

# GRACE AND HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL



"Through Him, All Things," by Lauren Wright Pittman, © sanctifiedart.org

## The First Sunday of Christmas

December 28, 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

Today is a Family Worship Sunday. Family Worship Sundays provide an opportunity for families to worship together. Worship Boxes with resources for children are in the back cross aisle. *Upcoming Family Worship Dates: Today, January 11*

## Restrooms

Gendered and accessible restrooms with a changing table are available in Founders' Hall. A non-gendered and accessible restroom with a changing table 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.



Give Online

*Thank you for your generosity.*

## 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.

*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 Fantasia on *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern* BuxWV 223 Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

## The Word of God

\* ENTRANCE HYMN: 497 "How bright appears the Morning Star"

1 How bright ap - pears the Morn - ing Star, with mer - cy beam - ing  
2 Though cir - cled by the hosts on high, he deigned to cast a  
3 Re - jice, ye heavens; thou earth, re - ply; with praise, ye sin - ners,

from a - far; the host of heaven re - joic - es;  
 pit - ying eye up - on his help - less crea - ture;  
 fill the sky, for this his In - car - na - tion.

O right - eous Branch, O Jes - se's Rod! Thou Son of Man and  
 the whole cre - a - tion's Head and Lord, by high - est ser - a -  
 In - car - nate God, put forth thy power, ride on, ride on, great

Son of God! We, too, will lift our voic - es:  
 phim a - dored, as - sumed our ve - ry na - ture;  
 Con - quer - or, till all know thy sal - va - tion.

Je - sus, Je - sus! Ho - ly, ho - ly, yet most low - ly,  
 Je - sus, grant us, through thy mer - it, to in - her - it  
 A - men, a - men! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

draw thou near us; great Em - man - uel, come and hear us.  
 thy sal - va - tion; hear, O hear our sup - pli - ca - tion.  
 Praise be giv - en ev - er - more, by earth and hea - ven.

Words: William Mercer (1811-1873); after Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608). Music: *Wie schön leuchtet*, melody att. Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608) arr. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).  
 All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

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.**

\* SONG OF PRAISE: 96 "Angels we have heard on high" *verse 1*

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,

and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.

*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.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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 61:10-62:3

Lector I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.  
For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,  
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
and her salvation like a burning torch.  
The nations shall see your vindication,  
and all the kings your glory;  
and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the Lord will give.  
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.  
The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; \*  
**praise your God, O Zion;**  
For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \*  
**he has blessed your children within you.**  
He has established peace on your borders; \*  
**he satisfies you with the finest wheat.**  
He sends out his command to the earth, \*  
**and his word runs very swiftly.**  
He gives snow like wool; \*  
**he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.**  
He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \*  
**who can stand against his cold?**  
He sends forth his word and melts them; \*  
**he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.**  
He declares his word to Jacob, \*  
**his statutes and his judgments to Israel.**  
He has not done so to any other nation; \*  
**to them he has not revealed his judgments.**  
**Hallelujah!**

Second Lesson: Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

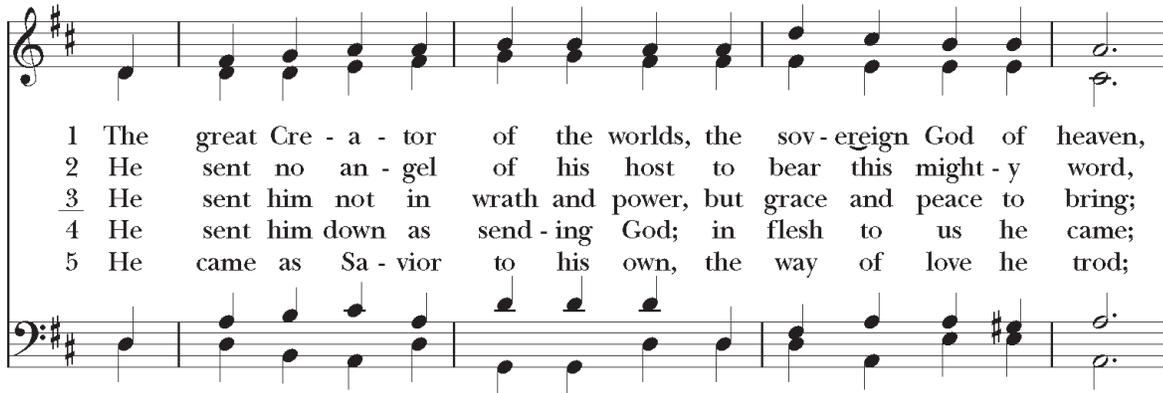
Lector Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

