;
 do not let your hands grow weak.
The Lord, your God, is in your midst,
 a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness,
 he will renew you in his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing
 as on a day of festival.
I will remove disaster from you,
 so that you will not bear reproach for it.

CAROL: 65 "Prepare the way, O Zion"



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.

Refrain



Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847); tr. composite; adapt. Charles P. Price (b. 1920). Music: *Bereden väg för Herren*, melody from *Then Svenska Psalmboken*, 1697; harm. *Koralbok för Svenska Kyrkan*, 1939, alt. Copyright: Words: © 1982, Charles P. Price. Music: Arrangement reprinted from *American Lutheran Hymnal*, copyright © 1930, by permission of Augsburg Publishing House. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

LESSON 7: Luke 1:26-56 *The Angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will bear the Son of the Most High.*

Reader

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever." And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

ANTHEM: "Angelus ad Virginem"

arr. Andrew Carter (b. 1939)
Text: late 13th century English

*Angelus ad Virginem sub intrans in conclave,
Virginis formidinem demulcens, inquit: "Ave!
Ave, Regina Virginum; coeli terraeque Dominum
Concipies et paries intacta salutem hominum;
Tu porta coeli facta, Medela Criminum."*

*"Quomodo conciperem quae virum non cognovi?
Qualiter infringerem quod firma mente vovi?"
"Spiritus Sancti gratia perficiet haec omnia;
Ne timeas, sed gaudeas, securo quod castimonia
Manebit in te pura Dei potentia."*

*Ad haec Virgo nobilis respondens inquit ei:
"Ancilla sum humilis omnipotentis Dei.
Tibi coelesti nuntio, tanti secreti conscio,
Consentiens, et cupiens videre factum quod audio;
Parata sum parere, Dei consilio."*

*Eia Mater Domini, quae pacem redidisti
Angelis et homini, cum Christum genuisti;
Tuum exora Filium ut se nobis propitium
Exhibeat, et deleat peccata: praestans auxilium
Vita frui beata post hoc exilium.
Deo Gracias!*

The angel, coming secretly to the Virgin,
calming the Virgin's fear, said: "Hail!
Hail, Mary, Queen of Virgins! You shall conceive the Lord of
Heaven and Earth
and give birth, remaining a virgin, to the Salvation of mankind;
you, made the Gateway of Heaven, the cure for sin."

"How shall I conceive, since I know not a man?
How shall I break what I have resolutely vowed?"
"The grace of the Holy Spirit shall perform all this.
Fear not, but rejoice, confident that chastity
will remain pure in you by the power of God."

At this, the noble Virgin, replying, said to him:
"I am the humble servant of almighty God.
To you, heavenly messenger, who know so great a secret,
I give my assent and desire to see done what I hear,
and am ready to obey God's will."

O Mother of the Lord, who restored peace
to angels and men when you have birth to Christ,
beg of your Son that he may show himself favorable to us
and wipe away our sins, offering help
to enjoy the blessed life after this exile.
Thanks be to God!

CAROL: 265 "The angel Gabriel from heaven came"

1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came,
 2 "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be,
 3 Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head,
 4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born

his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;
 all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee,
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,
 in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,

"All hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,
 thy Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
 "my soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name."
 and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say -

most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!

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VESPER RESPONSORY

G.A. da Palestrina (1525-1594); adapted by Philip Ledger

Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed;
Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord.
Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

ANTHEM: "Advent Moon"

Cecilia McDowall (b. 1951)

with the Trinity Handbell Choir

text: Angier Brock

Let the coming of the One who arranges Orion and the Pleiades begin in darkness. Let the night be cold, with drifts of snow. Let there be one lily blooming, and whispered messages, and kneeling.

The fierce earth spins in expectation beneath the long night's moon, Advent moon. Like the restless fox crossing frosted meadows, the silvered owl in focused, silent flight, each of us is hungry. From rooms of untold longing, we sing our seasoned carols, watch, and wait.

