



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

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NINE O'CLOCK

*in the Nave*

JANUARY 11, 2026

*The First Sunday after the Epiphany*

Holy Baptism

# 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

4th Grade – Room 307

4K – Room 105

5th Grade – Room 310

Kindergarten – Room 213

6th Grade – Room 311

1st Grade – Room 214

7th-8th Grade – The Undercroft

2nd Grade – Room 216

9th-12th Grade – Lower Morton Meeting Room

3rd Grade – Room 218

## ADULT CLASSES

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

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

**I Saw the Sign, and It Opened Up My Eyes** (Chapter Room) – Jay Gardner

**Mundane Apocalypses** (Living Room) – *What's New About the New Year?* – Wilson Hunter

**20s and 30s Class** (Assembly Hall) – *Before You Turn 40: False Gods and Your Brain's Librarian*  
– Jack Sharman

# HOLY BAPTISM

VOLUNTARY      Christ unser Herr zum Jordan kam, BuxWV 180      Dieterich Buxtehude  
(Christ Our Lord to Jordan Came)

THE PEOPLE STAND.

HYMN IN PROCESSION NO. 448

*Deus tuorum militum*

## THE WORD OF GOD

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

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

Celebrant: There is one Body and one Spirit,

**People:      There is one hope in God's call to us;**

Celebrant: One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

**People:      One God and Father of all.**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People:      And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

THE PEOPLE KNEEL.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan didst proclaim him thy beloved Son and anoint him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with thee and the same Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

THE PEOPLE SIT.

## A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ISAIAH.

Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. <sup>2</sup>He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; <sup>3</sup>a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. <sup>4</sup>He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law. <sup>5</sup>Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it: <sup>6</sup>"I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, <sup>7</sup>to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. <sup>8</sup>I am the Lord; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols. <sup>9</sup>Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them." (42:1-9)

Reader:     The Word of the Lord.

People:     **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 29

READ RESPONSIVELY, BY HALF-VERSE.

- 1 Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, \*  
    **ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.**
- 2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; \*  
    **worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.**
- 3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; \*  
    **the Lord is upon the mighty waters.**
- 4 The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; \*  
    **the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.**
- 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; \*  
    **the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;**
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, \*  
    **and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

- 7 The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; \*  
**the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**
- 8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe \*  
**and strips the forests bare.**
- 9 And in the temple of the Lord \*  
**all are crying, "Glory!"**
- 10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; \*  
**the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.**
- 11 The Lord shall give strength to his people; \*  
**the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.**

THE PEOPLE STAND.

HYMN NO. 121

*Caithness*

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

**People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup>John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" <sup>15</sup>But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. <sup>16</sup>And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; <sup>17</sup>and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."  
(3:13-17)

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE PEOPLE SIT.

## THE ORDER FOR HOLY BAPTISM

*Children to be baptized:*

Finley Grace Lucas, son of Whitney and Michael, Jr.

John Frederick Lucas, son of Whitney and Michael, Jr.

Lillian Reese Lucas, daughter of Whitney and Michael, Jr.

## THE PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

Celebrant: The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and

Godparents: I present *[name]* to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

WHEN ALL HAVE BEEN PRESENTED THE CELEBRANT ASKS THE PARENTS AND GODPARENTS:

Celebrant: Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and

Godparents: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and

Godparents: I will, with God's help.

THE CELEBRANT ASKS THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TO THE PARENTS AND GODPARENTS, ON BEHALF OF THE CANDIDATES:

Question: Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Question: Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Question: Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Question: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer: I do.

Question: Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer: I do.

Question: Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer: I do.

AFTER ALL HAVE BEEN PRESENTED, THE CELEBRANT ADDRESSES THE CONGREGATION, SAYING:

Celebrant: Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support *these persons* in *their* life in Christ?

**People: We will.**

THE PEOPLE STAND.

Celebrant: Let us join with *those who are* committing *themselves* to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

## THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

**People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

**People: I will, with God's help.**



Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Let us now pray for *these persons* who *are* to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Celebrant: Deliver *them*, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

**People: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Open *their hearts* to your grace and truth.

**People: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Fill *them* with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

**People: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Keep *them* in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

**People: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Teach *them* to love others in the power of the Spirit.

**People: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Send *them* into the world in witness to your love.

**People: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Bring *them* to the fullness of your peace and glory.

**People: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PEOPLE SIT.

## THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

**People: It is meet and right so to do.**

Celebrant: We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

AT THE FOLLOWING WORDS, THE CELEBRANT TOUCHES THE WATER.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE BAPTISM

EACH CANDIDATE IS PRESENTED BY NAME TO THE CELEBRANT, WHO THEN IMMERSSES, OR POURS WATER UPON, THE CANDIDATE, SAYING:

Celebrant: I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

THEN THE CELEBRANT PLACES A HAND ON THE PERSON'S HEAD, MARKING ON THE FOREHEAD THE SIGN OF THE CROSS AND SAYING TO EACH ONE:

Celebrant: *[Name]*, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

WHEN THIS ACTION HAS BEEN COMPLETED FOR ALL CANDIDATES, THE CELEBRANT, AT A PLACE IN FULL SIGHT OF THE CONGREGATION, PRAYS OVER THEM, SAYING:

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon *these* your *servants* the forgiveness of sin, and have raised *them* to the new life of grace. Sustain *them*, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give *them* an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

THEN THE CELEBRANT SAYS:

Celebrant: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**All: We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

THE PEOPLE STAND.

## THE PEACE

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

**People: And with thy spirit.**

## HYMN NO. 708

*Sicilian Mariners*

THE PEOPLE SIT.

## THE WELCOME AND 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. 296

*Engelberg*

## THE SERMON

Dean Smalley

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE

### ANTHEM

Bruce Neswick

Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

*-Mark 1:9*

From wilderness to Jordan came  
the final prophet to proclaim  
that judgment soon was to begin  
to punish Israel for their sin.

But when Christ came, no judgment dire  
did he pronounce with venging fire;  
himself the baptism underwent,  
the sinless, perfect penitent.

Although of Abraham's descent,  
since all have sinned, all must repent,  
and, like the Gentiles undergo  
a baptism, and its import show.

On him the Spirit as a dove  
descended, and the Father's love  
voiced his approval that the Son  
mankind's salvation had begun.

All glory, Lord, to you we pray  
for your Epiphany today;  
and to the Father tribute bring,  
as by the spirit here we sing.

*-Anonymous*

*Jesus Came from Nazareth* composed by Bruce Neswick (b. 1956) is based on Mark 1:9 (NRSV) and a hymn text of unknown origin. Mr. Neswick is one of America's leading church musicians, and was here at the Advent last February to lead the Choir in a hymn festival.

THE PEOPLE STAND.

### THE DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THE PEOPLE KNEEL.

### CLOSING PRAYER AND THE BLESSING

THE PEOPLE STAND.

HYMN IN PROCESSION NO. 119

*Dix*

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY     Christ unser Herr zum Jordan kam, BWV 684     Johann Sebastian Bach  
(Christ Our Lord to Jordan Came)

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

John Charles Carraway

*by Liz and Frances*

Margaret Polk McCutchen

*by Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Seibels*

Edward Trent Douglass

Clara Cotten Douglass

Edward Trent Douglass, Jr.

Florence Nicholson Douglass

*by the Family*

# 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	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

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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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