CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT

IN THE CITY OF BIRMINGHAM

NINE O'CLOCK

in the Nave

MARCH 8, 2026

The Third Sunday in Lent

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.

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 306
7th-8th – Lower Morton Meeting Room
9th-12th –The Undercroft

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 Variety of Christian Experiences: Good News for Confused Christians* – Daniel van Voorhis

The Inquirers' Class (Diocesan Conference Room) – *The Lord's Supper* – Dean Pinter

Foundations of Faith (Living Room) – *Being Read by the Word* – Gil Kracke

Grace in the Rubble (Assembly Hall) – *When God Does His Work in the Dark* – Marshall Malone

THE WORD OF GOD

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VOLUNTARY

Dies sind die Heiligen Zehn Gebot', BWV 678 (These Are the Holy Ten Commandments) — Johann Sebastian Bach

THE PEOPLE STAND.

HYMN IN PROCESSION NO. 686

Nettleton

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.
People: His mercy endureth forever.

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.**

THE DECALOGUE

Celebrant: God spake these words, and said: I am the Lord thy God who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have none other gods but me.
People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them.
People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.
People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.
People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Honor thy father and thy mother.
People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt do no murder.
People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not commit adultery.
People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not steal.
People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.
People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not covet.
People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Celebrant: Let us pray.

THE PEOPLE KNEEL.

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; 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 EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL TO THE ROMANS.

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus
Christ. [2]Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and
we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. [3]Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing
that suffering produces endurance, [4]and endurance produces character, and character produces
hope, [5]and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. [6]For while we were still weak, at the right time
Christ died for the ungodly. [7]For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps

for a good person one would dare even to die— [8]but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. [9]Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. [10]For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. [11]More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation. (5:1-11)

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

PSALM 95

READ RESPONSIVELY, BY HALF-VERSE.

1 Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
3 For the Lord is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
4 In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
5 The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.
6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
7 For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!
8 Harden not your hearts, as your forebears did in the wilderness, *
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah, when they tempted me.
9 They put me to the test, *
though they had seen my works.
10 Forty years long I detested that generation and said, *
"This people are wayward in their hearts; they do not know my ways."
11 So I swore in my wrath, *
"They shall not enter into my rest."

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. 685 *Toplady*

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

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.
6Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well.
It was about the sixth hour. 7A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give
me a drink." 8(For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) 9The Samaritan woman
said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews
have no dealings with Samaritans.) 10Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it
is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you
living water." 11The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is
deep. Where do you get that living water? 12Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the
well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." 13Jesus said to her, "Everyone who
drinks of this water will be thirsty again, 14but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will
never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling
up to eternal life." 15The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or
have to come here to draw water." 16Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." 17The
woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no
husband'; 18for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What
you have said is true." 19The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. 20Our fathers
worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to wor-
ship." 21Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain
nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. 22You worship what you do not know; we worship

what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. [23]But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. [24]God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." [25]The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." [26]Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he." [27]Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you seek?" or, "Why are you talking with her?" [28]So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, [29]"Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" [30]They went out of the town and were coming to him. [31]Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." [32]But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." [33]So the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought him something to eat?" [34]Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work. [35]Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest. [36]Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. [37]For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' [38]I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor." [39]Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me all that I ever did." [40]So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. [41]And many more believed because of his word. [42]They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world." (4:5-42)

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

THE SERMON

Dean Smalley

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

MOTET

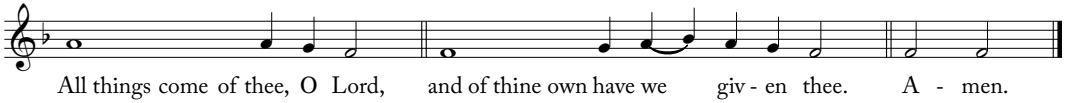
Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina

Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum:
ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus.

As a deer pants for flowing streams,
so pants my soul for you, O God.
-Psalm 42:1

The Italian composer Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c. 1525-1594) was a renowned master of Renaissance polyphony. Polyphony is when different voices sing words at different times, and up until Palestrina, it was thought that polyphony was unintelligible to the listener, and therefore a hindrance to the gospel. Palestrina reputedly "saved" polyphony from dying at the hands of Roman church reform in continental Europe by making polyphony much clearer. *Sicut cervus* is his most famous motet, setting the first verse of Psalm 42.

THE PEOPLE STAND.



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 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.)

ANTHEM

Herbert Howells

Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks,
so longeth my soul after thee, O God.
My soul is athirst for God, yea, even for the living God.
When shall I come to appear before the presence of God?
My tears have been my meat day and night,
while they daily say unto me,
Where is now thy God?

-Psalm 42:1-3

Herbert Howells (1892-1983) composed *Like as the Hart* in a single sitting on January 8, 1941. It was one of four anthems he wrote as part of a collection originally titled *In Time of War*. Much of English choral music was written during periods of turmoil, and Howells' setting of a portion of Psalm 42 is no different, having been conceived in the midst of the Blitz during World War II. The music is poignant and expressive, conveying the words of the Psalm with desperate urgency and sincerity.

HYMN NO. 658

Martyrdom

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. 143 *Erhalt uns, Herr*

THE DISMISSAL

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY Prelude in B minor, BWV 544 Johann Sebastian Bach

THE GREENERY IS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN MEMORY OF

Mr. and Mrs. Albert D. Smith, II
by Mr. and Mrs. Mell Gage Smith
Mr. and Mrs. David Hardwick

Alice Martin Miller Ashton
by her Family

Daniel L. Lyles
by Dorothy Lyles and the Family

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	*Director of Parish Life and Evangelism*
The Very Rev. Dr. Paul F.M. Zahl	*Dean Emeritus*

MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY

Ricky Bromberg	Mike Lucas	Hewes Hull	James Bradford
Senior Warden	*Junior Warden*	*Treasurer*	*Clerk*

Term Ending Parish Meeting 2027	*Term Ending Parish Meeting 2028*	*Term Ending Parish Meeting 2029*
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 Thuston	Frank Taylor
Drew Wright	Chris Weingartner	Clay Wilson

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*
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, Juan Mazuca, Kevin Moore, Gary Talley	*Sexton Staff*

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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