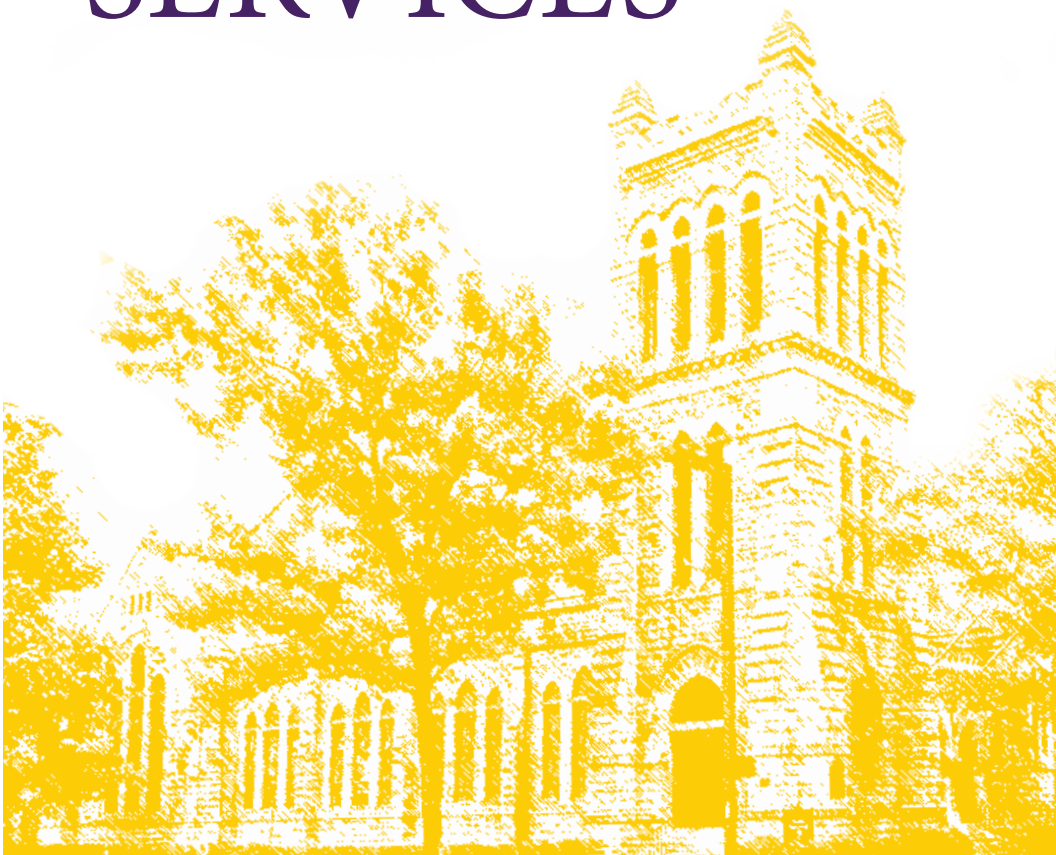




CATHEDRAL CHURCH
OF THE ADVENT

2025-2026

CONCERTS
and SPECIAL
SERVICES





Dear Members of the Advent Family, Concert Series Patrons, and Attendees,

As always, we are grateful to God for the gift of music, the provision of this Cathedral Concert Series, and the opportunity to present internationally renowned artists in concerts of sacred music here in Birmingham, Alabama.



The 2025-2026 season will be a mix of both new and familiar. **Polyphony**, “one of the best small choirs now before the public” (*The Telegraph*), will start our season with a concert here on Thursday, October 16, directed by Stephen Layton, who held a long tenure as Fellow and Director of Music at Trinity College, Cambridge. **VOCES8** needs no introduction at the Advent, and we are honored to present them once again on our Concert Series on Thursday, February 12. A work that is well-known but new to the Advent in recent history is Benjamin Britten’s celebrated *A Ceremony of Carols* that will precede our annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, and I am very excited about performing this work in this context. The annual Holy Week Meditation on Palm Sunday has returned, this time with something new and a Birmingham premiere: *Via Crucis*, a meditative service that combines prayers of Eric Milner-White and music of Philip Moore. Last on the Concert Series is our very own **Cathedral Choir** offering a concert of music they will sing for their upcoming residencies in England.

In recent years we have invited notable church musicians to guest conduct our Cathedral Choir, and this year I am honored to have **Walden Moore** joining us in March to lead Evensong. Recently retired after forty years of leading the landmark music ministry of Trinity Church on the Green in New Haven, Walden Moore is one of America’s celebrated church choral trainers and musicians. Moreover, his coming here is very special for me personally, as I served as an Organ Scholar under him during my graduate studies and remain immensely grateful for all the knowledge and wisdom I gained from him.

I cordially invite you to these and all of our events found in this brochure. Please join me in thanking our Concert Series Patrons, whose generosity makes the Cathedral Concert Series possible. I also want to thank you all for your interest and support, and for keeping a love for sacred music alive in the city of Birmingham.

