



Holy Eucharist Rite II
Church of the Advent

The First Sunday of Christmas

December 28, 2025, 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

Pastorale in F

by J. S. Bach

W. Wensell

The Word of God

Rite II BCP p. 355

Please stand as able

Processional

Joy to the World!

Hymnal #100

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.

Almighty God, You have poured upon us the new light of Your incarnate Word:
Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through
Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

People: Amen.

Please sit.

First Lesson

Isaiah 63:7-9

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

⁷ I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,
the praiseworthy acts of the Lord,
because of all that the Lord has done for us,
and the great favor to the house of Israel
that he has shown them according to his mercy,
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

⁸ For he said, ‘Surely they are my people,
children who will not deal falsely’;
and he became their savior

⁹ in all their distress.

It was no messenger or angel
but his presence that saved them;
in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;
he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

148

Please read responsively by whole verse beginning with the Lector.

¹ Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!

² **Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his host!**

³ Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you shining stars!

⁴ **Praise him, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!**

⁵ Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for he commanded and they were created.

⁶ **He established them for ever and ever;
he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.**

⁷ Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps,

⁸ **fire and hail, snow and frost,
stormy wind fulfilling his command!**

⁹ Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars!

¹⁰ **Wild animals and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds!**

¹¹ Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!

¹² **Young men and women alike,
old and young together!**

¹³ Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for his name alone is exalted;
his glory is above earth and heaven.

¹⁴ **He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for all his faithful,
for the people of Israel who are close to him.**

Praise the Lord!

Second Lesson

Hebrews 2:10-18

A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

¹⁰ It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹ For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹² saying,

‘I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.’

¹³ And again,

‘I will put my trust in him.’

And again,

‘Here am I and the children whom God has given me.’

¹⁴ Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶ For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as able.

Hymn

Away in a manger

Hymn #101

The Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

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

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

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, ‘Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name

him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.’²² All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ ‘Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel’,

which means, ‘God is with us.’²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife,²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

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

Sing Lullaby 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. 377

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 *Good Christian friends, rejoice*

Hymnal #107

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: Hannah McVey

Torch Bearers: Katie Womack & Abby Womack

Psalmist: Joshua McVey

Lector: Candida Bannister

Chalice Bearers: Tom DiNella and Candida Bannister

Music Director: Waldemar Wensell

Children's Chapel: Jane Simmons

Godly Play: Hannah McVey

Vestry: Hilary Wagner

Altar Guild: Janice Rice, Debbie Atkinson, and Pat Smith

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

DIOCESE OF TENNESSEE

Bishop John Bauerschmidt



