



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

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NINE O'CLOCK  
*in the Refectory*  
JANUARY 11, 2026  
*The First Sunday after the Epiphany*  
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 scan the QR code below. We look forward to connecting with you this week.

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

## VISITOR'S CARD



## PRELUD E

THE PEOPLE STAND.

## SONG

*Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

*Hail to the Lord's anointed,  
great David's greater Son!  
Hail in the time appointed,  
his reign on earth begun;  
His reign on earth begun!*

He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free,  
To take away transgression, and rule in equity.  
He comes with comfort speedy to those who suffer wrong,  
To help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong. *Refrain*

To give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,  
Whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in his sight.  
He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;  
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth. *Refrain*

The tide of time shall never his covenant remove;  
His Name shall stand forever, that Name to us is Love. *Refrain*

Words: James Montgomery; Music: Sandra McCracken ©2012 Drink Your Tea Music (ASCAP) Admin. by Simpleville, INC

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.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

THE PEOPLE SIT.

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.**

## A READING FROM 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.**

## BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN

KINDERGARTEN-3RD GRADERS CAN DEPART FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH DURING THE SINGING OF THIS SONG.

CHILDREN SHOULD WALK DIRECTLY TO THE GYM TO MEET THEIR TEACHERS.

THE PEOPLE STAND.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
 Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee:  
 Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,  
 God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,  
 casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
 cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,  
 which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,  
 though the sinful human eye thy glory may not see,  
 only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,  
 perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
 All thy works shall praise thy Name, in earth, and sky, and sea;  
 Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,  
 God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

Words: Reginald Heber, Music: John Bacchus Dykes © Public Domain

## 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 SERMON

Vice Dean Murray

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 SIT.

## CONFSSION 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 AT THE OFFERTORY

*The Reign of Mercy*

THE PEOPLE STAND.

## THE DOXOLOGY

*Old 100th*

**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 HOLY COMMUNION

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 power and might;  
Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might.  
Heaven and earth are full,  
full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

THE PEOPLE 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.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, 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 COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*All baptized Christians are warmly invited to receive Communion. 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.)*

## SONG

*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

The King of love my shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his,  
and he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow,  
my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and where the verdant pastures grow,  
with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
thy cross before to guide me.

Words: Henry Williams Baker; Tune: St. Columba; Public Domain

Let us pray.

**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.

## SONG

*The Spirit Is Moving*

The Spirit is moving over the waters,  
turning our chaos into creation.

The Spirit is moving, sisters and brothers,  
taking away our hearts of stone.

The Spirit is moving, parting the waters,  
leading us out of the kingdom of sorrow.

The Spirit is moving on our sons and daughters,  
turning our darkness into dawn.

*We will walk together through the seas.*

*We will work together through the tide.*

*We will find the way that leads to peace;*

The Spirit is our guide.

The Spirit is moving, trouble the waters,  
leading us into the merciful kingdom.

The Spirit is moving, breath of the Father,  
one with the Savior, making us one. *Refrain*

Words: Kate Bluett, Music: Paul Zach

## THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

## C L E R G Y

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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>

## M E M B E R S   O F   T H E   V E S T R Y

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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 Thurston
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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