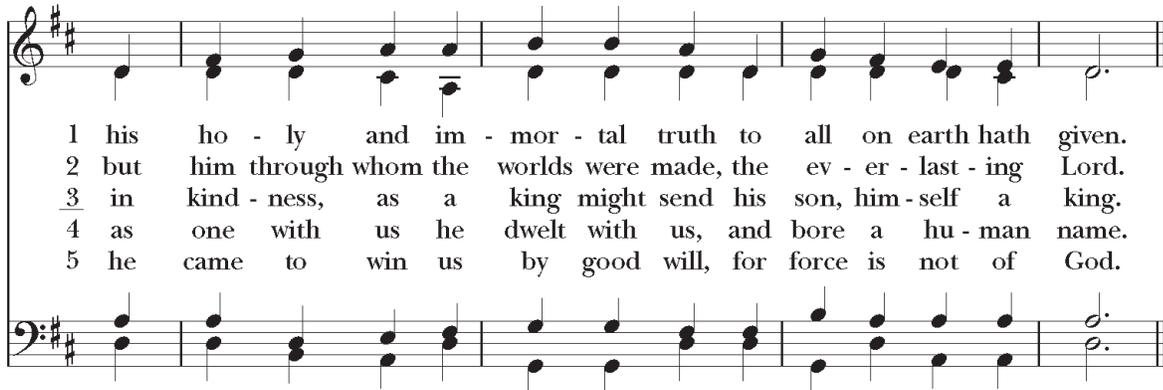
The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

\* GOSPEL HYMN: 489 "The great Creator of the worlds"



1 The great Cre - a - tor of the worlds, the sov - ereign God of heaven,  
2 He sent no an - gel of his host to bear this might - y word,  
3 He sent him not in wrath and power, but grace and peace to bring;  
4 He sent him down as send - ing God; in flesh to us he came;  
5 He came as Sa - vior to his own, the way of love he trod;



1 his ho - ly and im - mor - tal truth to all on earth hath given.  
2 but him through whom the worlds were made, the ev - er - last - ing Lord.  
3 in kind - ness, as a king might send his son, him - self a king.  
4 as one with us he dwelt with us, and bore a hu - man name.  
5 he came to win us by good will, for force is not of God.

6 Not to oppress, but summon all  
their truest life to find,  
in love God sent his Son to save,  
not to condemn mankind.

Words: Epistle to Diognetus, ca. 150; tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984), rev. Music: Tallis' *Ordinal*, Thomas Tallis (1505?-1585). All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

\* THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 1:1-18

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

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

Gospeller      In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

\* THE NICENE CREED

page 358

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

page 383

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.*

\* THE PEACE

page 360

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CELEBRATION PRAYER

page 830

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

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 HYMN: 99 "Go tell it on the mountain"

*Refrain*

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and

ev - ery - where; go tell it on the moun - tain, that

Je - sus Christ is born!

- 1 While shep - herds kept their
- 2 The shep - herds feared and
- 3 Down in a low - ly

watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night, be -  
trem - bled when lo! a - bove the earth rang  
man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born, and

*Repeat Refrain*

hold, through-out the hea - vens there shone a ho - ly light.  
out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sa - vior's birth.  
God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Words: African-American spiritual 19th cent.; adapt. John W. Work (b. 1901). Music: *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, Afro-American spiritual, 19th cent.; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer (b. 1935). Copyright: Music: Arrangement © 1984, Horace Clarence Boyer. 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. **AMEN.**