Let the coming of the One who kindles fires of hope, whose faithfulness runs far beyond our sight, be like the coming of a child. Let there be milk, forgiveness, quiet arms. Come quickly, Love, our dearest deep and sweetest dawning. Come, fill us with your light

COLLECT

Officiant 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.**

THE BLESSING

CAROL: 57 "Lo! he comes, with clouds descending"

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
 2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
 3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
 4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on

our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
 dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
 daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
 thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
 nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
 ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
 power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
 ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
 own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Helmsley*, melody Thomas Augustine Arne (1710-1778). All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

VOLUNTARY: Toccata on *Veni Emmanuel*

Andrew Carter (b. 1939)

Serving Today

Officiant	The Rev. Canon W. James Yazell
Musicians	The Trinity Choir, Trinity Handbell Choir, Zaheer Popo, Dr. Lucas Fletcher
Lectors	Donna Knoell, Bob Johnson, Patti Ryder, Cliff Dubroc, LeeAnne Hays, Kelsey Leftwich-Yazell, The Rev. Barbara Wegener
Acolyte	Steve King
Greeter	Nigel Jones
Sound/Livestreaming	Christine Morrison, Curtis Hamilton

Cathedral Prayer List

To place a person on this prayer list, text PRAYER to (816) 310-1888 or email Deacon Barbara Wegener, bwegener@kccathedral.org. View the prayer list anytime: kccathedral.org/prayers

Pray for: Erin Kalkbrenner Katie Rose; Bill Stancil; Gene Easter; Phineas Gitta; All affected by Hurricane Melissa; Maison de Naissance in Haiti; Jody Beck; Betty Ouverson; Mike Dulohery; Gayle Melton Family; The Brunner Family; The Gooch Family; Abby Zwerner; Katie Cummings; Carolyn McGlothen; Lt. Col. Kevin Thomas; Mike O'Neill; Ellen Spake; Alan & Mary Simon; Joan and Joe Bacchus; Marian Philip; The High Family; Elliott Oliver; Kim Heitzenrater; Norma Brooks; Elaine Karsten; Kathy Manning; Terri Wesner; Lenette Johnson; Sandra Fuhrman; Jim Holstein; Kay Steiner; Brian and Amy Hummell; Joel; Mike Barzee & Family; Iris Parsons; Larry McMullen; Gloria Stocks; Jim Royer; Joyce Morrow; Thaddeus Samuel Withers; Yvonne Kehoe Meier; Trish Lambert; Jeffrey and family; Charlotte Colburn; All those fighting chronic illness; All families affected by gun violence; First Responders; All Immigrants

Pray for the Departed: The Rev. Barbara Beam; LaGreta Gitta; Faye Brunner; Gayle Melton; Richard Gooch; Sue King; those lost in war; those who have died from gun violence

Diocesan Prayer Cycle: St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Joplin—The Rev. Ryan Williams, Rector; The Rev. Carol Peterson, Deacon
Bishop's Shield Recipients

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Please contact the Cathedral office (jtoma@kccathedral.org) if we have omitted your birthday or anniversary.

December 7
Gordon Hansen
Bill McCandless

December 8
Bailey Darr

December 9
Nick Douthat
Meribeth Risebig
Craig Heslop

December 10
Luca Janky

December 12
Alex Ratcliff

December 13
John Morrison
Scott Courson
Christopher Black
Ty Gardner

This Week at GHTC

Learn more about our weekly services & opportunities for study and fellowship: kccathedral.org

Sunday, December 7

- 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- 9 a.m. Coffee Hour
- 9:15 a.m. Adult Formation: Episcopal Beliefs and Practices
- 9:30 a.m. Rehearsal: Trinity Choir
- 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist*
- 10:30 a.m. Cathedral Kids
- 11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour
- 2 p.m. Nativity Puppets Performance
- 5 p.m. Advent Lessons & Carols

Monday, December 8

- 12 p.m. City Come Again (*Doors open at 11:30 a.m.*)

Tuesday, December 9

- 7:30 a.m. GHTC's Virtual Cafe+
- 12:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study+
- 6:45 p.m. Lectionary Bible Study+

Wednesday, December 10

- 10 a.m. Staff Gathering
- 12 p.m. Noonday Prayer*
- 12 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting
- 12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Thursday, December 11

- 6 p.m. Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous Meeting
- 7 p.m. Rehearsal: Trinity Choir

Friday, December 5

- 10 a.m. Nativity Puppets School Performance
- 7 p.m. Nativity Puppets Performance

Saturday, December 13

- 2 p.m. Funeral & Reception: The Rev. Barbara Beam

Sunday, December 14

- 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- 9 a.m. Coffee Hour
- 9:15 a.m. Adult Formation: Episcopal Beliefs and Practices
- 9:30 a.m. Rehearsal: Trinity Choir
- 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist*
- 10:30 a.m. Cathedral Kids
- 11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour
- 2 p.m. Concert: Candlelight, Carols & Cathedral
- 5 p.m. Order for Evening and Holy Eucharist

+On Zoom

*In person and streamed on YouTube @kccathedral

Altar Flowers

Today's flowers are dedicated to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for my son, Brad McLeroy by Carolyn McLeroy.