Solus Christus,

Frederick T. Teardo, D.M.A.
Director of Music and Liturgy
Cathedral Church of the Advent

CATHEDRAL CONCERT SERIES

Thursday, October 16, 2025

7:00 p.m.

POLYPHONY

STEPHEN LAYTON, *conductor*

\$35 Reserved Seating | \$25 General Admission | \$10 Student Tickets



Anders Lillebo

“One of the best small choirs now before the public” -The Telegraph

“Possibly the best small professional chorus in the world” -Encore Magazine, USA

Polyphony has performed and recorded regularly worldwide to great critical acclaim since it was founded by Stephen Layton in 1986. In a poll by *Gramophone Magazine*, they were named as one of the world's leading choirs: “Stephen Layton's choir have become renowned for both their sound and versatility – whether in early music, or contemporary works such as those of Eric Whitacre, they embody the remarkable tradition of British choral excellence at its finest.” Polyphony is broadcast widely and has an extensive discography, comprising numerous important recordings of works by Bach, Britten, Bruckner, Cornelius, Grainger, Grieg, Handel, Jackson, Jenkins, Lauridsen, Łukaszewski, MacMillan, Pärt, Poulenc, Rutter, Tavener, Walton, and Whitacre.

For ticket information, please call the Music Office at (205) 443-8553, or visit AdventBirmingham.org/Music.

CATHEDRAL CONCERT SERIES



Thursday, December 18, 2025
5:30 p.m.

A CEREMONY OF CAROLS

Benjamin Britten

featuring

The Women of the Cathedral Choir

Diedre Henson Agustin, harp

Frederick Teardo, conductor

Free Admission

preceding

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Though not even a century old, Benjamin Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols*, Op. 28 composed in 1942 has become a Christmas musical tradition for choirs all around the world. Scored for three-part treble choir and harp, it marries older texts – mainly Middle English and Latin – with music of a modern yet timeless character. The sopranos and altos of the Cathedral Choir, along with guest harpist Diedre Henson Agustin and conducted by our Director of Music and Liturgy, present this work for the first time as an extended prelude to our annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols.

CATHEDRAL CONCERT SERIES

Thursday, February 12, 2026

7:00 p.m.

VOCES8

\$35 Reserved Seating | \$25 General Admission | \$10 Student Tickets



Andy Staples

“VOCES8’s gorgeous sound, impeccable ensemble and intense responsiveness to text, harmony and melodic shape is all of the highest quality. Hearing them sing is a joy.” -BBC Music Magazine

We heartily welcome back VOCES8 for their fourth performance on the Cathedral Concert Series. The Grammy-nominated British vocal ensemble VOCES8 is proud to inspire people through music and share the joy of singing. Touring globally, the group performs an extensive repertoire both in its a cappella concerts and in collaborations with leading orchestras, conductors and soloists. Versatility and a celebration of diverse musical expression are central to the ensemble’s performance and education ethos which is shared both online and in person. For more information on VOCES8, visit VOCES8.com.

For ticket information, please call the Music Office at (205) 443-8553, or visit AdventBirmingham.org/Music.

CHORAL EVENSONG



Thursday, March 5, 2026
5:30 p.m.

WALDEN MOORE,
guest conductor
THE CATHEDRAL CHOIR

The Cathedral Church of the Advent welcomes **Walden Moore** to lead this special service of Choral Evensong in Lent. For forty years, Mr. Moore served as Organist and Choirmaster of Trinity Church on the Green in New Haven, Connecticut, where he led the Choir of

Men and Boys, one of the oldest such choirs of the Anglican Choral Tradition in the United States, and founded the Choir of Men and Girls. Throughout his tenure there, he trained and mentored numerous organ scholars, many of whom have gone on to serve in prominent church positions across the country. Now retired from Trinity, he continues to teach service playing at the Yale School of Music and Institute of Sacred Music.

Thursday, September 25, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.
Choral Evensong

Thursday, October 23, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.
Choral Evensong for the Feast of St. James of Jerusalem

Thursday, November 13, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.
Choral Evensong for Remembrance

Thursday, December 18, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.
A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Thursday, January 15, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.
A Service of Epiphany Light

Thursday, May 14, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.
Choral Eucharist for Ascension Day

