



**Holy Eucharist Rite II**  
**Church of the Advent**

*The Second Sunday of Christmas*

January 4, 2026, 10:30 AM

*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. Nursery is available for children four years and under in the Parish Hall across the courtyard. Older children are invited to follow the cross during the Gloria for a children's homily. Find activity bags 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.

Prelude                      *Andante* from *Pastorale*      by J. S. Bach                      W. Wensell

**The Word of God**                      **Rite II BCP p. 355**

*Please stand as able.*

**Processional**                      ***We three kings of orient are***                      **Hymnal #128**

*The congregation sings verses 1 and 5 and all refrains*

*Celebrant:* Blessed Be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

**The Collect for Purity**                      **BCP p. 355**

**The Gloria**                      ***Deo Refrain***                      **Hymnal #96**

† *The children are invited to follow the cross to the Children's Chapel.* †

**The Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:*      **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

*Please stand or kneel as able.*

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of Him who humbled Himself to share our humanity, Your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**People:**      **Amen.**

## **First Lesson**

## **Sirach 24:1-12**

A Reading from the Wisdom of Sirach.

**24** Wisdom praises herself,

and tells of her glory in the midst of her people.

<sup>2</sup> In the assembly of the Most High she opens her mouth,  
and in the presence of his hosts she tells of her glory:

<sup>3</sup> ‘I came forth from the mouth of the Most High,  
and covered the earth like a mist.

<sup>4</sup> I dwelt in the highest heavens,  
and my throne was in a pillar of cloud.

<sup>5</sup> Alone I compassed the vault of heaven  
and traversed the depths of the abyss.

<sup>6</sup> Over waves of the sea, over all the earth,  
and over every people and nation I have held sway.

<sup>7</sup> Among all these I sought a resting-place;  
in whose territory should I abide?

<sup>8</sup> ‘Then the Creator of all things gave me a command,  
and my Creator chose the place for my tent.

He said, “Make your dwelling in Jacob,  
and in Israel receive your inheritance.”

<sup>9</sup> Before the ages, in the beginning, he created me,  
and for all the ages I shall not cease to be.

<sup>10</sup> In the holy tent I ministered before him,  
and so I was established in Zion.

<sup>11</sup> Thus in the beloved city he gave me a resting-place,  
and in Jerusalem was my domain.

<sup>12</sup> I took root in an honored people,  
in the portion of the Lord, his heritage.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

## **The Psalm**

*Please read responsively by whole verse, beginning with the Lector.*

### **Wisdom of Solomon 10:15-21**

<sup>15</sup> A holy people and blameless race  
wisdom delivered from a nation of oppressors.

<sup>16</sup> **She entered the soul of a servant of the Lord,  
and withstood dread kings with wonders and signs.**

<sup>17</sup> She gave to holy people the reward of their labors;  
she guided them along a marvelous way,  
and became a shelter to them by day,  
and a starry flame through the night.

<sup>18</sup> **She brought them over the Red Sea,  
and led them through deep waters;**

<sup>19</sup> but she drowned their enemies,  
and cast them up from the depths of the sea.

<sup>20</sup> **Therefore the righteous plundered the ungodly;  
they sang hymns, O Lord, to your holy name,  
and praised with one accord your defending hand;**

<sup>21</sup> for wisdom opened the mouths of those who were mute,  
and made the tongues of infants speak clearly.

## Second Lesson

## Ephesians 1:3-14

A Reading from the letter of Paul to the church in Ephesus.

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup> just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup> He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup> that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup> he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup> as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup> In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup> so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup> In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup> this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as able.*

**Hymn** *Angels from the realms of glory*

**Hymn #93**

**The Gospel**

**John 1:1-18**

*Deacon:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

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

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

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

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

<sup>14</sup> 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. <sup>15</sup> (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.") <sup>16</sup> From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup> The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> 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.

*Deacon:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **The Sermon**

The Rev. Brian McVey

*Please stand as able.*

## **The Nicene Creed**

**BCP p. 358**

*Please kneel or stand as able.*

## **The Prayers of the People, Form IV**

**BCP p. 388**

## **The Confession and Absolution**

**BCP p. 393**

*Please stand as able.*

## **The Peace**

**BCP p. 360**

*Please sit.*

## **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**

*Run to the Manger Bed* by R. Lau

Advent Choir

*Please stand as able.*

**Presentation Hymn**      *Praise God, from whom all blessings ...*

## **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 stand or kneel as able.*

**The Lord's Prayer**

**BCP p. 364**

**Fraction Anthem**

***Christ our Passover***

**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 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. All baptized Christians, regardless of tradition, are welcome to receive communion.*

**Communion Music**

***Organ Meditation***

**The Post-Communion Prayer**

**BCP p. 365**

**The Blessing**

**Closing Hymn**

***Once in royal David's City***

**Hymnal #102**

*Vv 1, 2, and 5*

**The Dismissal**

**BCP p. 366**

**Postlude:**

Postlude on the closing hymn

W Wensell

*The flowers on the altar are given in Thanksgiving to God for the birth of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.*

***Thank You to our Servers Today:***

**Celebrant & Preacher:** The Rev. Brian McVey

**Deacon:** The Rev. Suzie Johnston

**Verger:** Candida Bannister

**Crucifer:**

**Torch Bearers:**

**Psalmist:** Joshua McVey

**Lector:**

**Chalice Bearers:** and Candida Bannister

**Music Director:** Waldemar Wensell

**Children's Chapel:**

**Godly Play:** Hannah McVey

**Vestry:**

**Altar Guild:** Lynn Conroy, Hannah McVey, Nancy Allen, and Valerie Stogdill

**Streamers:** Joshua McVey, Hannah McVey, Katie Womack, John Womack, Lilian Williams

## 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



