

GRACE AND HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL



Advent Starry Night 3, © 2009 Virginia Wieringa, virginiawieringa.com, Used by permission.

The First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024 • 5 p.m.

Welcome! We are glad you are here.

- If you are a visitor or new attendee, we invite you to fill out a welcome card, found in your pew, and place it in the offering plate or complete the form online. Use this QR code to access the form.
- If you need a hearing assistance device, please ask an usher. Instructions to connect via Bluetooth are on the back table.
- Gendered restrooms are available in Founders' Hall. A non-gendered, accessible restroom is available at west end (rear) of the Cathedral.



Service Notes

- Please rise, as able, for portions of the service marked with an asterisk (*).
- Donations may be placed in the offering, made through the Cathedral website: kccathedral.org, by scanning the QR code to the right or by texting "GIVEtoGHTC" to 73256. *Thank you for your generosity.*



HOLY EUCHARIST



VOLUNTARY: *Rorate caeli*

Jeanne Demessieux

The Order for Evening

* OPENING ACCLAMATION AND PRAYER FOR LIGHT

page 109

Cantor  *People* 

Light and peace, in Je - sus Christ our Lord. Thanks be to God.

The presider adds a prayer for light.

* O GRACIOUS LIGHT *Phos hilaron*: 25

1  2 

1 O gra - cious Light, Lord Je - sus Christ, in
2 Now sun - set comes, but light shines forth, the
3 Wor - thy are you of end - less praise, O



you the Fa - ther's glo - ry shone. Im - mor - tal, ho - ly,
lamps are lit to pierce the night. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and
Son of God, Life - giv - ing Lord; where - fore you are through



blest is he, and blest are you, his ho - ly Son.
Spi - rit: God who dwells in the e - ter - nal light.
all the earth and in the high - est heaven a - dored.

Words: Greek, 3rd cent.; tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984); para. of *O Gracious Light*. Music: *The Eighth Tune*, Thomas Tallis (1505?-1585). All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

The Word of God

* COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your 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 living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

First Lesson: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Lector The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25:1-9



page 614

Cantor 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.

All Let none who look to you be put | to shame; *
let the treacherous be disap|pointed in their schemes.
Show me your ways, | O Lord, *
and | teach me your paths.
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.
Remember, O Lord, your compassion | and love, *
for they are | from everlasting.
Remember not the sins of my youth and my trans|gressions; *
remember me according to your love and for the sake of your | goodness, O Lord.
Gracious and upright is | the Lord; *
therefore he teaches | sinners in his way.
He guides the humble in do|ing right *
and teaches his | way to the lowly.
All the paths of the Lord are love and | faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant | and his testimonies.

Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

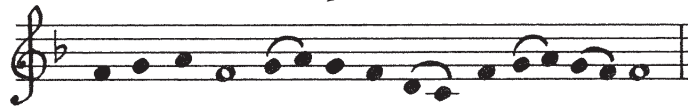
Lector How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

* ALLELUIA VERSE *Cantor; then People*



Al-le-lu-ia, al - le-lu-ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Cantor



Show us your mercy, O Lord; and grant us your salvation

All repeat the three alleluias.

* THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Gospeller Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

All

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

* PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

from *Hear Our Prayer: Prayers of the People for the Revised Common Lectionary*

Intercessor Faithful God, we offer our prayers in hopeful anticipation of your response as we say, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Your church waits in anticipation for the fulfillment of your promises, grant us perseverance and urgency to continue Christ's mission as we await His return.

Lord in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Sow the seeds of your love throughout this nation, that our people and leaders might work towards building a society where all people have an equitable place and the opportunity to thrive.

Lord in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor As we enter into this season of anticipation, grant this congregation a discerning spirit that we might confidently follow where you are leading us, be beacons of hope, and be a place of refuge for our neighbors.

Lord in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Your creation cries out from the devastation wrought by our unsustainable use of its resources, show us how we might change and advocate for a holy stewardship of the natural world.

Lord in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Open our hearts to know the suffering of those who are sick, afraid, alone or oppressed; grant them relief, healing, and wholeness and show us how to be present with them. We especially pray for those on our Cathedral prayer list, and for any others you wish to name either silently or aloud,

Lord in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Grant to the dying peace and rest in your loving care; and grant to us and them an entrance into the resurrected life of Christ. We especially pray for those we now name, either silently or aloud,

Lord in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Presider Hear the hopes and needs of your people and respond; keep your people in your grace just as you always have. Through our Lord, Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns.
Amen.

