

# GRACE AND HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL



"Mary's Song" by Lauren Wright Pittman, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library

## The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2025 • 10:30 a.m.

## Welcome!

Thank you for joining us for worship today at Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral. If you are new to the Cathedral, we invite you to fill out our welcome card. Welcome cards are available in the pews or text GUEST to 816-310-1888.

## Subscribe to Our Newsletter

Sign up for email news about special events, worship and ways to connect with our community.

## Children

Children are welcome in all our services. Age-appropriate activities are available on a shelf in the back aisle.

- For elementary age children, 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.
- We observe *Family Worship* one Sunday of each month so there is no Cathedral Kids. Worship Boxes with resources for children are in the back cross aisle. *Upcoming Family Worship Dates: December 28, January 11*
- To get to Haden Hall: From the Tower entry, go up the stairs and straight ahead to the adjoining building. Follow signs or ask an usher for directions.

## Restrooms

Gendered and accessible restrooms are available in Founders' Hall. A non-gendered and accessible restroom is available at west end (rear) of the Cathedral.

## Hearing Assist Devices

Connect your Bluetooth enabled devices through the Listen Everywhere app. Detailed instructions are available on the table near the entrance. Other (not Bluetooth) hearing assist devices are also available on the table near the entrance.

## Ways to Give

- Give online with the QR code (or use the GIVE button on the Cathedral website).
- Tap to give using the display in the Tower entrance. Instructions for use are next to the machine.
- Text "GIVetoGHTC" to 73256.
- Place in the offering plate. Envelopes are available in the pew racks.

*Thank you for your generosity.*



Give Online

## Service Notes

Please rise, as able, for portions of the service marked with an asterisk (\*). Page numbers listed are from red The Book of Common Prayer and hymn numbers are from *The Hymnal 1982*.

## Following the Service

Please join us for a cup of coffee or tea and lively conversation in Founders' Hall.

## Our Mission

As the Episcopal Cathedral Church in the heart of Kansas City we seek and serve Christ in all people, loving our neighbors as ourselves while striving for justice, peace and respect for every human being. Our worship, prayer and formation support the restorative strength of our community, reconciling all people to God and one another through Christ.



@kccathedral

*Please be advised that our services are livestreamed to YouTube. Your participation in the service serves as your consent to the broadcast of your image and voice and to the broadcast of the image and voice of your participating minor children.*

# HOLY EUCHARIST

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

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

## The Word of God

\* ENTRANCE HYMN: 56 "O come, O come, Emmanuel" verses 1-4



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest  
3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy  
4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge  
3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the  
4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
2 show, and teach us in her ways to go. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.  
4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright: Music: Both accompaniments copyright © 1975, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

\* OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

page 355

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Presider Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

\* S86 *Kyrie eleison*

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e  
 e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e -  
 le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. 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.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

First Lesson: Isaiah 7:10-16

Lector Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 80:1-7, 16-18 *sung by the choir; plainsong chant*

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*Antiphon: Stir up your strength, O Lord, and come to help to help us.*

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; \*  
 shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, \*  
 stir up your strength and come to help us.

Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
 show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

O Lord God of hosts, \*  
 how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?

You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*  
 you have given them bowls of tears to drink.  
 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, \*  
 and our enemies laugh us to scorn.  
 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
 show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.  
 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, \*  
 the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.  
 And so will we never turn away from you; \*  
 give us life, that we may call upon your Name.  
 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; \*  
 show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

*Antiphon: Stir up your strength, O Lord, and come to help to help us.*

## Second Lesson: Romans 1:1-7

**Lector** Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.

## \* GOSPEL HYMN: 66 "Come, thou long-expected Jesus"



1 Come, thou long-ex-pect-ed Je-sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;  
 2 Is-rael's strength and con-so-la-tion, hope of all the earth thou art:  
 3 Born thy peo-ple to de-liv-er, born a child, and yet a king,  
 4 By thine own e-ter-nal Spi-rit rule in all our hearts a-lone;



from our fears and sins re-lease us, let us find our rest in thee.  
 dear de-sire of ev-ery na-tion, joy of ev-ery long-ing heart.  
 born to reign in us for ev-er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.  
 by thine all-suf-fi-cient mer-it raise us to thy glo-rious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: Stuttgart, melody from *Psalmody Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

\* THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-25

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

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

Gospeller      Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

\* THE NICENE CREED

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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, FORM I

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- Intercessor With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."
- For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.
- People** Lord, have mercy.
- Intercessor For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.
- People** Lord, have mercy.
- Intercessor For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.
- People** Lord, have mercy.
- Intercessor For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.
- People** Lord, have mercy.
- Intercessor For this city and for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.
- People** Lord, have mercy.
- Intercessor For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.
- People** Lord, have mercy.
- Intercessor For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering. We pray especially for those on the Cathedral's Prayer List, and for those whom we now name silently or aloud. Let us pray to the Lord,
- People** Lord, have mercy.
- Intercessor For the poor, the immigrants and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.
- People** Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, especially for those we now name, either silently or aloud. Let us pray to the Lord.

**People** Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

**People** Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

**People** Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor In the communion of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

**People** To thee, O Lord our God.

*Silence.*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

## CONFESSON AND ABSOLUTION

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Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**All** 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.

Presider 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.**

## \* THE PEACE

page 360

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People** And also with you.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

All O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) as *they* begin another year. Grant that *they* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *their* trust in your goodness all the days of *their* lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## The Holy Communion

### OFFERTORY SENTENCE

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: "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.

### PRESENTATION HYMN: 380 "From all that dwell below the skies" *verse 3*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise  
him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye  
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), para. of Psalm 117. St. 3, Thomas Ken (1637-1711). Music: *Old 100th*, melody from *Psaumes octante trois de David*, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?). All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.



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.**

**All**  
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, G.I.A. 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. For gluten-free bread, cross your hands palms down. For a blessing, cross your hands over your chest. On the first Sunday of each month, prayer for healing is offered at the prayer desk until the close of worship.

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.

— From *The Prayer Book for the Armed Services*

COMMUNION HYMN: 261 “By the Creator, Joseph was appointed”



1 By the Cre - a - tor, Jo - seph was ap - point - ed  
2 Christ in whose pres - ence hosts of hell must trem - ble,  
3 To God e - ter - nal be all praise and glo - ry,



spouse of the Vir - gin, guard - ian of the In - car - nate;  
Ru - ler of all things, Lord of earth and hea - ven,  
who to Saint Jo - seph gave su - per - nal hon - or;



he by his car - ing min - is - tered to Je - sus,  
Mon - arch of mon - archs, to his earth - ly fa - ther  
grant that we al - so may like him be faith - ful



source of sal - va - tion.  
free - ly was sub - ject.  
in our o - be - dience.

Words: Hieronimo Casanate (d. 1700); tr. *Hymnal* 1982. Music: *Caecitum Joseph*, plainsong, Mode 1, Worcester MS., 13th cent.; ver. Schola Antiqua, 1983; acc. Thomas Foster (b. 1938). Copyright: Music: melody, rhythmic version © 1984, Schola Antiqua Inc. Used by permission. Accompaniment © 1984, Thomas Foster. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

COMMUNION HYMN: 60 "Creator of the stars of night"



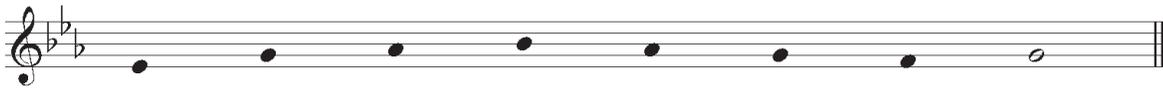
1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,  
 2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse  
 3 When this old world drew on toward night,  
 4 At your great Name, O Je - sus, now  
 5 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray,  
 \* 6 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,