Presider And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

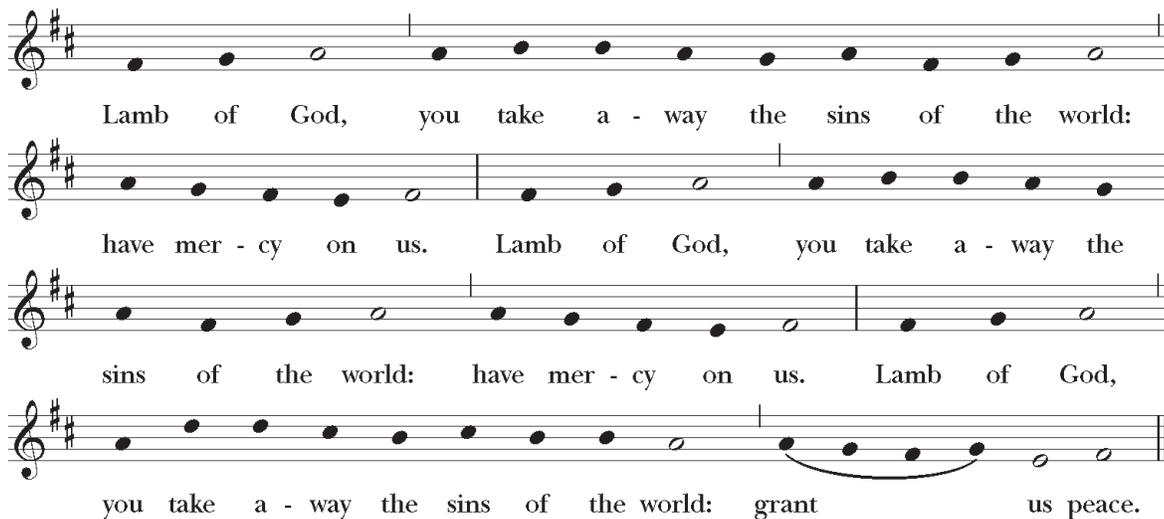
All **Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from 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

page 365

*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.*

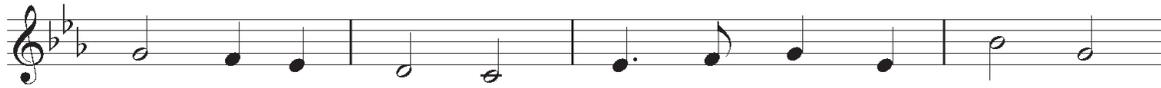
*On the first Sunday of each month, prayer for healing is offered at the prayer desk until the close of worship.*

### 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: 573 "Father eternal, Ruler of creation"



1 Fa - ther e - ter - nal, Ru - ler of cre - a - tion,  
 2 Rac - es and peo - ples, lo, we stand di - vid - ed,  
 3 En - vious of heart, blind - eyed, with tongues con - found - ed,  
 4 Lust of pos - ses - sion work - eth des - o - la - tions;  
 5 How shall we love thee, ho - ly hid - den Be - ing,



1 Spi - rit of life, which moved ere form was made,  
 2 and, shar - ing not our griefs, no joy can share;  
 3 na - tion by na - tion still goes un - for - given,  
 4 there is no meek - ness in the powers of earth;  
 5 if we love not the world which thou hast made?



1 through the thick dark - ness cov - ering ev - ery na - tion,  
 2 by wars and tu - mults love is mocked, de - rid - ed;  
 3 in wrath and fear, by jea - lous - ies sur - round - ed,  
 4 led by no star, the ru - lers of the na - tions  
 5 Bind us in thine own love for bet - ter see - ing



1 light to our blind - ness, O be thou our aid:  
 2 his sav - ing cross no na - tion yet will bear:  
 3 build - ing proud towers which shall not reach to heaven:  
 4 still fail to bring us to the bliss - ful birth:  
 5 thy Word made flesh, and in a man - ger laid:

*Refrain*



thy king - dom come, O Lord, thy will be done.

Words: Laurence Housman (1865-1959), alt. Music: Langham, Geoffrey Turton Shaw (1879-1943). Copyright: Words: By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: Used by permission of the United Nations Association. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

## \* 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.

## \* THE BLESSING

## \* DISMISSAL

*Following the dismissal,*

People      Thanks be to God.

\* CLOSING HYMN: 100 "Joy to the world!"

