



CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT
IN THE CITY OF BIRMINGHAM



NINE O'CLOCK
in the Nave
NOVEMBER 28, 2021
The First Sunday of Advent
Holy Communion

VOLUNTARY

Jeanne Demessieux

Rorate caeli, from *12 Chorale Preludes*, Op. 8

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The candles will be lighted by the Hemrick family: Rebecca and Matt, Carlisle and Henry.

People: **Jesus said, “I am the light of the world; those who follow me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”** *-John 8:12*

THE PEOPLE STAND.

HYMN IN PROCESSION NO. 66

Stuttgart

THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 323

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

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

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

THE PEOPLE KNEEL.

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PEOPLE SIT.

A READING FROM THE FIRST EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL TO THE THESSALONIANS.

For what thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God,¹⁰ as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith? ¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, ¹² and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, ¹³ so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints. (3:9-13)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 25:1-9

READ RESPONSIVELY, BY HALF-VERSE.

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O Lord, *
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

THE PEOPLE STAND.

HYMN NO. 640

Aberystwyth

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
ACCORDING TO ST. LUKE.

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus said, "And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves,²⁶ people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken.²⁷ And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."²⁹ And he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees.³⁰ As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near.³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near.³² Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place.³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.³⁴ But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap.³⁵ For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth.³⁶ But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man." (21:25-36)

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN

CHILDREN IN KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 3RD GRADE WILL DEPART FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL FOLLOWING
THE BLESSING.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Doug Webster

THE NICENE CREED

PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 327

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.**

**And I believe one holy catholic and Apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

THE PEOPLE KNEEL.

CONFESSION OF SIN

PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 331

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Almighty God,

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

maker of all things, judge of all men:

**We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness,
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.**

**We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable.**

**Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,**

forgive us all that is past;

**and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him:

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.

-Matthew 11:28

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

-John 3:16

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

-1 Timothy 1:15

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world.

-1 John 2:1-2

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

THE PEOPLE SIT.

THE WELCOME

AT THE OFFERTORY

Ralph Vaughan Williams

This is the truth sent from above,
The truth of God, the God of love,
Therefore don't turn me from your door,
But hearken all both rich and poor.

The first thing which I do relate
Is that God did man create;
The next thing which to you I'll tell
Woman was made with man to dwell.

Thus we were heirs to endless woes,
Till God the Lord did interpose;
And so a promise soon did run
That he would redeem us by his Son.

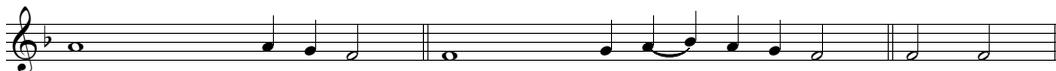
And at that season of the year
Our blest Redeemer did appear;
He here did live, and here did preach,
And many thousands he did teach.

Thus he in love to us behaved,
To show us how we must be saved;
And if you want to know the way,
Be pleased to hear what he did say.

-English Traditional Carol

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) popularized this carol when he used it to open his *Fantasia on Christmas Carols*, which has become an oft-performed choral work during the Christmas season. The text of this carol speaks "the truth" of God's great love for us through his son Jesus, and how we are a redeemed people by his death for our sins.

THE PEOPLE STAND.



All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we giv - en thee. A - men.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 333

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

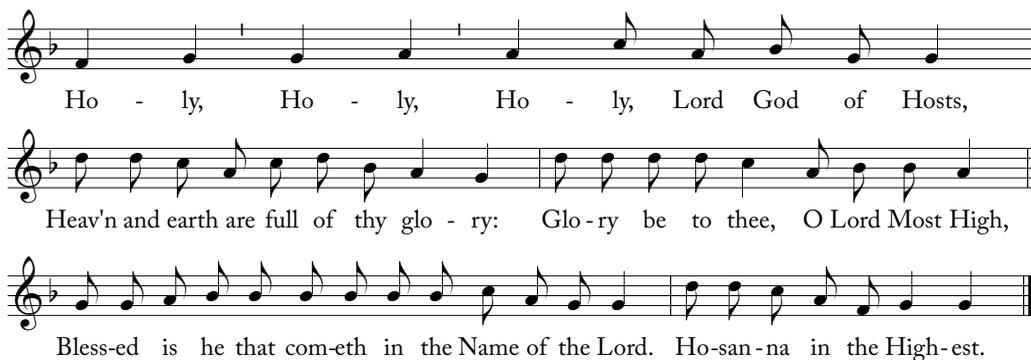
People: It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

