



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

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NINE O'CLOCK

*in the Refectory*

MAY 3, 2026

*The Fifth Sunday of Easter*

Morning Prayer

# 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

2nd Grade – Room 216

6th Grade – Room 306

4K – Room 105

3rd Grade – Room 218

7th-8th Grade – The Undercroft

Kindergarten – Room 213

4th Grade – Room 307

9th-12th Grade – Lower Morton

1st Grade – Room 214

5th Grade – Room 310

## ADULT CLASSES

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

**The Dean's Class** (Refectory) – *Christ at the Center: Paul's Letter to the Philippians (1:1-30)*  
– Jay Gardner

**The Inquirers' Class** (Diocesan Conference Room) – *"I'm New Here: Where Is Everything?"*  
*A Tour of the Advent* – Fontaine Pope

**No Cleverly Devised Myths** (Living Room) – *Canaan, Carthage, and the Defeat of Baal*  
– Wilson Hunter

**Faith and Family** (Assembly Hall) – *Grandparents and the Gospel* – Mary and Paul Zahl

TO GIVE ONLINE



VISITOR'S CARD



# MORNING PRAYER

## PRELUDE

THE PEOPLE STAND.

## SONG

*Oh, Give Thanks*

We were wand'ring in the desert  
With our souls so starved and weak;  
We were hungry for a homeland  
We did not know how to seek.  
But we lifted up our voices  
To the only one who hears:  
And the God of mercy came and brought us near.

*Oh, give thanks to the Lord,  
For his love endures forever!  
We were wandering and lost  
And our Father brought us home  
To a safe dwelling place,  
To a feast of joy and laughter.  
Oh, give thanks to the Lord for he is good.*

We were locked out of the garden  
And our backs bent down with pain;  
In the shadow of death's darkness  
We were slaves to sin and blame.  
Then we cried out in our labor  
To the only one who hears:  
And the God of mercy wiped away our tears.

We were fools in our rebellion  
With our hunger strike of pride;  
We were sick and growing closer  
To the death we should have died.  
Then he heard of our condition  
And he called us by our names:  
And the God of glory took away our shame.  
*Refrain*

We were far out on the ocean  
Making wealth and chasing dreams;  
But the waves of great destruction  
Brought us trembling to our knees.  
And we cried like drunken sailors  
To the only one who hears:  
And the God of comfort took away our fears. *Refrain*

Wendell Kimbrough © 2014 Kimbrough, Wendell

## OPENING SENTENCES

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*-Psalm 118:24*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

THE PEOPLE SIT.

**Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.**

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

THE PEOPLE STAND.

Officiant: O Lord, open thou our lips.

People: **And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**

All: **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

## SONG

*His Mercy Is More*

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?  
Omniscient, all-knowing, he counts not their sum;  
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore.  
Our sins, they are many, his mercy is more.

*Praise the Lord, his mercy is more.  
Stronger than darkness, new every morn;  
Our sins, they are many, his mercy is more.*

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?  
What Father, so tender, is calling us home?  
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor;  
Our sins, they are many, his mercy is more. *Refrain*

What riches of kindness he lavished on us;  
His blood was the payment, his life was the cost;  
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford;  
Our sins, they are many, his mercy is more. *Refrain*

Matt Boswell and Matt Papa © 2016 Getty Music Songs, Messenger Hymns and Love Your Enemies Publishing

THE PEOPLE SIT.

## PSALM 31:1-5, 15-16

READ RESPONSIVELY, BY HALF-VERSE.

- 1 In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; \*  
**deliver me in your righteousness.**
- 2 Incline your ear to me; \*  
**make haste to deliver me.**
- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
**for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.**
- 4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
**for you are my tower of strength.**
- 5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
**for you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.**
- 15 My times are in your hand; \*  
**rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**
- 16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*  
**and in your loving-kindness save me.”**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

## A READING FROM THE FIRST EPISTLE OF ST. PETER.

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation—<sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. <sup>4</sup>As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, <sup>5</sup>you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” <sup>7</sup>So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” <sup>8</sup>and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. <sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. <sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. (2:2-10)

Reader:     The Word of the Lord.