HOLY WEEK MEDITATION

Sunday, March 29, 2026

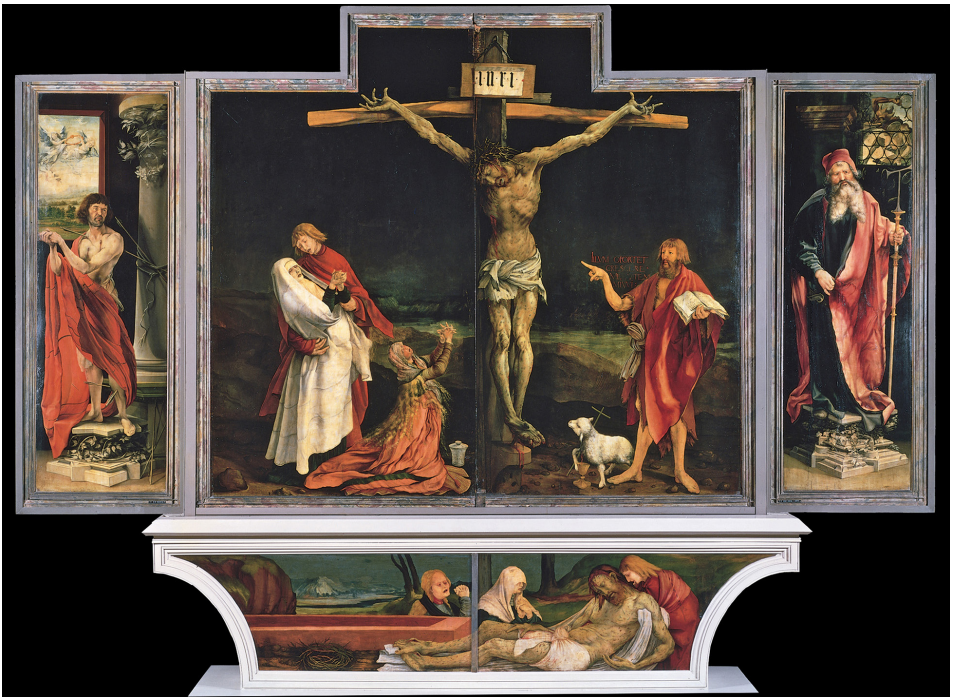
3:00 p.m.

VIA CRUCIS: A DEVOTION FOR PASSIONTIDE

Philip Moore

FREDERICK TEARDO, organ

Free Admission



Matthias Grünewald, The Isenheim Altarpiece

Christ's Passion has been depicted in countless works of art, music, literature, and theatre. *Via Crucis* is a pairing of powerful prayers by Eric Milner-White and musical reflections for organ by Philip Moore. A form of the Stations of the Cross, *Via Crucis* offers a path through prayer, music, and meditation to follow Christ's suffering, death, and burial. On Palm Sunday, come experience the Birmingham premiere of this work.

CATHEDRAL CONCERT SERIES

Sunday, April 26, 2026

4:00 p.m.

THE CATHEDRAL CHOIR IN CONCERT

FREDERICK TEARDO, *conductor*

CHARLES KENNEDY, *organ*

Free Admission

The Cathedral Choir will sing a concert at the Advent as a preview for their tour to England in July 2026. The Choir will have residencies in Winchester Cathedral and St. George's Chapel, Windsor, and the concert will feature in large part the music they will sing while on tour. Come support our Cathedral Choir and wish them well on their upcoming pilgrimage.



MIDDAY MUSIC

Friday, September 19, 2025

12:00 p.m.

CINDY ST. CLAIR, *piano*

Friday, October 31, 2025

12:00 p.m.

FREDERICK TEARDO AND CHARLES KENNEDY, *organ*

Friday, November 21, 2025

12:00 p.m.

UAB CONCERT CHOIR

BRIAN KITTREDGE, *conductor*

Friday, January 30, 2026

12:00 p.m.

SOUTHERN HARMONY

Friday, April 17, 2026

12:00 p.m.

VALERIE SLY, *horn*

DAVID TAYLOE, *tenor*



SPECIAL SERVICES

Thursday, September 25, 2025 | 5:30 p.m.

Choral Evensong

Thursday, October 23, 2025 | 5:30 p.m.

Choral Evensong for the Feast of St. James of Jerusalem

Thursday, November 13, 2025 | 5:30 p.m.

Choral Evensong for Remembrance

Sunday, December 7, 2025 | 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Advent Lessons and Carols

Thursday, December 18, 2025 | 6:00 p.m.

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Preceded by Benjamin Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols*

Wednesday, December 24, 2025 | 5:00, 8:00, and 11:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Services

Thursday, January 15, 2026 | 5:30 p.m.

A Service of Epiphany Light

Wednesday, February 18, 2026 | 6:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday

Thursday, March 5, 2026 | 5:30 p.m.

Choral Evensong for Lent with Walden Moore

Thursday, April 2, 2026 | 6:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday

Friday, April 3, 2026 | 12:00 p.m.

Good Friday

Sunday, April 5, 2026 | 7:00, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m.

Easter Day Services

Thursday, May 14, 2026 | 6:00 p.m.

Choral Eucharist for Ascension Day



Ministry Leadership

The Very Rev. R. Craig Smalley, *Dean and Rector*

Dr. Frederick T. Teardo, *Director of Music and Liturgy*

Dr. Charles M. Kennedy, *Associate Director of Music*

Ms. Betsy S. Pate, *Music and Worship Administrative Assistant*



Cathedral Church of the Advent
2017 Sixth Avenue North
Birmingham, Alabama 35203
AdventBirmingham.org