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -  
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our  
 \*3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and  
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -  
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far  
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture  
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and  
 2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -  
 3 far as the curse is found, far  
 4 and won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,  
 peat the sound - ing joy,  
 as the curse is found,  
 won - ders of his love,

## Serving Today

Presider and Preacher	The Very Rev. Dr. Andrew C. Keyse
Deacon	The Rev. Barbara Wegener
Organist	Zaheer Popo
Lector	LeeAnne Hays
Intercessor	Beth Keyse
Eucharistic Ministers	Janet Sweeting, Steve King
Acolytes	Charles Shipley, Harrison Mattson, Jeff Johnson, Athan Nichols
Ushers	Nigel Jones, Bill Colvin, Beth Keyse, Steve Moore
Greeters	Bill Boyd, Connie Boyd
Altar Guild	Kristy Moore, Sharon Cheers, Kay Woolley
Sound/Livestreaming	Julian Mattson, Curtis Hamilton
Holy Hands Hospitality	Barbara Wegener, Augusta Wilbon, Deborah Buckner

## Thanksgivings and Memorials for Flowers and Greens



- in honor of Beth & Dean Andy Keyse by Siobhan & Peter Cottone
- in memory of Lillian and John Knoell, Marie Knoell, Ethel B Woodley, and Florence and Merritt Royer, and in thanksgiving for our many blessings by Donna Knoell & Jim Royer
- in thanksgiving for our children by Beth and Andy Keyse
- in celebration and loving memory of our family by Ric & Janet Sweeting
- in thanksgiving for my family by Sharon Hudson
- in memory of John L. Cipolla by Barbara Cipolla
- in thanksgiving for the Cathedral Clergy and Staff: James, Clare, Barbara, Julie, Lucas, Zaheer, Joan, Steve, Angie, Bianca, Brian, John, and Farzana by Dean Andy
- in thanksgiving for Luke & Hannah Woolley and Emmy & Ashby Lane by Pat & Kay Woolley
- in thanksgiving for our children, Theo & Nora by Eric Elisabeth & Julie Brogno
- in thanksgiving by Steve King & Cliff Dubroc
- in thanksgiving for Dr. Lucas Fletcher, Director of Music; and in memory of our parents, Clarence & Dorothy Risebig by Meribeth & Claudia Risebig
- in thanksgiving for my son Thaddeus Samuel Withers & family by Joyce Gillespie
- in thanksgiving for our family by Whitney & Day Kerr
- in thanksgiving for my family by Carolyn McLeroy
- in thanksgiving for Melanie Boyd and in memory of Reginald & Fleeda Franklin by Muriel Boyd
- in thanksgiving for our children Elvarea, Ryan and Nick by Bob & Tara Bennett
- in honor of the GHTC Trinity Choir by Nigel Jones
- in thanksgiving for my children and grandchildren, and in memory of my parents by Paget Higgins
- In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Howard W. Keyse, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph L. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Carl F. Grauer, Mr. and Mrs. Siras A. Stocks, Dr. S. Allan Stocks by Beth and Andy Keyse
- in memory of Paula Morgan Fritschen by Dr. Dennis Morgan
- in memory of Barbara J. Bucker by Wm. Robert Bucker
- in loving memory of Alice Lindquist, Gertrude Lewandowski, Jesse Hockett, and Jerry Bugh by The Lewandowski family
- in thanksgiving for our parents' direction: not what you have but who you are; in memory of Howard & Ruby Weaver and Gordon & Thelma Wesner by Terri & Glen Wesner
- in thanksgiving for my family & friends and in memory of Willie Joe Finnie Jr. by Jackye Finnie
- in thanksgiving by Bruce & Lill Weekes

# 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:** Charlotte Lipari; Osha; Carolyn McGlothen; Kimberly Bacchus; Ahmed al Ahmed; 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; 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:** Ella Cook; Those lost in the Bondi Beach Shootings; 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:** The Episcopal Church, New York City—The Most Rev. Sean Rowe, Presiding Bishop  
Diversity and Reconciliation Commission

## Holiday Office Closures

The Cathedral office is closed 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.

