



CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT
IN THE CITY OF BIRMINGHAM

ELEVEN O'CLOCK
JANUARY 4, 2026
The Second Sunday after Christmas
Holy Communion

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.



ADULT CLASS

Adult Classes take place from 10:15 to 10:50 a.m. and will be available online at AdventBirmingham.org/Audio.

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

THE WORD OF GOD

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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

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

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

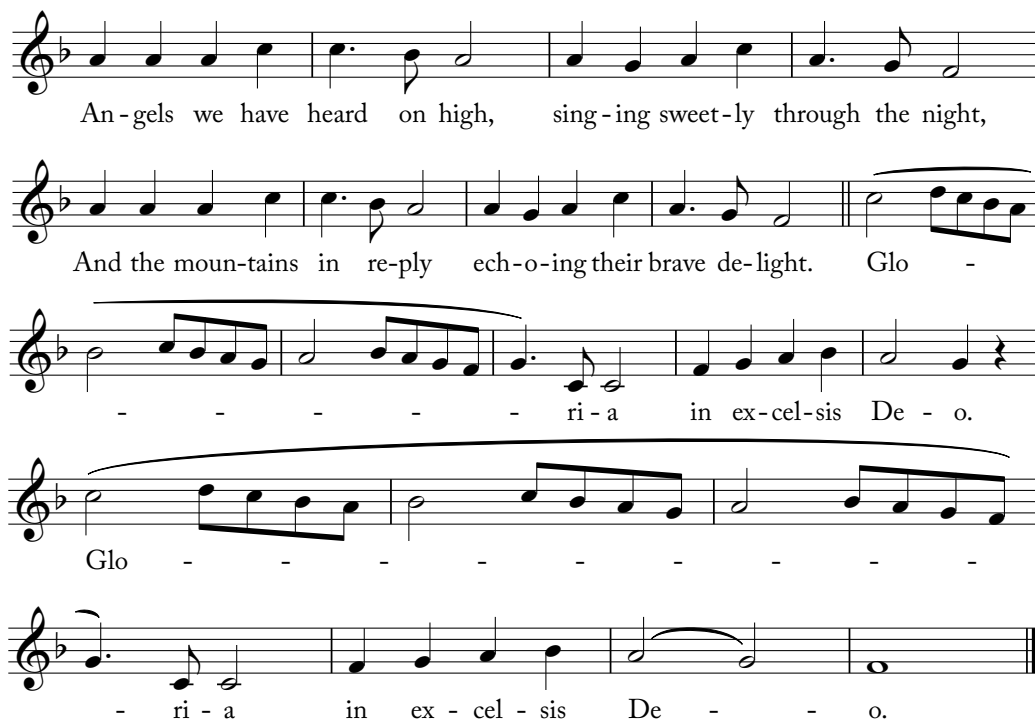
Celebrant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

GLORIA

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 COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

THE PEOPLE KNEEL.

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 PEOPLE SIT.

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, ⁴even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ¹⁵For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷that 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, ¹⁸having 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, ¹⁹and 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.

PSALM 84:1 - 9

Anglican Chant: C. Hubert H. Parry

SUNG BY THE CHOIR.

- 1 O how amiable are thy dwellings,
thou Lord of hosts!
- 2 My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 3 Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house,
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young;
even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
- 4 Blessed are they that dwell in thy house;
they will be always praising thee.
- 5 Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee;
in whose heart are thy ways.
- 6 Who going through the vale of misery use it for a well;
and the pools are filled with water.

- 7 They will go from strength to strength,
and unto the God of gods appeareth every one of them in Sion.
8 O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer;
hearken, O God of Jacob.
9 Behold, O God our defender,
and look upon the face of thine Anointed.

THE PEOPLE STAND.

HYMN NO. 84

Gartan

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW.

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

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, ²saying, “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.” ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They 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.’” ⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And 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.” ⁹After 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. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And 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. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way. (2:1-12)

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE SERMON

Canon Gardner

THE PEOPLE STAND.

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy catholic and Apostolic Church; I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

THE PEOPLE KNEEL.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him:

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.

-Matthew 11:28

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

-John 3:16

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

-1 Timothy 1:15

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world.

-1 John 2:1-2

THE PEOPLE STAND.

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

THE PEOPLE SIT.

THE WELCOME AND OFFERTORY SENTENCE

ANTHEM

Coventry Carol

Anonymous

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 Tailors (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 HOLY COMMUNION

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Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. *[A proper preface is added here.]* Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

THE PEOPLE SING:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THE PEOPLE KNEEL OR SIT, AS THE CELEBRANT CONTINUES WITH THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER.

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again...

...through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

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

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.

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

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.

THE PEOPLE SIT.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

INTERCESSORY PRAYER IS AVAILABLE IN THE REAR OF THE NAVE.

All baptized Christians are warmly invited to receive Communion. You may receive at the rail or at the station. If you prefer not to receive the wine, simply cross your arms across your chest after receiving the bread. To receive the wine, you may drink from the cup or dip the bread in the small vessel inside the cup. (If you are not baptized but would like to be, please see one of the ministers following the service.)

HYMN NO. 98

Puer nobis

Let us pray.

THE PEOPLE KNEEL.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

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

For email addresses and phone numbers, please see our staff listing at 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

Craig Brady	Ricky Bromberg	Hewes Hull	James Bradford
<i>Senior Warden</i>	<i>Junior Warden</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>	<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

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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