**People:     Thanks be to God.**

## THE 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

*The First Song of Isaiah*

*Surely, it is God who saves me;  
I will trust in him and not be afraid.  
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,  
And he will be my Savior.*

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing  
From the springs of salvation,  
And on that day you shall say, Give thanks to the Lord.  
And call upon his Name.

Make his deeds known among the peoples,  
See that they remember that his Name is exalted.  
Sing the praises of the Lord,  
For he has done great things, and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion,  
Ring out your joy,  
For the great one in the midst of you  
Is the Holy One of Israel. *Refrain*

Words: Book of Common Prayer (Isaiah 12:2-6) Music: Jack Noble White ©1976 Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp.

THE PEOPLE SIT.

## A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. JOHN.

Jesus said, “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to where I am going.” <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” <sup>8</sup>Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” <sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’ <sup>10</sup>Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup>Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup>Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.” (14:1-14)

Reader:     The Word of the Lord.

**People:**    **Thanks be to God.**

THE PEOPLE STAND.

## SONG

*How Great Thou Art*

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed;

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
How great thou art, how great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
How great thou art, how great thou art!*

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; *Refrain*

But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died to take away my sin; *Refrain*

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
And there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!" *Refrain*

Author: Carl Boberg; Translator: Stuart K. Hine; © 1949, 1953, The Stuart Hine Trust

## THE SERMON

Canon Young

THE PEOPLE STAND.

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth;**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

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

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

THE PEOPLE SIT.

## THE PRAYERS

### 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.**

## SUFFRAGES

Officiant: O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

**People: And grant us thy salvation.**

Officiant: Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

**People: And make thy chosen people joyful.**

Officiant: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

**People: For only in thee can we live in safety.**

Officiant: Lord, keep this nation under thy care;

**People: And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

Officiant: Let thy way be known upon earth;

**People: Thy saving health among all nations.**

Officiant: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

**People: Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Officiant: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

**People: And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.**

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know thy Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leadeth to eternal life; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE COLLECTS

## THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

## THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Officiant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

## THE WELCOME AND OFFERTORY SENTENCE

### AT THE OFFERTORY

*Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life*

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:  
such a way as gives us breath;  
such a truth as ends all strife;  
such a life as conquers death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:  
such a light as shows a feast;  
such a feast as mends in length;  
such a strength as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:  
such a joy as none can move;  
such a love as none can part;  
such a heart as joys in love.

Words: George Herbert; Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams © Public Domain

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.**

### CLOSING PRAYER AND 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.**

Should nothing of our efforts stand,  
 No legacy survive,  
 Unless the Lord does raise the house,  
 In vain its builders strive.

To you who boast tomorrow's gain,  
 Tell me, what is your life?  
 A mist that vanishes at dawn:  
 All glory be to Christ!

*All glory be to Christ our King!*  
*All glory be to Christ!*  
*His rule and reign we'll ever sing,*  
*All glory be to Christ!*

His will be done, his kingdom come  
 On earth as is above;  
 Who is himself our daily bread,  
 Praise him, the Lord of love.

Let living water satisfy  
 The thirsty without price.  
 We'll take a cup of kindness yet:  
 All glory be to Christ! *Refrain*

When on the day the great I Am,  
 The faithful and the true,  
 The Lamb who was for sinners slain,  
 Is making all things new.

Behold our God shall live with us,  
 And be our steadfast light.  
 And we shall e'er his people be:  
 All glory be to Christ! *Refrain*

Words: Dustin Kensrue, 2012; Music: Traditional Scottish Folk Tune

## THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## POSTLUDE

## 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>Director of Parish Life and Evangelism</i>
The Rev. Mary Ann McCarty	<i>Curate</i>
The Very Rev. Dr. Paul F.M. Zahl	<i>Dean Emeritus</i>

## MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY

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Ricky Bromberg <i>Senior Warden</i>	Mike Lucas <i>Junior Warden</i>	Hewes Hull <i>Treasurer</i>	James Bradford <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 Thuston	Frank Taylor	
Drew Wright	Chris Weingartner	Clay Wilson	

## 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</i>
Kathy Logue	<i>Advent House Coordinator</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,	<i>Sexton Staff</i>
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)  
2017 SIXTH AVENUE NORTH | BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35203  
205 251-2324 | [ADVENTBIRMINGHAM.ORG](http://ADVENTBIRMINGHAM.ORG)