

ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2024 • 5 p.m.



Advent Starry Night 6, © 2017 Virginia Wieringa, virginiawieringa.com, Used by permission.

GRACE AND HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

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.*



VOLUNTARY: *Rorate coeli*

Melissa Dunphy

MATIN RESPONSORY

G.P. Palestrina

I look from afar:
and lo, I see the power of God coming,
and a cloud covering the whole earth.
Go ye out to meet him and say:
Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy
people Israel?
High and low, rich and poor, one with another.

Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come:
to reign over thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
I look from afar: and lo, I see the power of God coming, and a
cloud covering the whole earth.
Go ye out to meet him and say:
Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy
people Israel?

Go ye out to meet him and say:
Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel,
Thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep,
Tell us, art thou he that should come?

CAROL: "Come, thou redeemer of the earth" *verse 1: choir; verses 2-4: all*



1 Come, thou re - deem - er of the earth, and
2 Be - got - ten of no hu - man will, but
3 From God the Fa - ther he pro - ceeds, to
4 All laud, e - ter - nal Son, to thee Whose



man - i - fest thy vir - gin - birth: let ev - ery age a -
of the Spi - rit, thou art still the word of God, in
God the Fa - ther back he speeds, His course he runs to
ad - vent sets thy peo - ple free, Whom with thy Fa - ther



dor - ing fall; such birth be - fits the God of all.
flesh ar - rayed, the pro - mised fruit to man dis - played.
death and hell, re - turns on God's high throne to dwell.
we a - dore, And Ho - ly Ghost for e - ver - more.

BIDDING PRAYER

Officiant Beloved in Christ, in this season of Advent, let it be our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, to see the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by his holy Child; and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within this city.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless; the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself has taught us:

People **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.**

Officiant The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and into the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

LESSON 1: Genesis 3:1-22 *Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden.*

Reader

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves. They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself."

He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate."

The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you."

And to the man he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

The man named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all living.

And the Lord God made garments of skins for the man and for his wife, and clothed them.

Then the Lord God said, "See, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever."

ANTHEM: "Adam lay ybounden"

Howard Skempton

Adam lay ybounden,
Bounden in a bond;
Four thousand winter
Thought he not too long.

Ne had the apple taken been,
The apple taken been,
Ne had never our lady
Abeen heavené queen.

And all was for an apple,
An apple that he took,
As clerkes finden
Written in their book.

Blessèd be the time
That apple taken was,
Therefore we moun singen,
Deo gracias!

—Text: Anonymous, 15th century

LESSON 2: Isaiah 40:1-11 *God comforts his people and calls on them to prepare for redemption.*

Reader Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

CAROL: 67 "Comfort, comfort ye my people"

1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus
 2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert
 3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er

saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness
 far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance
 pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,

mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -
 since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing
 as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry

ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
 cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
 of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;

tell her that her sins I cov - er,
 let the val - leys rise to meet him
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken

and her war - fare now is o - ver.
 and the hills bow down to greet him.
 that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

Words: Johann G. Olearius (1611-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: Psalm 42, melody and bass Claude Goudimel (1514-1572); harm. Hymnal 1982.

LESSON 3: Baruch 4:36-5:9 *The Scribe Baruch urges the people to look East because salvation is at hand.*

Reader Look toward the east, O Jerusalem, and see the joy that is coming to you from God. Look, your children are coming, whom you sent away; they are coming, gathered from east and west, at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing in the glory of God.

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

ANTHEM: "Jerusalem surge"

Heinrich Issac

*Jerusalem surge, et sta in excelso,
et vide jucunditatem quae veniet tibi a Deo tuo.*

Arise, O Jerusalem, and stand on high,
and behold the joy that comes to you from your God!

—Text: Baruch 5:5, 4:36

LESSON 4: Isaiah 7:10-15 *God promises that a child shall be conceived who will be known as "God with us."*

Reader Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.

But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.

Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also?"

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

ANTHEM: "Rorate caeli"

Josef Rheinberger

*Rorate caeli desuper
et nubes pluant justum.
Aperiatur terra
et germinet Salvatorem.*

Drop down, ye heavens, from above,
and let the skies pour down righteousness:
let the earth open,
and let it bring forth a Saviour.

—Text: Isaiah 45:8

LESSON 5: Isaiah 11:1-9 *The Spirit of the Lord will rest upon the Holy One.*

Reader A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
 and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
 the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
 the spirit of counsel and might,
 the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
 or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
 and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
 and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
 and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
The wolf shall live with the lamb,
 the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.
The cow and the bear shall graze,
 their young shall lie down together;
 and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
 and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
They will not hurt or destroy
 on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
 as the waters cover the sea.

ANTHEM: "Virga Jesse floruit"

Anton Bruckner

*Virga Jesse floruit:
Virgo Deum et hominem genuit:
pacem Deus reddidit,
in se reconcilians ima summis.
Alleluia.*

Out of Jesse springs a flower:
Lo, by God's will a virgin hath brought forth Emmanuel:
peace on earth, good will to men, glory in the highest heaven.
Behold, every valley shall be exalted.
Alleluia.

