



**CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT**  
**IN THE CITY OF BIRMINGHAM**

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NINE O'CLOCK

*in the Nave*

JANUARY 4, 2026

*The Second Sunday after Christmas*

Morning Prayer

# WELCOME!

We are delighted to have you join us today.

If you are visiting and are interested in learning more about the Advent, please complete an information card (located in the pew rack in front of you) so we can get to know you better.

Except for hymns, page numbers listed in the bulletin refer to the Book of Common Prayer in the pew racks. Hymns are found in the blue Hymnal.

The Lord be with you.

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## CHILDREN AND YOUTH CLASSES

3K – Room 104

3rd Grade – Room 218

4K – Room 105

4th Grade – Room 307

Kindergarten – Room 213

5th Grade – Room 310

1st Grade – Room 214

6th Grade – Room 311

2nd Grade – Room 216

7th-12th Grade – Lower Morton Meeting Room

## ADULT CLASS

*Adult Classes take place from 10:15 to 10:50 a.m. and will be available online at [AdventBirmingham.org/Audio](http://AdventBirmingham.org/Audio).*

**The Dean's Class** (Refectory) – *The Unforced Rhythms of Grace* – Craig Smalley

## MORNING PRAYER

page 37

VOLUNTARY

Prélude sur l'Introit de l'Épiphanie, Op 13  
(Prelude on the *Introit for Epiphany*)

Maurice Duruflé

THE PEOPLE STAND.

HYMN IN PROCESSION NO. 93

*Regent Square*

OPENING SENTENCES

Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

*-Isaiah 60:3*

CONFESSION OF SIN

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

THE PEOPLE KNEEL.

**Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.**

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

THE PEOPLE STAND.

Officiant: O Lord, open thou our lips.

People: **And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**

All: **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

# INVITATORY

*Gloria*

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

*Words: French carol, tr. James Chadwick, alt.  
Music: French carol, arr. Edward Shippen Barnes*

THE PEOPLE SIT.

## PSALM 84

READ RESPONSIVELY, BY HALF-VERSE.

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! \*  
**My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.**
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; \*  
**by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.**
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! \*  
**they will always be praising you.**
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! \*  
**whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.**
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, \*  
**for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.**
- 6 They will climb from height to height, \*  
**and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.**
- 7 Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; \*  
**hearken, O God of Jacob.**
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; \*  
**and look upon the face of your Anointed.**
- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, \*  
**and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God  
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.**
- 10 For the Lord God is both sun and shield; \*  
**he will give grace and glory;**
- 11 No good thing will the Lord withhold \*  
**from those who walk with integrity.**
- 12 O Lord of hosts, \*  
**happy are they who put their trust in you!**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

## A READING FROM THE EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL TO THE EPHESIANS.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love <sup>5</sup>he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. <sup>15</sup>For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup>that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, <sup>18</sup>having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe. (1:3-6, 15-19a)

Reader:     The Word of the Lord.

**People:     Thanks be to God.**

THE PEOPLE STAND.

HYMN NO. 89

*Carol*

THE PEOPLE SIT.

## A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW.

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” <sup>3</sup>When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: “‘And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.’” <sup>7</sup>Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” <sup>9</sup>After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup>And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way. (2:1-12)

Reader:     The Word of the Lord.

People:     **Thanks be to God.**

## BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN

KINDERGARTEN-3RD GRADERS CAN DEPART FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH DURING THE SINGING OF THIS HYMN.  
CHILDREN SHOULD WALK DIRECTLY TO THE GYM TO MEET THEIR TEACHERS.

THE PEOPLE STAND.

HYMN NO. 84

*Gartan*

THE SERMON

Canon Gardner

THE PEOPLE STAND.

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And with thy spirit.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

THE PEOPLE KNEEL.

## THE PRAYERS

*page 54*

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

## SUFFRAGES

Officiant: O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

**People: And grant us thy salvation.**

Officiant: Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

**People: And make thy chosen people joyful.**

Officiant: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

**People: For only in thee can we live in safety.**

Officiant: Lord, keep this nation under thy care;

**People: And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

Officiant: Let thy way be known upon earth;

**People: Thy saving health among all nations.**

Officiant: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

**People: Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Officiant: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

**People: And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.**

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, who didst wonderfully create, and yet more wonderfully restore, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE COLLECTS

*pages 56-57*

## THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

## THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we thine unworthy servants  
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks  
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all men.**

**We bless thee for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for thine inestimable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

**And, we beseech thee,  
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,  
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;  
and that we show forth thy praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to thy service,  
and by walking before thee  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,  
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

**Officiant:** Let us bless the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Officiant:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

THE PEOPLE SIT.

## THE WELCOME AND OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child,  
By, by, lully, lullay thou little tiny child,  
By, by, lully lullay.

O sisters too,  
How may we do  
For to preserve this day  
This poor youngling,  
For whom we do sing,  
By, by lully lullay.

Herod the king  
in his raging,  
Charged he hath this day  
His men of might,  
in his own sight,  
All young children to slay.

That woe is me,  
Poor child for thee!  
And ever morn and day  
For thy parting,  
Neither say nor sing  
By, by, lully lullay

-from the Pageant of the Shearmen and Taylors (1591)

The Coventry Carol is an anonymous English Carol from the 16th century. It is the only extant part of a mystery play entitled *The Pageant of the Shearmen and Tailors*, a play performed in Coventry, England depicting the Christmas story as told in the Gospel of Matthew. This haunting carol refers specifically to the Slaughter of the Innocents.

