



Holy Eucharist Rite II
Church of the Advent

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 13, 2026, 10:30 AM

Welcome to Church of the 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.

Nursery is available for children up to age five in the Parish Hall across the courtyard. Children of all ages are welcome in the service. You can find coloring sheets and children's bulletins in the narthex.

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

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 to get to know you. Please fill out the welcome card found in the pew or through the QR code to the left.

Prelude: *When I survey the wondrous cross* Gilbert Martin

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

Please stand as able.

Processional: *Praise, my soul, the King of heaven* **Hymnal #410**

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

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

Collect for Purity **BCP p. 355**

The Gloria: *Gloria in excelsis* **Hymnal S-278**

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

The Collect of the Day **BCP p. 357**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Please stand or kneel as able.

O God, because without You we are not able to please You, mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People: **Amen.**

Please sit.

First Lesson

Genesis 50:15-21

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

Psalm 103 *Please read responsively by whole verse beginning with the Lector.*

¹ Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name.

² **Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and do not forget all his benefits—**

³ who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,

- ⁴ **who redeems your life from the Pit,**
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
- ⁵ who satisfies you with good as long as you live
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- ⁶ **The Lord works vindication**
and justice for all who are oppressed.
- ⁷ He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.
- ⁸ **The Lord is merciful and gracious,**
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- ⁹ He will not always accuse,
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- ¹⁰ **He does not deal with us according to our sins,**
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
- ¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love towards those who fear him;
- ¹² **as far as the east is from the west,**
so far he removes our transgressions from us.
- ¹³ As a father has compassion for his children,
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.
- ¹⁴ **For he knows how we were made;**
he remembers that we are dust.
- ¹⁵ As for mortals, their days are like grass;
they flourish like a flower of the field;
- ¹⁶ **for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,**
and its place knows it no more.
- ¹⁷ But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting
on those who fear him,
and his righteousness to children's children,
- ¹⁸ **to those who keep his covenant**
and remember to do his commandments.

¹⁹ The Lord has established his throne in the heavens,
and his kingdom rules over all.

²⁰ **Bless the Lord, O you his angels,
you mighty ones who do his bidding,
obedient to his spoken word.**

²¹ Bless the Lord, all his hosts,
his ministers that do his will.

²² **Bless the Lord, all his works,
in all places of his dominion.
Bless the Lord, O my soul.**

Second Lesson

Romans 14:1-12

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them.

⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written,

‘As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.’

¹² So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn: *There is a balm in Gilead* **Hymnal #676**

The Gospel **Matthew 18:21-35**

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

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

²¹ Then Peter came and said to him, ‘Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?’ ²² Jesus said to him, ‘Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³ ‘For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, “Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.” ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, “Pay what

you owe.” ²⁹ Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, “Have patience with me, and I will pay you.” ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, “You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?” ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.’

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

Sermon

The Rev. Brian McVey

The Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

Please stand or kneel, as able.

The Prayers of the People, Form II

BCP p. 385

The Confession and Absolution

BCP p. 360

Please stand as able.

The Peace

BCP p. 360

Please sit.

The Welcome and Announcements

*Make your offering in the plates being passed along the pews
or online through the QR code on the right.*



The Holy Communion

The Offertory

Offertory Anthem: *Feed my lambs* by Natalie Sleeth
Please stand as able.

Advent Choir

Presentation: *Praise God, from whom* **Tune: Old Hundredth**

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP p. 361

Sanctus: *Holy, holy, holy, Lord*

Hymnal S-125

Please kneel or stand as able.

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 364

Fraction Anthem: *Christ, our Passover*

Hymnal S-152

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, have been here often and have not been for a long time, have tried to follow, and 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 of any tradition are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Communion Music: Organ meditation

Please kneel as able.

Post Communion Prayer

BCP p. 365

The Blessing

Please stand as able.

Hymn: *O bless the Lord, my soul!*

Hymnal #411

The Dismissal

BCP p. 366

Postlude: *Postlude on the closing hymn*

W. Wensell

*The altar flowers are given today by Brian & Valerie Stogdill in honor
of their wedding anniversary.*

Thank You to our Servers Today:

Celebrant & Preacher: *The Rev. Brian McVey*

Acolytes: *Hannah McVey, Katie Womack, Lillian Williams**

Lector: *Carol LaNeve*

Chalice Bearers: *Rosemary Kelley, Candida Bannister*

Music Director: *Waldemar Wensell*

Vestry: *Flora Ukoli*

Children's Chapel: *Jane Simmons*

Altar Guild: *Anne Williams, Jeri Platt, Jane Simmons*

Ushers: *Jim Atkinson, Greg Platt*

MINISTRY CONTACTS

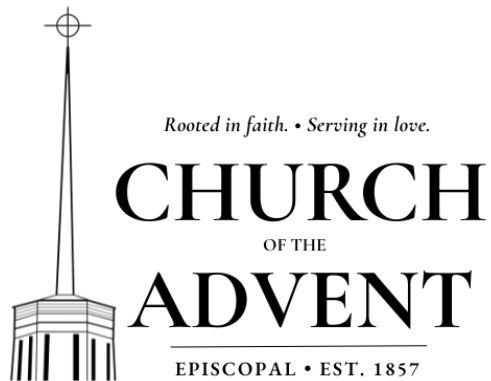
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VESTRY

Nancy Allen (2026), <i>Sr. Warden</i>	Valerie Stogdill (2027)
Candida Banister (2028), <i>Jr. Warden</i>	Flora Ukoli (2027)
Jeri Platt (2027), <i>Clerk</i>	Robyn Duffy (2028)
Rosemary Kelley (2026)	Hunter McCarty, <i>Treasurer</i>
Janet Brown (2026)	

DIOCESE OF TENNESSEE

Bishop John Bauerschmidt



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