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All Most merciful God,
 we confess that we have sinned against you
 in thought, word, and deed,
 by what we have done,
 and by what we have left undone.
 We have not loved you with our whole heart;
 we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
 We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
 For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
 have mercy on us and forgive us;
 that we may delight in your will,
 and walk in your ways,
 to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

* THE PEACE

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CELEBRATION PRAYER

All O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) as *they* begin another year. Grant that *they* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *their* trust in your goodness all the days of *their* lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE TRANSITION OF OUR NEXT BISHOP

All Gracious and Loving God, we give thanks for the election of our next Bishop, Amy. Watch over Amy, her husband Jared, and her children Elise, Jacob, and Woodrow as they prepare to leave friends, colleagues, and neighbors to join us here in the Diocese of West Missouri. Open our hearts to receive your inspiration and wisdom so that we may joyfully welcome them into our life and ministry in You. This we ask in grateful thanksgiving. AMEN.

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Presider Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.
Ephesians 5:2

* OFFERTORY HYMN: 72 "Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes"

1 Hark! the glad sound! the Sa - vior comes, the Sa - vior
 2 He comes, the pri - soners to re - lease in Sa - tan's
 3 He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - ery heart pre -
 bond - age held; the gates of brass be -
 soul to cure; and with the trea - sures
 shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

pare a throne, and ev - ery voice a song.
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.

Words: Philip Doddridge (1702–1751). Music: *Richmond*, melody Thomas Haweis (1734–1820); adapt. Samuel Webbe (1740–1816); harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern, Revised*, 1950. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant *People*
 The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
 Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
 It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

All

S124: The Holy Eucharist II, Holy, holy, holy Lord: *Sanctus*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

Presider

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Presider

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

All

AMEN.

Presider

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,

S119: The Lord's Prayer

All

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed
 be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our
 dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
 as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead
 us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us
 from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,
 and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

Music: *Plainsong*; adapt. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944). All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

Breaking of the Bread

Presider

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

S161: The Holy Eucharist, Fraction Anthem: Jesus, Lamb of God: *Agnus Dei*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
 have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

Presider 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.

COMMUNION

*All are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.
For gluten-free bread, cross your hands palms down.
For a blessing, cross your hands over your chest.*

* POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

page 366

Presider Let us pray.

All **Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

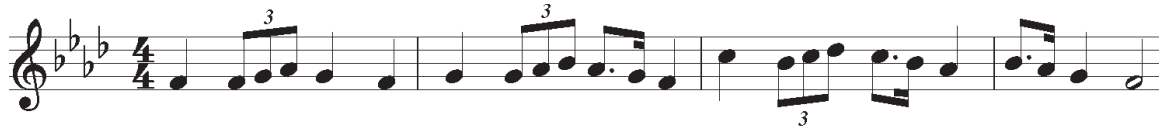
* THE BLESSING

* DISMISSAL

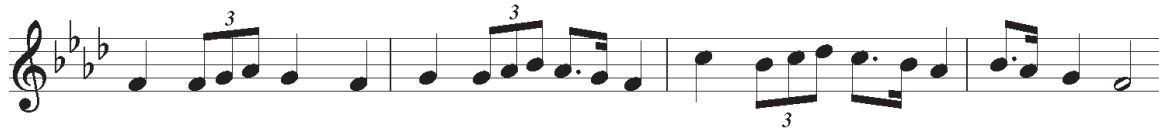
Following the dismissal,

People **Thanks be to God.**

* CLOSING HYMN: *Wonder, Love, and Praise* 721 “Signs of endings all around us”



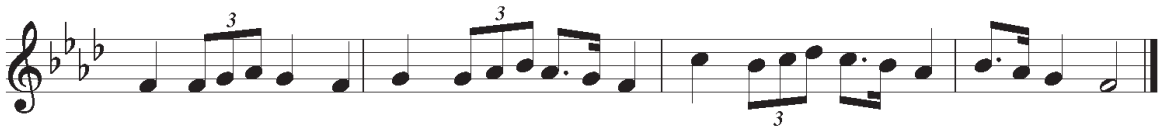
1. Signs of end-ings all a - round us— dark - ness, death, and win - ter days
 2. Can it be that from our end - ings, new be - gin - nings you cre - ate?
 3. Speak, O God, your Word a - mong us. Bar - ren lives your pres - ence fill.



shroud our lives in fear and sad - ness, numb - ing mouths that long to praise.
 Life from death, and from our rend - ings, realms of whole - ness gen - er - ate?
 Swell our hearts with songs of glad - ness, ter - rors calm fore - bod - ings still.