[A proper preface is added here.] Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

John Merbecke



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts,
Heav'n and earth are full of thy glo - ry: Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord Most High,
Bless-ed is he that com-eth in the Name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the High-est.

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THE PEOPLE KNEEL OR SIT, AS THE CELEBRANT CONTINUES WITH THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER.

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

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.**

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 337

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

THE PEOPLE SIT.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All baptized believers in the Lord Jesus Christ are warmly invited to receive Communion either at the rail or at one of the stations. You may receive both the bread and the wine. If you prefer not to receive the wine, simply cross your arms across your chest after receiving the bread. If you wish to receive the wine, you may do so by dipping the bread in the small intinction vessel inside the cup. The chalice bearer will help direct you. (If you have not been baptized, but would like to be, please see one of the ministers following the service.)

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel:
for he hath visited and redeemed his people;
And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us:
in the house of his servant David;
As he spake by the mouth of his holy Prophets:
which have been since the world began;
That we should be saved from our enemies:
and from the hands of all that hate us;
To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers:
and to remember his holy Covenant;
To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather Abraham:
that he would give us;
That we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies:
Might serve him without fear;
In holiness and righteousness before him:
all the days of our life.
And thou child shalt be called the Prophet of the Highest:
for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways.
To give knowledge of salvation unto his people:
for the remission of their sins;
Through the tender mercy of our God:
whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us;
To give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
Glory be the Father: and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.

-*Luke 1:68-79*

Philip Moore (b. 1943) composed this setting of the canticle *Benedictus Dominus Deus Israel* in 1984. The canticle's text (known as the Song of Zechariah) comes from Luke's Gospel, and is well suited to the Scriptural themes of this First Sunday in Advent.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

THE PEOPLE KNEEL.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

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.**

THE PEOPLE STAND.

HYMN IN PROCESSION NO. 72

Richmond

THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

IF YOU DESIRE, KNEEL FOR A MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER.

VOLUNTARY

Toccata-Prelude on *Wachet auf*

Francis Jackson

THE FLOWERS ARE GIVEN
TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN MEMORY OF

James Craig Battles
Commander James Edmund Battles

Mary Maple Battles

Stephen Battles

Thomas Battles

Morgan Kennemer Slaton

Net Slaton

by Una Slaton Battles and Joshua Edmund Battles

Sydney Page Brewer

by Linda Brewer

ADULT EDUCATION

Adult Classes take place from 10:15 to 10:50 a.m. and will be available online at Audio.AdventBirmingham.org.

The Dean's Class (Refectory) – *Good Tidings of Comfort and Joy: Looking to Advent and Christmas* – Canon Smalley

Christianity Is Christ (Chapter Room) – *If Christ Has Not Been Raised, We Are to Be Most Pitied (1 Corinthians 15:12-34)* – Gil Kracke

Faith and Family (Assembly Hall) – *The Fear Factor in Parenting: Fear of Your Child's Rejection or Approval* – Carolyn Lankford

CHILDREN AND YOUTH:

Threes - Room 110

Fours - Room 109

Kindergarten - Room 104

1st Grade - Room 103

2nd Grade - Room 217

3rd Grade - Room 219

4th Grade - Room 310

5th Grade - Room 307

6th Grade - Room 311

7th-8th Grades - Lower Morton Meeting Room

9th-12th Grades - The Undercroft

NEXT SUNDAY • DECEMBER 5, 2021

Holy Communion at 7:30 a.m.

Lessons and Carols at 9:00 a.m. *in the Nave*, and 11:00 a.m.

Morning Prayer at 9:00 a.m. *in the Refectory*

Evening Prayer at 5:00 p.m.

*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)
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