THE PEOPLE STAND.

# AT THE PRESENTATION

*St. Louis*

O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray; Cast  
out our sin and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day. We  
hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad ti - dings tell; O  
come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Em - man - u - el!

*Words: Phillips Brooks  
Music: Lewis H. Redner*

THE PEOPLE KNEEL.

## CLOSING PRAYER AND THE BLESSING

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE PEOPLE STAND.

HYMN IN PROCESSION NO. 109 (v v. 1, 2, 3, & 6) *The First Nowell*

## THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY      Short Postlude (on *Gartan*), Op. 101, No. 5      Charles Villiers Stanford

THE FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN MEMORY OF

Mr. and Mrs. Jackson R. Sharman, Jr.

*by Mr. and Mrs. Jackson R. Sharman, III*

George A. Mattison, III

Ernestine Carriger Mattison

Eloise Virginia Carriger

Mary Mattison Bledsoe

J. William Bledsoe, Jr.

George A. Mattison, Jr.

*by Mr. and Mrs. George A. Mattison, IV*

John Brett Lindsey and Caroline Gray Lindsey

*by Amy, Madeline, Emma, and Fred*

Robert Hilliard Greenwood

Linnie Williams Greenwood

*by Mr. and Mrs. P. Nicholas Greenwood*

Sarah Davis McCalley

Sally Bristow McCalley

Robert Lanford McCalley

*by Winston T. McCalley and Family*

Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Pate

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kohler

*by Maxie Kohler*

## CLERGY

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*For email addresses and phone numbers, please see our staff listing at [AdventBirmingham.org](http://AdventBirmingham.org).*

The Very Rev. R. Craig Smalley	<i>Dean and Rector</i>
The Rev. Canon Thomas P. Murray	<i>Vice Dean</i>
The Rev. Canon James “Jay” W. Gardner, III	<i>Canon Pastor</i>
The Rev. Canon Dr. Dean L. Pinter	<i>Canon Theologian</i>
The Rev. Canon Adam A. Young	<i>Canon Missioner</i>
The Rev. William J. Fagan	<i>Curate</i>
The Very Rev. Dr. Paul F.M. Zahl	<i>Dean Emeritus</i>

## MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY

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Craig Brady <i>Senior Warden</i>	Ricky Bromberg <i>Junior Warden</i>	Hewes Hull <i>Treasurer</i>	James Bradford <i>Clerk</i>
<i>Term Ending Parish Meeting 2026</i>	<i>Term Ending Parish Meeting 2027</i>	<i>Term Ending Parish Meeting 2028</i>	
Craig Brady	Mary Bradley Anderson	Ross Blankenship	
Richard Cook	Ricky Bromberg	Sister Clapp	
Charles Gaston	Wil Bromberg	Lindsey Druhan	
Charlotte Getz	Fred Elliott	Doug Elliott	
Kelly Hulsey	Parker Evans	Jen Green	
Claiborne Morris	Sam Everette	Glynn Lassiter	
Emily Pruet	Julia King	Mike Lucas	
Charlie Sharp	Bailey Knight	Kate Ray	
Jason Wallace	Thomas Nelson	Will Thuston	
Forsyth White	Drew Wright	Chris Weingartner	

## STAFF

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Margot Cooney	<i>Associate for Youth and Families</i>
Tara Davis	<i>Director of Children's Ministry</i>
John Mark Haase	<i>Boys Youth Associate</i>
Leslie Housman	<i>Director of Women's Ministry</i>
Charles Kennedy	<i>Associate Director of Music</i>
Gil Kracke	<i>Director of Programs and Parish Life</i>
Kathy Logue	<i>Advent House Coordinator</i>
Mary Ann McCarty	<i>Director of Youth Ministry</i>
Gunter Owens	<i>Associate Director of Children's Ministry</i>
Fontaine Pope	<i>Director of Small Groups and Newcomers' Coordinator</i>
Frederick Teardo	<i>Director of Music and Liturgy</i>
Lowana Wallace	<i>Refectory Music Leader</i>
Ann Campbell	<i>Bookstore Manager</i>
Arturo Davis	<i>Assistant Building Manager</i>
Rachel DeSanto	<i>Deans' Assistant and Finance Associate</i>
Janet Dozier	<i>Receptionist</i>
Anita Gray	<i>Programs and Outreach Administrative Assistant</i>
Michael Halverson	<i>Technology Coordinator</i>
Brad Horne	<i>Building Manager</i>
Spencer Leffel	<i>Communications Associate</i>
Mary Jane McAllister	<i>Digital Media Manager</i>
Beth Anne Maier	<i>Accounts Receivable</i>
Chris Maxwell	<i>Communications Associate</i>
Betsy Pate	<i>Music and Worship Administrative Assistant</i>
Robin Turner	<i>Pastoral Care Coordinator</i>
Dorothy White	<i>Director of Finance and Administration</i>
Eldon Brummett, Drew Foster, Juan Mazuca, Kevin Moore, Gary Talley	<i>Sexton Staff</i>

*Come to me,  
all who labor and are heavy laden,  
and I will give you rest.*

Matthew 11.28

The Church of the Advent was founded with the City of Birmingham in 1872.

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT (EPISCOPAL)  
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