Come, O Christ, and dwell a - mong us! Hear our cries, come set us free.
 Take our fears, then, Lord, and turn them in - to hopes for life a - new:
 Let your prom - ised realm of jus - tice blos - som now through - out the earth;



Give us hope and faith and glad - ness. Show us what there yet can be.
 Fad - ing light and dy - ing sea - son sing their Glo - ri - as to you.
 your do - min - ion bring now near us; we a - wait the sav - ing birth.

Words: Dean W. Nelson (b. 1944). Music: *Ton-y-Botel*, Thomas John Williams (1869-1944). Copyright: Words: © 1988, Dean W. Nelson. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

VOLUNTARY: Prelude on *Ton-y-Botel*

Healey Willan

Serving Today

Presider & Preacher	The Very Rev. Dr. Andrew C. Keyse
Lector, Eucharistic Minister	Janel Mosley
Healing Minister	Patti Ryder
Cantor	Katie Crawford
Organist	Dr. Lucas Fletcher

Cathedral Prayer List

Pray for: Mary Sklar; Sherry and Randy Mueller; Melanie Boyd; Diego Garcia; Darvin Weaver; Ralph and Billie; D'angelo and Deondra; Kendal Van Scoyk; Kurt Brack; All impacted by recent hurricanes; Sally Livengood; Betty Loy; Phineas Gitta; LaGreta Gitta; Anne Huston Hayes; Sandra Fuhrman; All families affected by gun violence; Charlotte Colburn; Joyce Morrow; All those fighting cancer; Doyle White; Mike Barzee & Family; Jinny McCoy; Larry McMullen; Phyllis & James Shaffer; Bonita White; Gloria Stocks; Jim Royer; Thaddeus Samuel Withers; First Responders

Comfort and Peace: the family and friends of Donald Bradley; the family and friends of Robert Boehm; the family and friends of The Rev. Tim Murphy; the Welch and Immenschuh families; the family of Bennett Twenter; the family and friends of Judy Lafferty; the family and friends of Carl Schneider; the family and friends of Larry Kehoe; the family and friends of Lee McCaffree; all families affected by gun violence

Pray for the Departed: Donald Bradley; Gabriel Kney; Robert Boehm; The Rev. Tim Murphy; Joann Immenschuh; Bennett Twenter; Judy Lafferty; Carl Schneider; Jinny McCoy; Larry Kehoe; Lee McCaffree; for all those lost in war; for all who have died from gun violence

Diocesan Prayer Cycle: St. Nicholas' Episcopal Church, Noel—The Rev. Canon Jose Palma, Priest in Charge; Bishop's Shield Recipients

For the complete prayer list: kccathedral.org/prayers

To place a person on this prayer list, please contact Deacon Barbara Wegener, bwegener@kccathedral.org.

Requests are held in prayer for 90 days.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

December 1

Zachary Ryder

December 3

Shea Spoonhour

December 5

Bobby Brown
Brend Eichman

December 2

Doug Curran

December 4

Hampton Hubbard
Sarah Lagergren
Johnathan Michka

December 7

Gordon Hansen
Bill McCandless

Please contact the Cathedral office if we have omitted your birthday or anniversary:
jtoma@kccathedral.org or 816.474.8260.

Weekly Flower Donations

Donations toward the weekly flowers can be given by anyone who wants to acknowledge special events or people in their lives. Gifts are accepted in any amount. You can mail a check to the Cathedral office, put your donation in a flower envelope and place in the offering or make a payment through our online payment site.

See kccathedral.org/flowers for more information or contact Julie Toma, jtoma@kccathedral.org.