GLOVES & WARM SOCKS

For men & women at



Shelter KC

A Kansas City Rescue Mission



Bring donations of gloves
and socks for men or women
to the Tower entrance
during November &
December



Today's Focal St. John's Bible Illumination

Second Sunday of Advent: Repentance, Preparation, Hope & Peace

"Messianic Predictions" Illumination (Isaiah 11:1-16)

Today's lectionary themes center around two companion messages: Isaiah's prophecy of a coming ruler who will inaugurate a reign of peace and justice together with John the Baptist's call for repentance in preparation for that event. The focal texts encourage hope for a future kingdom in which the oppressed will find relief from their suffering and all creation will experience new life. Both prophets, Isaiah and John the Baptist, urge listeners to prepare the way for the coming Messiah by getting their hearts and lives ready for his arrival. This preparation is an invitation to a deeper and transformative relationship with God through self-examination, forsaking sin, and embracing God's grace.

The "Messianic Predictions" illumination associated with Isaiah chapter 11 offers a *visio divina* perspective through which to explore these themes. Christians long have interpreted the child (the "shoot" of Jesse, Isaiah 11:1) typologically as a prefiguration of Jesus (the baby born in Bethlehem). He has been identified as the infant who would "put his hand on the adder's den" (v.8). Isaiah's image of this child "playing by the cobra's den" stands behind John the Baptist's language for condemning the religiously self-confident Pharisees and Sadducees as "a brood of vipers." Isaiah chapters 8-11 focus heavily on predictions of the destruction of disobedient and unfaithful self-acclaimed religious guides. At the same

time, these dark predictions are balanced with images of hope; for God's ultimate plan is to effect reconciliation and communion with his people. This message of redemption is for all nations, not just the remnant of Israel.

Today's focal illumination visualizes the joy of hope at Messiah's coming amid Isaiah's many warnings of judgment. The portrayal is crowned with Hallelujahs that appear as images reminiscent of trumpet blasts announcing God's coming transformative act. This is set within a rainbow motif with names of God written on the bows: "Prince of Peace," "King of Kings," "Everlasting Father," and "Immanuel" all

announcing that "unto us a child is born" and "God is with us." The intricate geometric gold stamp sparkles like the sun and stars, adding further excitement to this spirit of celebration.

Advent's focus on waiting and preparing for the coming Messiah includes penitential themes that not only remind us of an historical event but also of our own current need to prepare ourselves for Christ's return. The promised Kingdom of God will be characterized both by the hope and peace of Isaiah's prophecies as well as the fierce judgment proclaimed by John the Baptist. What do the names in this illumination say to you about the overarching nature and work of Messiah? How does that impact your life during this season of Advent?



Year End Giving

We want to thank you for your generous gifts this season. Your support throughout the year enables our work, and we appreciate how your generosity benefits our community.

You may make your donations online through our website, by placing them in the Sunday offering or by mailing to the Cathedral office. Donations received by mail must be postmarked by December 31 to be included on your 2025 contributions. *Please note that the Cathedral office will have limited hours between December 24-January 2.* 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.



Formation for All Ages

Adults: Sundays

9:15 a.m. • Common Room

Episcopal Beliefs & Practices: A Study of the Prayer Book

Through a weekly study of the 1979 Book of Common Prayer we will explore the beliefs and practices of the Episcopal Church. If you are curious about the Anglican way of Christianity, want to better understand familiar prayers and liturgies, or are seeking to engage more deeply in Christian practice and theology then this course is for you! No preparation needed, prayer books will be provided in class.

Children: Sundays

10:30 a.m. • Haden Hall

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.

Once a month, we observe **Family Worship Sundays**. These Sundays provide an opportunity for families to worship together. Worship Boxes with resources for children are in cabinet in the back cross aisle.

Upcoming Family Worship Dates: December 28, January 11

Youth

Sunday, December 14 | 6-8 p.m.

Advent Party & White Elephant Exchange

All 6-12th grade youth are welcome to gather in Haden Hall for Advent fun. Please keep white elephant gifts to a \$20 value.

Adults: Tuesdays

GHTC's Virtual Cafe • 7:30 a.m. • Zoom

The Virtual Café is open every Tuesday morning for Cathedral members and friends to connect; discuss current topics and activities happening at the Cathedral and in our community; and share what's on your mind.

For details, visit kccathedral.org/other-activities.