# This Week at GHTC

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

## 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

## Tuesday, December 30

- 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 31

- 12 p.m. Noonday Prayer\*
- 12 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting

## Thursday, January 1

- 6 p.m. Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous Meeting

## Sunday, January 4

- 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

+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 25

Chris Bridgforth & Nick Flowers

James McCaffree  
Nora Elisabeth

## December 28

Dennis Morgan

**December 31**  
Steve Davis  
Phyllis Shaffer

## December 29

Frank & Charlotte Colburn  
Patrick Franken

**January 1**  
Mike Bennett  
Emily Akins & Sergio Moreno-Denton

## December 30

Bob & Tara Bennett  
Premkumar & Caroline John

**January 2**  
Day & Whitney Kerr

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

## First Sunday After Christmas: The New Light of the Incarnate Word "The Word Made Flesh" Illumination (Visio Divina theme for Matthew 2:13-23)

Today's lectionary themes focus on the "new light" of God's Incarnate Word (celebrated on Christmas Day) which now must begin to shine forth in our lives. It emphasizes the fact that Christmas is not just one day but is a year-round commitment to seeking God's light in all of life. The Gospel reading highlights God's providential care of the infant Jesus and parallels the story of the Exodus. The Old Testament reading from Isaiah 63 acknowledges God's abiding care and deliverance and aligns with the Epistle reading which declares that in Christ, God became incarnate to "destroy the power of death" (Hebrews 2). The Psalm 148 reading calls for all creation to praise God for the salvation brought through Christ. These affirmations are integrated in today's collect which speaks of the "new light of God's incarnate Word" enkindled in our hearts connecting Christmas to daily living.

Saint John's Bible has no special treatments specifically connected to these texts, but the central theme is visualized in "The Word Made Flesh" illumination of John's Gospel. In this depiction Jesus is portrayed as "the Light of the World" who reveals the true nature of reality through his life and teachings. Among the images employed to convey this seminal theological affirmation are the small, white, stenciled crosses taken from the transfiguration illumination of Mark 9 and the filigree used in various illuminations to denote divine presence and the malleability of time. This illumination also intimates a relationship between the opening chapter of John and the creation narratives of Genesis. In this depiction the image of Christ seems to be emerging out of the darkness of chaos on the left and advancing toward light and orderliness on the right side of the panel. The cosmic space visual behind Christ's head was inspired by a photo from the Hubble Space Telescope and is intended to further identify Christ as an agent of creation.

To Christ's left in cursive lettering are written the words of Colossians 1:15-20. This text expands on John's message that "The Word became flesh and lived among us." The inclusion of this passage is intended to connect the theology of Christ's work of reconciliation on the one hand and his role in the final judgment on the other.

In today's Gospel text Matthew contrasts two rival kings. One of these ultimately must bow to the other. Herod the Great personifies the powers of this world that seek to dominate at all costs. Jesus personifies the reign of God that also demands our full allegiance. In the Gospel narrative, Herod's power seems to reign supreme for a brief period when the infant Son of God has to flee as a displaced refugee to Egypt. In the end, however, it is Herod who dies and thereby ceases to reign. King Jesus returns to settle first in the town of Nazareth and ultimately as Lord of Heaven. On this first Sunday after Christmas a choice confronts us: which lord will we serve?



*Word Made Flesh*, Donald Jackson, Copyright 2002, *The Saint John's Bible*, Saint John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota USA. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

# Diaper Drive

With your support, HappyBottoms, the KC metro area's diaper bank, is able to provide thousands of children each month with clean diapers.

*Sizes 4, 5, 6 needed most. Open packages accepted.*



Bring your diapers to the basket in the Tower or donate online at [kccathedral.org/outreach](http://kccathedral.org/outreach).

not having a clean diaper can really stink

# 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: Today, 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 in January.*

## 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.

### 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.

## 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.



**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. DeVea, *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

Celebrate 2025 and look ahead to 2026

---

You Are Invited



# Annual Meeting

following the 10:30 a.m. service

Sunday,  
January 25

no 8 a.m. & 5 p.m. service



---

Elect new Vestry members & honor outgoing members



## Vestry Nominations

We will elect four members of the congregation to the Vestry Class of 2029 at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 25. If you are interested in being nominated or have someone you would like to nominate, please contact Dean Keyse, [akeyse@kccathedral.org](mailto:akeyse@kccathedral.org), no later than January 18. Get more information at [kccathedral.org/vestry](http://kccathedral.org/vestry).