1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,  
 2 should doom to death a u - ni - verse,  
 3 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,  
 4 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow:  
 5 re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;  
 6 and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,  
 2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free  
 3 not as a mon - arch, but the child  
 4 all things on earth with one ac - cord,  
 5 de - fend us while we dwell be - low  
 6 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



1 we pray you hear us when we call.  
 2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.  
 3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.  
 4 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.  
 5 from all as - saults of our dread foe.  
 6 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

Words: Latin, 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal* 1940, alt. Music: *Conditor alme siderum*, plainsong, Mode 4; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956). Copyright: Music: Accompaniment © 1984, Bruce Neswick. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

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.

\* THE BLESSING

\* DISMISSAL

Following the dismissal,

People Thanks be to God.

\* CLOSING HYMN: 56 "O come, O come, Emmanuel" verses 5-8



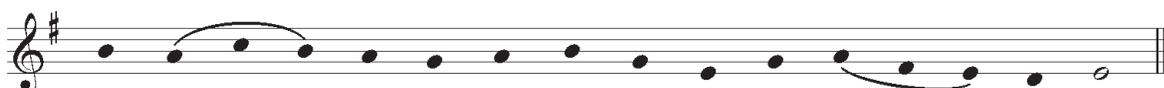
5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen  
 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us  
 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the  
 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on  
 6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of  
 7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions  
 8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.  
 6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.  
 7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
 8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. Hymnal 1940, alt. Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright: Music: Both accompaniments copyright © 1975, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

## Serving Today

Presider	The Very Rev. Dr. Andrew C. Keyse
Preacher	The Rev. Canon W. James Yazell
Deacon	The Rev. Barbara Wegener
Musicians	The Trinity Choir, Dr. Lucas Fletcher, Zaheer Popo
Lector	Mark Galus
Intercessor	Paget Higgins
Eucharistic Ministers	Christine Morrison, Curtis Hamilton
Acolytes	Henry Galus, Susan Ahn, Victoria Porter, Athan Nichols
Ushers	John Braum, Denny Brisley, Mark Colburn, Ric Sweeting
Greeters	Donna Knoell, Julian Mattson
Altar Guild	Peg Brown, Debbie Marrs, Leticia Porter, Kristy Moore
Sound/Livestreaming	Kristy Moore, Chris Morrison
Cathedral Kids	Clare Stern-Burbano, Brenda Colburn
Holy Hands Hospitality	Julie Brogno, Sara Copeland, Beth Keyse, Burma Cenovich
Oblation Bearer	Donna Knoell

**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 flowers

Today's flowers are dedicated to the glory of God and in thanksgiving of the anniversary of Andrew's ordination to the priesthood by Mrs. Mary Keyse.

Altar flowers are a great way to commemorate an event near a specific date, or honor/remember someone close to your heart. Donations of any amount toward the weekly flowers can be given by anyone who wants to acknowledge special events or people in their lives. See [kccathedral.org/flowers](http://kccathedral.org/flowers) for more information or contact Julie Toma.

# 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](mailto:bwegener@kccathedral.org). View the prayer list anytime: [kccathedral.org/prayers](http://kccathedral.org/prayers)

**Pray for:** Gayle Webb; Konan; Zachary Pearce; Ann Ryder; Erin Kalkbrenner; All those injured in the Shooting in Stockton, CA; 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; Mike Barzee & Family; Iris Parsons; Larry McMullen; Gloria Stocks; Jim Royer; Joyce Morrow; Thaddeus Samuel Withers; Yvonne Kehoe Meier; Jeffrey and family; Charlotte Colburn; All those fighting chronic illness; All families affected by gun violence; First Responders; All Immigrants