Women's Bible Study • 12:30 p.m. • Zoom

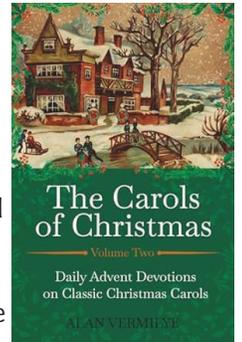
Conversation is lively, thought-provoking, and often irreverent. All are welcome. Visit our website, kccathedral.org/adultformation, for the Zoom link.

This Advent, we are reading *The Carols of Christmas, Volume 2* by Alan Vermilye. Each week looks at a well-known carol so it is easy to drop in if that's the one week you have available during Advent, no need to buy the book.

The Carols of Christmas, Volume 2 is a collection of devotionals based on beloved carols that will inspire readers to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. In this 28-day devotional journey, you will experience a fresh take on familiar melodies with personal reflections to guide you.

Books can be found at your favorite booksellers. Read closely before buying! We're reading Volume 2, but there are several different volumes of this book.

We hope you can join us for part of the Advent season!



Lectionary Bible Study • 6:45 p.m. • Zoom

Join us for a discussion of context which will, with God's grace, lead us to a discussion of how an understanding of scripture can restore us to fullness with God and each other in Christ. Join the Lectionary Bible Study group in Realm or on our website, kccathedral.org/adultformation, for more details.

Cathedral Staff: The Very Rev. Dr. Andrew C. Keyse, *Dean*; The Rev. Canon W. James Yazell, *Canon for Adult Formation*; The Rev. Barbara Wegener, *Deacon*; The Rev. Clare Stern-Burbano, *College, Youth & Children's Minister*; Dr. Lucas Fletcher, *Director of Music*; Zaheer Popo, *Associate Organist*; Julie Toma, *Cathedral Administrator*; Holly Campbell, *Events Coordinator*; Steve Berman, *Finance Coordinator*; Dr. Joan Bergstrom, *Sacristan & Volunteer Coordinator*; Angie Graham, *Facility Manager*; Bianca Jackson, *Assistant Facility Manager*; The Very Rev. Peter J. DeVeau, *Dean Emeritus*; Canon John Schaefer, *Canon Musician Emeritus*

The Vestry: Steve Moore, *Senior Warden*, smoore@skeltonmoore.com; Nigel Jones, *Junior Warden*, redbox712@gmail.com, (405) 747-6550; Chip Buckner, *Treasurer*; Blain Lagergren, *Clerk*; Bill Boyd; Julie Brogno; Colin Chambers; Pat Decker; Paget Higgins; Steve King; Christine Morrison; Mathias Nichols; Charles Shipley



Christmas

at Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral

Christmas Eve 5 p.m.

Our children tell the Christmas Gospel story through their pageant. After the service, all are invited to Haden Hall for a Cookies and Cocoa reception.

Christmas Eve 10 p.m.

Traditional, familiar carols and service music will be featured. Choral Prelude of Christmas music begins at 9:30 p.m. Incense is used at this service.

Christmas Day 10 a.m.

Greet the Incarnate Lord on Christmas morning with a celebration of Holy Eucharist with carols and organ music.

415 W 13th Street | Kansas City, MO | kccathedral.org

Upcoming Events & Announcements

For more info and signup links: kccathedral.org/events

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8
NOON (PRELUDE BEGINS 11:30 A.M.)

CITY COME AGAIN



Since 1982, William Jewell College has partnered with Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral to present The City Come Again as a gift in music and word to Kansas City. This program features students and faculty presenting seasonal music, poetry, and more. This event is free.

YOU ARE INVITED
Mingle and Munch!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 5:30-9 P.M.
Home of Kristen & Mathias Nichols in the KC northland

Bring a beverage and dish (appetizer or dessert) to share.

Wear your favorite fun holiday sweater/outfit.



All ages welcome!

Advent Greens & Christmas Flowers

Flowers and Greens will once again adorn the Cathedral as part of our celebrations. Your gift in memory of or in thanksgiving for a loved one helps provide festive decorations for Christmas Eve through The Feast of the Epiphany. This visual proclamation of the glory of the Incarnation adds so much to our celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.

- Give online using the QR code.
- Text "GIVETOGHTC flowers" to 73256 to give using your mobile device.
- Mail a check to the Cathedral office or place in Sunday's offering.

To have your name appear in the Christmas bulletins, make your gift by *Wednesday, December 17*. (Gifts received after this date will appear in subsequent bulletins.)

Thank you for your generous gifts in celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ!

