



Festal Holy Eucharist Rite II
Church of the Advent
The Eve of the Nativity of the Lord
December 24, 2025, 10:30 pm

Welcome to Advent. Thank you for joining us for worship. We hope you meet God here today. All baptized Christians, regardless of tradition, are welcome to receive Holy Communion. We invite you to join us for coffee and conversation in the Parish Hall following the service.

Children of all ages are welcome in the service. Find activity clipboards and coloring sheets for children in the narthex.

The Book of Common Prayer (BCP) is the red book in the racks. The 1982 Hymnal is the blue book; the hymnal "S" pages appear in the front of this book. LEVAS (Lift Every Voice and Sing) is the black and red hymnal at both the pews' ends.

Our services are live-streamed and available to the public via our YouTube channel. Please speak to an usher if you prefer not to be on camera.



New or Visiting This Morning? We would love to pray for you by name this week and have the opportunity to get to know you. Please fill out the welcome card found in the pew or through the QR code to the left.

Choral Prelude

10:00 pm

Vocal and Instrument Carols

Festival Prelude on *Joy to the Lord*

H. Wagner & W. Wensell

Three Christmas Carols

Bell Choir

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

arr. Barbara Kinyon

God Rest Ye Marry

arr. Kevin McChesney

Ding Dong! Merrily on High

arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

O Holy Night

by A. Adam

Katie Womack

A Father's Love, A Perfect Rose

arr. Joseph Martin

J. Womack & Choir

Still, Still, Still

arr. Philip Ledger

Choir

Fragments from *The Messiah*

George F. Handel

A.F. Williams & Choir

Pastorale (Organ)

There Were Shepherds - Recitative

Glory to God - Chorus

The Holy Eucharist Rite II

10:30 pm

Prelude *Once in David's Royal City (verse 1)*

Abbey F. Williams

The Word of God

Rite II BCP p. 355

Processional *O Come all Ye Faithful (vs. 1, 3, 6)*

Hymnal #83

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be His kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

BCP p. 355

The Gloria *Angels We Have Heard on High*

Hymnal #96

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Please stand or kneel as able.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy Him perfectly in heaven; where with You and the Holy Spirit He lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Please sit.

First Lesson

Isaiah 62:6-12

Reader: A reading from the Book of the prophet Isaiah

⁶Upon your walls, O Jerusalem,

I have posted sentinels;
all day and all night

they shall never be silent.
You who remind the Lord,
take no rest,
⁷ and give him no rest
until he establishes Jerusalem
and makes it renowned throughout the earth.
⁸ The Lord has sworn by his right hand
and by his mighty arm:
I will not again give your grain
to be food for your enemies,
and foreigners shall not drink the wine
for which you have labored;
⁹ but those who garner it shall eat it
and praise the Lord,
and those who gather it shall drink it
in my holy courts.
¹⁰ Go through, go through the gates,
prepare the way for the people;
build up, build up the highway,
clear it of stones,
lift up an ensign over the peoples.
¹¹ The Lord has proclaimed
to the end of the earth:
Say to daughter Zion,
'See, your salvation comes;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.'
¹² They shall be called, 'The Holy People,
The Redeemed of the Lord';
and you shall be called, 'Sought Out,
A City Not Forsaken.'

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 97

BCP p. 726

Please read responsively by whole verse beginning with the Lector.

¹ The LORD is king! Let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!

² **Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.**

³ Fire goes before him, and consumes his adversaries on every side.

⁴ **His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles.**

⁵ The mountains melt like wax before the LORD, before the Lord of all the earth.

⁶ **The heavens proclaim his righteousness; and all the peoples behold his glory.**

⁷ All worshipers of images are put to shame, those who make their boast in worthless idols; all gods bow down before him.

⁸ **Zion hears and is glad, and the towns of Judah rejoice, because of your judgments, O God.**

⁹ For you, O LORD, are most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.

¹⁰ **The LORD loves those who hate evil; he guards the lives of his faithful; he rescues them from the hand of the wicked.**

¹¹ Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.

¹² **Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!**

Second Lesson

Titus 3:4-7

Reader: A reading from the letter of Titus

⁴ But when the goodness and loving-kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. ⁶ This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PROCLAMATION: THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

The Twenty-fifth Day of December, when ages beyond number had run their course from the creation of the world, when God in the beginning created heaven and earth, and formed man in his own likeness; when century upon century had passed since the Almighty set his bow in the clouds after the Great Flood, as a sign of covenant and peace; in the twenty-first century, since Abraham, our father in faith, came out of Ur of the Chaldees; In the thirteenth century, since the People of Israel were led by Moses in the Exodus from Egypt; around the thousandth year since David was anointed King; in the sixty-fifth week of the prophecy of Daniel; in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad; in the year seven hundred and fifty-two since the foundation of the City of Rome; In the forty-second year of the reign of Caesar Octavian Augustus, the whole world being at peace, JESUS CHRIST, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desiring to consecrate the world by his most loving presence, was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and when nine months had passed since his conception, was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judah, and was made man:

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh.

Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Hymnal #79

The Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke

People: **Glory to You, Lord Christ.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to

whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. ⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” ¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

***People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Please sit.

The Sermon

The Rev. Brian McVey

Please stand as able.

The Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

Please stand or kneel as able.

The Prayers of the People, Form IV

BCP p. 388

The Confession and Absolution

BCP p. 360

Please stand as able.

The Peace

BCP p. 360

Please sit as able.

The Welcome and Announcements

Giving financially is a part of our weekly worship. You can leave a gift in the offering plate or online using the QR code to the right.



The Offertory *Tidings of Comfort and Joy* by W. Wensell

Advent Choir

Presentation Hymn

Greensleeves

Hymnal #115 Vs. 3

The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP p. 367

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

BCP p. 378

Sanctus

Hymnal #S-125

Please kneel or stand as able.

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 364

Fraction Anthem

Hymnal #S-155

This is the table, not of the Church, but of God. It is to be made ready for those who love God and who want to love God more. So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, not because I invite you: it is God, and it is God's will that you who want God should meet God here.

Communion Hymn

The First Nowell

Hymnal #109

The Post-Communion Prayer

BCP p. 365

The Christmas Blessing

The Candle Lighting

The candles are lit from the Christ candle as the Prologue of John is said and the hymn sung

Deacon: A Reading from the Gospel of John (1:1-18)

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, 'This was he of whom I said, "He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me."') ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Hymn	<i>Silent Night Holy Night</i>	Hymnal #111
Closing Processional Hymn	<i>Joy to the World</i>	Hymnal #100
The Dismissal		BCP p. 365
Voluntary:	<i>Tocatta</i> by G. Young	W. Wensell

The Poinsettias Given

By Nancy Allen:

In Thanksgiving for family.

By Candida Bannister:

In Thanksgiving for family and friends.

In Memory of Mary Clyde Sparks.

In Memory of Robert and Miwako Cleve.

By Gregg and Lynn Conroy:

In Thanksgiving for Daniel Conroy (for healing).

In Thanksgiving for Andy & Kim, Brandon & Rachel, Kylie & Keon.

In Thanksgiving for Gregg.

In Memory of D.J. Conroy and Polly Longhurst.

By Gregg, Daniel, Kim, Blake, Brandon, and Kylie Conroy

In Thanksgiving for Lynn Conroy.

By Tom and Leslie DiNella:

In Thanksgiving for Ava, Muriel, and Vincent.

In Memory of Rom and Gerry.

In Memory of Wyatt and Jeanne Glenn DiNella.

By Betty and Larry Douglass

In Thanksgiving for our grandchildren, Turner, Maggie, Carey IV, Connley, and Catie.

In memory of Carey Cheij.

In memory of Ingrid Sevin.

By Dr. William Farrar

In Memory of Jane Henry Farrar

In Memory of Frances Cox Farrar

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Roy E. Farrar, Sr.

By Curt Guenther

In Thanksgiving for God's many blessings.

By Mada Johnston:

In Memory of her parents, Jackson & Ada Patterson.

By Rev. Suzanne Johnston:

In Memory of Rev. & Mrs. Earl Johnston.

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. George Silbernagel, II.

In Memory of Dr. Michael George.

By the LaNeve Family:

In Memory of Jean and Charles Rahme.

In Memory for Kathryn V. Unitas.

By Hunter and Carol Lynn McCarty

In Thanksgiving for our Advent Family.

Rev. Brian and Karen McVey

In Thanksgiving for Sarah, Amanda, Nathan, Robbie, David, Hannah, and Joshua.

In Memory of Rev. Kathie Phillips.

By Janice and Jerry Rice:

In Thanksgiving for our son, Russ.

By Jane Simmons:

In Thanksgiving for my family.

In Memory of my loved ones.

By Valerie and Brian Stogdill:

In Thanksgiving for our children and grandchildren.

In Memory of our parents.

By Flora Ukoli:

In Thanksgiving for my children and grandchildren.

In Memory of her parents, Chief Paul M. Ukoli and Mrs. Elizabeth Ukoli.

Thank you to our servers today:

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Brian McVey

Deacon: The Rev. Suzie Johnston

Verger: Candida Bannister

Crucifer: Lilian Williams

Acolyte: Joshua McVey and Abby Womack

Lector: Flora Ukoli

Chalice: John Womack and Candida Bannister

Ushers: Jerry Rice and Jim Atkinson

Altar Guild: Carol McCarty, Edith Nau, and Paula Taylor

Vestry: Lindy Womack

MINISTRY CONTACTS

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VESTRY

Nancy Allen (2026), <i>Senior Warden</i>	Rosemary Kelley (2026)
Candida Banister (2028), <i>Junior Warden</i>	Valerie Stogdill (2027)
Jeri Platt (2027), <i>Clerk</i>	Flora Ukoli (2027)
Jennifer Honeycutt (2026)	Janet Brown (2028)
Hilary Wagner (2026)	Robyn Duffy (2028)
	Hunter McCarty, <i>Treasurer</i>

DIOCESE OF TENNESSEE

Bishop John Bauerschmidt



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