**Pray for the Departed:** Maliyah Brown; 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. Augustine's Episcopal Church, Kansas City—The Rev. Chas Marks, Rector

Disciplinary Board & Intake Officer, The Rev. Barbara Wegener

# This Week at GHTC

Learn more about our weekly services & opportunities for study and fellowship: [kccathedral.org](http://kccathedral.org)

## Sunday, December 21

- 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
- 5 p.m. Order for Evening and Holy Eucharist

## Tuesday, December 23

- 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 24

- 12 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting
- 5 p.m. Christmas Eve Eucharist with Pageant\*
- 10 p.m. Christmas Eve Eucharist, *prelude begins at 9:30 a.m.*\*

## Thursday, December 25

- 10 a.m. Christmas Day Eucharist

## Sunday, December 28

- 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- 9 a.m. Coffee Hour
- 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist\*
- 11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour
- 5 p.m. Order for Evening and Holy Eucharist

+On Zoom

\*In person and streamed on YouTube @kccathedral

# Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

## December 21

Keith & Linda Oliver  
Gina Jones

## December 22

Sharon Hudson  
Tony Carrillo

## December 23

Steve & Lenette Johnson  
Steve Berman  
Miles Lewandowski  
George Nodler  
Oreste Minme

## December 24

Michael John  
Arthur Mullies  
Dennis Meehan

## December 26

Chuck & Marsy Gordon  
John Hornbeck  
Hayden Conley

## December 27

Doug & Terri Curran

## Holiday Office Closures

The Cathedral office is closed December 24-26 and December 31-January 1.

If you have a pastoral emergency, contact Dean Andy at 256.762.5889, Father James at 816.739.2930 or Deacon Barbara at 816.739.8032.

# Today's Focal St. John's Bible Illumination

## Fourth Sunday of Advent: Love, Obedience, & Anticipation

### "The Genealogy of Jesus" Illumination (Matthew Frontispiece)

Today's liturgical theme is love – love that is divine and boundless; love that becomes incarnate; love that compels obedience and faith; love that elicits eager anticipation and life preparation. The Old Testament reading remembers Isaiah's prophecy of the virgin (young woman) giving birth to a son named Emmanuel (God with us). The Psalm reading recounts the Shepherd of Israel's plea for God to "restore us ... let your face shine, that we may be saved" (80:7). The Epistle reading emphasizes Jesus Christ as the promised Son of God, through whom grace and apostleship are received. The Gospel reading recounts Joseph's struggles over Mary's pregnancy and his obedience to God in spite of his concerns, confusion, and questions. God's love for humanity and for all creation finds expression amid the messiness, complications, and scandals of life.

Matthew's gospel opens with Jesus' genealogy – a lineage that not only informs us regarding Jesus' heritage but also reminds us of the surprising ways of God. God could have chosen a genealogy of pristine perfection for his Son. Instead, he chose a lineage of brokenness, imperfection, disrepute, and scandal – a lineage much like our own. This rather messy lineage becomes the context for his divine work of restoration, healing, hope, and new beginning.

"The Genealogy of Jesus" was the first illumination that Artistic Director, Donald Jackson prepared for the Saint John's Bible project. It was completed before many important decisions about the project had been made and furnished vital motivation and vision for the work. It was significant, therefore, that the ultimate intent of this illumination was to suggest "the essential connectedness of all seekers of enlightenment." He did this in part by including symbols from several major

faith traditions representing a large portion of the human race. These seekers contribute to the enlightenment to be found through Jesus Christ, the focus of this genealogy.

"The Genealogy of Jesus" includes women as well as men, and contains many individuals with less than stellar credentials. Names are written in Hebrew along with English translations, and in the case of Hagar also includes her Arabic name. Illustrative features include illuminations from the Koran, a mandala (a sign of cosmic unity and wholeness found in many religious traditions), and the menorah (a reminder of Jesus' Jewish heritage). Images of the swirling bands of color and churning water appearing behind the menorah remind us of God's work in creation bringing order from chaos. Finally, this lineage also includes double helix symbols of DNA suggesting ties that all people from all epochs have to the work of God through the incarnate and resurrected Christ.