Cathedral Staff: The Very Rev. Dr. Andrew C. Keyse, *Dean*; The Rev. W. James Yazell, *Associate Priest*; The Rev. Barbara Wegener, *Deacon*; Dr. Lucas Fletcher, *Associate Organist*; Clare Stern-Burbano, *College, Youth & Children's Minister*; Julie Toma, *Cathedral Administrator*; Melissa Kilpatrick, *Communications Coordinator*; Holly Campbell, *Events Coordinator*; Steve Berman, *Finance Coordinator*; Dr. Joan Bergstrom, *Sacristan & Volunteer Coordinator*; Angie Graham, *Facility Manager*; Bianca Jackson, *Assistant Facility Manager*; The Very Rev. Peter J. DeVeau, *Dean Emeritus*; Canon John Schaefer, *Canon Musician Emeritus*

The Vestry: Steve Moore, *Senior Warden*, smoore@rdm.law; Valerie Johnson, *Junior Warden*, johnson_jb@hotmail.com; Chip Buckner, *Treasurer*; Blain Lagergren, *Clerk*; Julie Brogno; Sharon Cheers; Sara Copeland; Pat Decker; Nigel Jones; Paula Livingston-Lewis; Mathias Nichols; Charles Shipley; Michael Thomas

Weekly Services

Sundays: 8 (in person) & 10:30 a.m. (in person/online)—Holy Eucharist; 5 p.m.—Order for Evening & Holy Eucharist/Choral Evensong (in person). Wednesdays: Noon—Noonday Prayer (online); 12:05 p.m. (in person)—Holy Eucharist.



Socks & Gloves Drive

During the months of November and December, Outreach will be collecting warm socks and gloves for both men and women. These will be donated to Shelter KC at both the men's and women's centers.



The Emergency Food Assistance PROGRAM

In partnership with St. Paul's on Main, we have been invited to a new volunteer opportunity once a month on Saturday mornings at St. Paul's from approximately 9:30 a.m. to noon. This is to assist with distribution of TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program).

Upcoming TEFAP dates are December 21 and January 18. For additional information on TEFAP, please visit kccathedral.org/outreach.

To volunteer or for more information, contact Deacon Barbara 816.739.8032 or bwegener@kccathedral.org.

Tackling hunger, one meal at a time



Nourish KC and The Prospect are continuing the fight against food insecurity in our community! Together, they are rescuing fresh food, and serving up nutritious meals, to create long-lasting change in KC. You can make a real difference, one meal at a time. Whether you donate, volunteer, or spread the word, YOU can help us tackle hunger in KC! Let's feed hope together.

Here's easy ways you can help:

- **Donate.** Every dollar counts in providing meals and education for our community
- **Volunteer.** Lend a helping hand at our community kitchen or events
- **Support the Nook.** Grab your favorite coffee and help us fuel change @thenook_kc
- **Catering Services.** Hosting a party? Let us do the cooking and your even becomes a force for good!

Learn more:

nourishkc.org • theprospectkc.org

Please support hurricane relief efforts



Episcopal Relief & Development is working with the Episcopal Church of Cuba to respond to Hurricane Oscar, and the mid-October power grid failure that continues to impact the entire island.

PLEASE SUPPORT HURRICANE HELENE RECOVERY EFFORTS



On October 18, following weeks of intermittent grid outages, ten million people lost power. On October 20, during the blackout, Hurricane Oscar made landfall, flooding and damaging the island's eastern side, and killing seven people. People in the Guantanamo and Baracoa areas had little warning that Oscar was coming because the ongoing power outages badly affected communication systems. Church leaders surveyed the impacted areas and found 82 homes had completely collapsed, 1300 had partially collapsed and over 100 families' appliances were destroyed or washed away.

In response to Hurricane Oscar and the ongoing power outages, Episcopal Relief & Development is working with the Episcopal Church of Cuba to provide food, hygiene products, fans, rechargeable lamps and supplies for home repairs. Find out more at episcopalrelief.org.

Announcements

Today's Focal St. John's Bible Illumination: "Special Text Treatment" (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18)

Ideally, the artwork from the Saint John's Bible used as our focus in this essay provides visual accompaniments (visio divina) to the liturgical texts for a given week. However, some weeks have no artwork specific to the selected lectionary texts. Today is one such occasion, so I will need to improvise a bit.

