



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

ELEVEN O'CLOCK
FEBRUARY 1, 2026

The Fourth 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 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 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) – *Raising Teenagers* – Paula and Craig Smalley,
Suzanne and Bill Andrews

Reluctance and Repentance in the Book of Jonah (Chapter Room) – *Part 1 of 2* – Jay Gardner

Foundations of Faith (Living Room) – *The Word of the Cross* – Gil Kracke

A Christian Response to Evil (Lower School Library) – *What Is Evil?* – Dennis Sansom

VOLUNTARY

O Lux beata Trinitas
(O Trinity of Blessed Light)

Michael Praetorius

THE PEOPLE STAND.

HYMN IN PROCESSION NO. 441

Rathbun

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.

SUNG BY THE CHOIR; THE PEOPLE REMAIN STANDING AS ABLE.

Glory be to God on high,
and in earth, peace, good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
 we worship thee,
 we glorify thee,
 we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
 that takest away the sins of the world,
 have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
 receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
 have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord
thou only, O Christ,
 with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

THE PEOPLE KNEEL.

Almighty and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of thy people, and in our time grant us thy peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE PEOPLE SIT.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF MICAH.

Hear what the Lord says: Arise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ²Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the Lord has an indictment against his people, and he will contend with Israel. ³O my people, what have I done to you? How have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the righteous acts of the Lord. ⁶With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" ⁸He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? (6:1-8)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SUNG BY THE CHOIR.

- 1 Lord, who shall dwell in thy tabernacle?
or who shall rest upon thy holy hill?
- 2 Even he that leadeth an uncorrupt life,
and doeth the thing which is right, and speaketh the truth from his heart.
- 3 He that hath used no deceit in his tongue, nor done evil to his neighbour,
and hath not slandered his neighbour.
- 4 He that setteth not by himself, but is lowly in his own eyes,
and maketh much of them that fear the Lord.
- 5 He that sweareth unto his neighbour, and disappointeth him not,
though it were to his own hindrance.
- 6 He that hath not given his money upon usury,
nor taken reward against the innocent.
- 7 Whoso doeth these things
shall never fall.

THE PEOPLE STAND.

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW.**People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.² And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: ³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. ⁵Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. ⁶Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. ⁷Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. ⁸Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. ⁹Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. ¹⁰Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil

against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” (5:1-12)

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

Dean Emeritus Zahl

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.

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

ANTHEM

The Beatitudes

Paul Mealor

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake:

for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you,

and say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

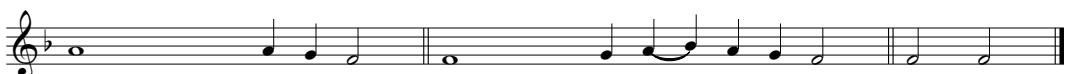
Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven:

for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you. Amen.

-Matthew 5:3-12

Welsh composer Paul Mealor (b. 1975) composed *The Beatitudes* in 2013. The text is our Gospel passage from Matthew this morning. The music is calm and comforting, expressively setting the beginning of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount.

THE PEOPLE STAND.



All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we giv - en thee. A - men.

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,

S A N C T U S

Communion Service in F

Harold Darke

SUNG BY THE CHOIR; THE PEOPLE REMAIN STANDING AS ABLE.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Amen.

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 one of the stations. 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.)

AGNUS DEI

Communion Service in F

Harold Darke

SUNG BY THE CHOIR.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

HYMN NO. 471

Breslau

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. 473

Crucifer

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

Prelude in C Major, BWV 547

Johann Sebastian Bach

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

Jean Fraser Elliott

Rufus E. Elliott, Jr.

by Rufus and Beth Elliott

Louis C. Culver

by Deenie Culver

C L E R G Y

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> |

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

| | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Ricky Bromberg | Mike Lucas | Hewes Hull | James Bradford |
| <i>Senior Warden</i> | <i>Junior Warden</i> | <i>Treasurer</i> | <i>Clerk</i> |

| <i>Term Ending Parish Meeting 2027</i> | <i>Term Ending Parish Meeting 2028</i> | <i>Term Ending Parish Meeting 2029</i> |
|--|--|--|
| Mary Bradley Anderson | Ross Blankenship | Anne-Marie Brown |
| Ricky Bromberg | Sister Clapp | Kelly Hargrove |
| Wil Bromberg | Lindsey Druhan | Perry Keel |
| Fred Elliott | Doug Elliott | Tommy Kitsmiller |
| Parker Evans | Jen Green | Anne Lynn Langloh |
| Sam Everette | Glynn Lassiter | Tommy Mayfield |
| Julia King | Mike Lucas | Clay Morris |
| Bailey Knight | Kate Ray | Dan Price |
| Thomas Nelson | Will Thurston | Frank Taylor |
| Drew Wright | Chris Weingartner | Clay Wilson |

STAFF

| | |
|---|--|
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| 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> |
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| Arturo Davis | <i>Assistant Building Manager</i> |
| Rachel DeSanto | <i>Deans' Assistant and Finance Associate</i> |
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| Anita Gray | <i>Programs and Outreach Administrative Assistant</i> |
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| 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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