This illumination invites us to reflect on life, creation, history, redemption, and identity. As happened with Joseph and many other persons in Jesus' lineage, God sometimes leads us beyond our secure and reputable religious frameworks into doubt, scandal, and messy controversy. Joseph had to reorder everything he believed he knew about righteousness, purity, and justice to embrace a complex and messy situation he had not created. Emmanuel – God with us – is likely to be more complicated than we imagine. This last Sunday of Advent encourages us to embrace faith when God's work in our lives seems disturbingly different than what we had expected. As Jesus genealogy reminds us, the messiness of human history is where God is born.



# 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

Youth in grades 6-12 meet Sundays at 9:15 a.m. for Formation and 6 p.m. for Youth Group.

*Youth group meetings resume January 18.*

## 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](http://kccathedral.org/other-activities).

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

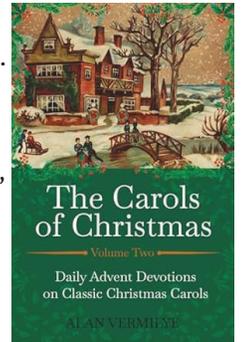
Conversation is lively, thought-provoking, and often irreverent. All are welcome. Visit our website, [kccathedral.org/adultformation](http://kccathedral.org/adultformation), for the Zoom link.

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](http://kccathedral.org/adultformation), for more details.

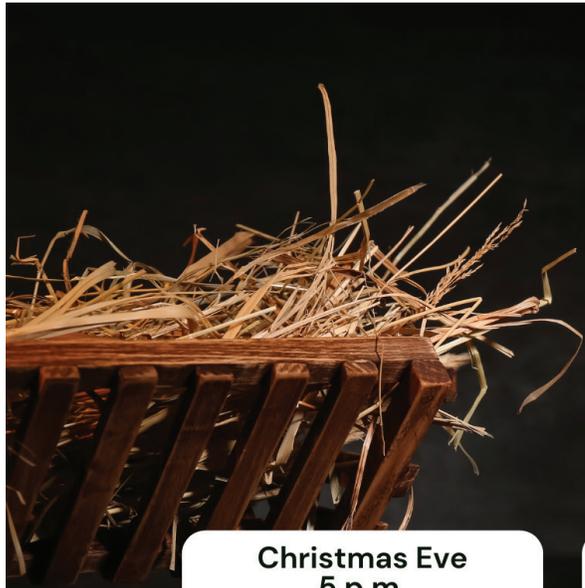
**Cathedral Staff:** The Very Rev. Dr. Andrew C. Keyse, *Dean*; The Rev. Canon W. James Yazell, *Canon for Adult Formation*; The Rev. Barbara Wegener, *Deacon*; The Rev. Clare Stern-Burbano, *College, Youth & Children's Minister*; Dr. Lucas Fletcher, *Director of Music*; Zaheer Popo, *Associate Organist*; 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](mailto:smoore@skeltonmoore.com); Nigel Jones, *Junior Warden*, [redbox712@gmail.com](mailto: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



# Upcoming Events & Announcements

For more info and signup links: [kccathedral.org/events](http://kccathedral.org/events)



# 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](http://kccathedral.org)**

## 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](mailto:jtoma@kccathedral.org) or 816.214.9936.



Today | 9:15 a.m. & 12:15 p.m.

## Help at Pete's Garden

Volunteer with fellow parishioners during coffee hour to put labels on the containers that will be used to package meals for families in need by Pete's Garden. We will label upstairs in Founders' Hall at coffee hour.

Please no food or drink at the labeling tables and wash your hands before helping.

This is a great opportunity to help at Pete's Garden. All ages are welcome; younger children should have a parent present.

