CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT

IN THE CITY OF BIRMINGHAM

NINE O'CLOCK

in the Refectory

JANUARY 18, 2026

The Second 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.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH CLASSES

3K – Room 104
4K – Room 105
Kindergarten – Room 213
1st Grade – Room 214
2nd Grade – Room 216
3rd Grade – Room 218
4th Grade – Room 307
5th Grade – Room 310
6th Grade – Room 311
7th-8th Grade – The Undercroft
9th-12th Grade – Lower Morton Meeting Room

ADULT CLASSES

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 Fellowship of Grace and Thanksgiving* – Dean Pinter

Mundane Apocalypses (Living Room) – *Are We Alone in the Universe?* – Wilson Hunter

20s and 30s Class (Lower School Library) – *Before You Turn 40: Discerning Career Decisions* – Ross Blankenship

VISITOR'S CARD

PRELUDE

THE PEOPLE STAND.

SONG

Great God, Your Love Has Called Us Here

Great God, your love has called us here,
As we, by love, for love were made.
Your living likeness still we bear,
Though marred, dishonored, disobeyed.
We come, with all our heart and mind
Your call to hear, your love to find.

Great God, in Christ you call our name
And then receive us as your own,
Not through some merit, right, or claim,
But by your gracious love alone.
We strain to glimpse your mercy seat
And find you kneeling at our feet.

Then take the towel, and break the bread,
And humble us, and call us friends.
Suffer and serve till all are fed,
And show how grandly love intends
To work till all creation sings,
To fill all worlds, to crown all things.

Great God, in Christ you set us free
Your life to live, your joy to share.
Give us your Spirit's liberty
To turn from guilt and dull despair,
And offer all that faith can do
While love is making all things new.

Words: Brian Wren; Tune: St Petersburg © 1977, 1995 Hope Publishing Co. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-743148. All rights reserved.

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.

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that thy people, illumined by thy Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A READING FROM THE FIRST EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS.

Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes, [2]To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: [3]Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. [4]I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, [5]that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— [6]even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— [7]so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, [8]who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. [9]God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (1:1-9)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 40:1-12

READ RESPONSIVELY, BY HALF-VERSE.

1 I waited patiently upon the Lord; *
he stooped to me and heard my cry.
2 He lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the mire and clay; *
he set my feet upon a high cliff and made my footing sure.
3 He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; *
many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the Lord.
4 Happy are they who trust in the Lord! *
they do not resort to evil spirits or turn to false gods.
5 Great things are they that you have done, O Lord my God!
how great your wonders and your plans for us! *
there is none who can be compared with you.
6 Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! *
but they are more than I can count.
7 In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure *
(you have given me ears to hear you);
8 Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required, *
and so I said, "Behold, I come.
9 In the roll of the book it is written concerning me: *
'I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep in my heart.'"
10 I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation; *
behold, I did not restrain my lips; and that, O Lord, you know.
11 Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart;
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; *
I have not concealed your love and faithfulness from the great congregation.
12 You are the Lord; do not withhold your compassion from me; *
let your love and your faithfulness keep me safe for ever.

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.

SONG

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O Light that follow'st all my way,
I yield my flick'ring torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

Words: George Matheson, Music: Christopher Miner © 1997 Christopher Miner

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

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin
of the world! 30 This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he
was before me.' 31 I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that
he might be revealed to Israel." 32 And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like
a dove, and it remained on him. 33 I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with
water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with

the Holy Spirit.' [34]And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God." [35]The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, [36]and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" [37]The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. [38]Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, "What are you seeking?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" [39]He said to them, "Come and you will see." So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. [40]One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. [41]He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ). [42]He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John. You shall be called Cephas" (which means Peter). (1:29-42)

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE SERMON

Canon Young

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.

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

AT THE OFFERTORY *Take My Life and Let it Be*

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.)

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry,
In the dawning of the King.
He the theme of heaven's praises
Robed in frail humanity.
In our longing, in our darkness,
Now the light of life has come.
Look to Christ who condescended,
Took on flesh to ransom us.

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry,
He the perfect Son of Man.
In his living, in his suff'ring,
Never trace nor stain of sin.
See the true and better Adam
Come to save the hell-bound man.
Christ the great and sure fulfillment
Of the law in him we stand.

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry,
Christ the Lord upon the tree.
In the stead of ruined sinners
Hangs the Lamb in victory.
See the price of our redemption,
See the Father's plan unfold;
Bringing many sons to glory
Grace unmeasured, love untold.

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry,
Slain by death the God of life.
But no grave could e'er restrain him,
Praise the Lord! He is alive.
What a foretaste of deliv'rance,
How unwavering our hope.
Christ in power, resurrected,
As we will be when he comes.

Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, Michael Bleecker © 2012 Getty Music Hymns and Songs; Getty Music Publishing;
Love Your Enemies Publishing; Bleecker Publishing; McKinney Music, Inc.

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

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

Words: John Newton, John P. Rees; Music: Edwin Othello Excell; Public Domain

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

CLERGY

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

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

MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY

Craig Brady	Ricky Bromberg	Hewes Hull	James Bradford
Senior Warden	*Junior Warden*	*Treasurer*	*Clerk*

Term Ending Parish Meeting 2026	*Term Ending Parish Meeting 2027*	*Term Ending Parish Meeting 2028*
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

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

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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