The theme drawn from today's liturgical texts is "waiting." Jeremiah 33:14-16 involves waiting for messianic fulfillment. Psalm 25:1-10 speaks of waiting for God's salvation. 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 offers a prayer for persistence in holy living while waiting for the Lord's coming. Luke 21:25-36 exhorts the faithful to watch and stay prepared for the coming of the Son of Man. Unfortunately, the Saint John's Bible has no artwork dealing directly with any of these texts.

The closest applicable artwork seems to be a special text treatment based on 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18, which deals with the subject of waiting for Christ's Second Coming. Advent involves a complex type of waiting, a waiting that looks both backwards and forward. It involves looking backwards to Jesus' birth, the accomplishment of the inauguration of God's redemptive promises. It also involves looking forward to the "second coming" when God completes what he has promised. We live in the interim between these actions and find ourselves waiting for their ultimate fulfillment. Three of today's lectionary readings speak of a future culmination of human history. Biblically, such waiting calls for patience and discipline.

Today's featured text treatment by Donald Jackson draws attention to the continuity of God's redemptive purpose and the encouragement we need to live as faithful followers of Christ despite the discouragement and confusing ambiguity endemic to daily life. The artwork of Saint John's Bible portrays a unifying theme woven throughout the New Testament Epistles. This theme is introduced in the illumination "Fulfillment of Creation" from Romans 8:1-39, "For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God." Selected text treatments in the Epistles that follow advance aspects of God's "fulfillment." The continuity of this purpose is announced in the stamped patterns used to accentuate these texts. Each text involves some dimension of waiting or expectancy. Today's highlighted text emphasizes the hope of "being with the Lord forever," the culminating fulfillment of creation's waiting.

What disciplines might you need to enhance while waiting on God this Advent season?



Advent Workshop

Sunday, December 1 • 11:45 a.m.

All are invited for fun, fellowship and crafts at our Advent Workshop. We gather in Founders' Hall after the 10:30 a.m. service. Contact Clare (cstern@kccathedral.org).



The Nativity Puppets

Friday, December 6

10 a.m. & 7 p.m.

Saturday, December 7

2 & 5 p.m.

Sunday, December 8

2 p.m.

The Nativity is comprised of over 40 volunteers, instrumentalists, vocalists and singers from the community. The annual production has been presented to thousands of Kansas City audiences and is a favorite tradition for many. You may purchase tickets at nativitypuppets.org. Use code **GHTKC** for discounted \$10 tickets.

Announcements

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9 • 11:30 A.M.

CITY COME AGAIN



Since 1982, William Jewell College has partnered with Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral to present The City Come Again as a gift in music and word to Kansas City. This program features students and faculty presenting seasonal music, poetry, and more. This event is free.

MINGLE AND MUNCH, SWEATERS AND SIPS!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 6-9 P.M.

You are invited to fellowship at the home of Kristen & Mathias Nichols in the KC northland. ALL ages welcome!

Bring a beverage and dish (appetizer or dessert) to share and wear your favorite fun holiday sweater/outfit.

RSVP at kccathedral.org/advent

Women's Lunch & Service Project

Saturday,
December 14 • 11 a.m.

The women of GHTC are invited to help pack up food for children to have over the holiday break and treat bags for local school children. RSVP at kccathedral.org/advent so we have a correct lunch count.

Advent Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 15 • 5 p.m.

The Cathedral will offer its seventh annual service of Advent Lessons and Carols. This service of Bible readings and music provides an opportunity for spiritual reflection and preparation as we anticipate the joy of Christmas and the hope of Christ's return. In the lessons, we begin with Adam and Eve, move through prophecies of the coming Messiah, and end with the Angel Gabriel visiting the Virgin Mary. The musical portions of the service are chosen to expand on the readings and on our longing for Christ's return. The music will include Advent congregational carols, choral pieces, and organ voluntaries. This event is free.

Youth Advent Party AND WHITE ELEPHANT EXCHANGE

6-8 P.M.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14
GRACE AND HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL

THIS IS A COMBINED EVENT WITH
ST. ANDREWS AND GRACE & HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL.
ALL YOUTH 6-12TH GRADE ARE WELCOME TO JOIN.

PLEASE KEEP WHITE ELEPHANT GIFTS TO A \$20.00 VALUE.*
CONTACT CLARE OR VERONICA FOR MORE DETAILS