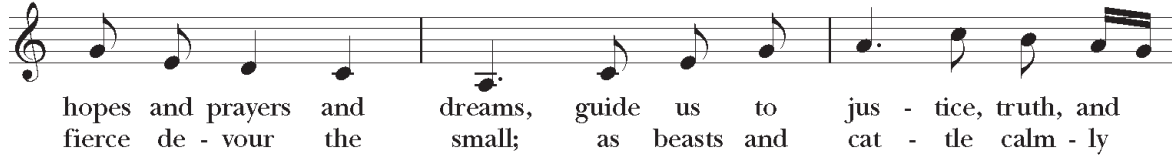
—Text: Isaiah 11

CAROL: 597 "O day of peace that dimly shines"

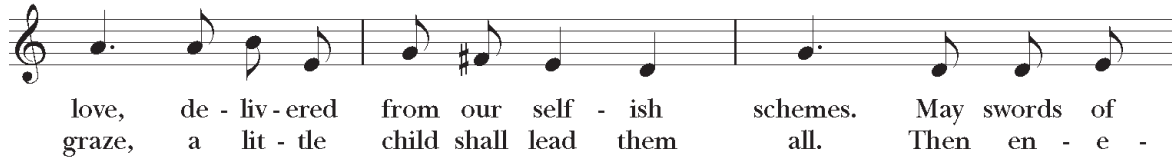
Introduction



1 O day of peace that dim - ly shines through all our
 2 Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the



hopes and prayers and dreams, guide us to jus - tice, truth, and
 fierce de - vour the small; as beasts and cat - tle calm - ly



love, de - liv - ered from our self - ish schemes. May swords of
 graze, a lit - tle child shall lead them all. Then en - e -



hate fall from our hands, our hearts from en - vy find re -
 mies shall learn to love, all crea - tures find their true ac -



lease, till by God's grace our war - ring world shall see Christ's
 cord; the hope of peace shall be ful - filled, for all the

1 *Interlude*



prom - ised reign of peace.
 earth shall know the (Lord.)

Final Ending



Lord.

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944). Music: *Jerusalem*, Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918) arr. Jane Wyatt (b. 1934). Copyright: Words: © 1982, Carl P. Daw, Jr. Music: Copyright © 1977, Robertson Publications. Used by permission of the publisher. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

LESSON 6: Luke 1:26-56 *The Angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will bear the Son of the Most High.*

Reader

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever." And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

ANTHEM: "Tota pulchra es"

Howard Helvey

*Tota pulchra es Maria,
Et macula originalis non est in te.
Vestimentum tuum candidum quasi nix,
Et facies tua sicut sol.
Tu gloria Jerusalem
Tu laetitia Israel
Tu honorificenti populi nostri.
Benedicta es tu, Virgo Maria,
A Domino Deo, Deo excelso
Prae omnibus mulieribus super terram.
Trahe nos Virgo immaculata,
post te curremus in odorem unguentorum tuorum.*

Thou art fair, O Mary,
And the stain of original sin is not in thee.
Your vestments are as white as snow,
And your face is like the sun.
Thou art the glory of Jerusalem,
And joy of Israel,
And the honor of our people.
Thou art blessed, Virgin Mary,
By the exalted Lord God,
Before all women on earth.
Draw us, Virgin unspotted,
We run after thee, amid the fragrance of your
perfumes.

—Text the five antiphons for II. Vespers of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception

CAROL: 265 "The angel Gabriel from heaven came"

1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came,
 2 "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be,
 3 Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head,
 4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born

his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;
 all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee,
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,
 in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,

"All hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,
 thy Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
 "my soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name."
 and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say—

most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!

Words: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924). Music: *Gabriel's Message*, Basque carol; harm. Edgar Pettman (1865-1943). Copyright: Music: Copyright © 1961, B. Feldman & Co. Ltd., trading as H. Freeman & Co. Reproduced by permission of EMI Music Publishing Ltd., 138-140 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0LD, England. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

VESPER RESPONSORY

G.P. Palestrina

Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed;
Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.
Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord.
Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

ANTHEM: "Surely the Lord will come"

Gerre Hancock

Kyrie eleison.
The Lord will surely come and not delay,
and He will bring to light the things hidden in darkness.

The Lord will surely come,
and will manifest Himself to all nations.
Kyrie eleison.

Therefore work out your own salvation with fear and trembling,
That you may be blameless and innocent,
Children of God without blemish.
The Lord will surely come.
Kyrie eleison.

—Text: Philippians 2 and The Benedictus Antiphon for Advent IV

COLLECT

Officiant Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

CAROL: 57 "Lo! he comes, with clouds descending"

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
 2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
 3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
 4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on
 our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
 dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
 daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
 thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the
 saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
 nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
 ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
 power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine
 train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
 ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
 own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Helmsley*, melody Thomas Augustine Arne (1710-1778). All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

VOLUNTARY: Rhapsody on *Helmsley*

Lloyd Webber

Serving Today

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Officiants | The Very Rev. Dr. Andrew C. Keyse The Rev. James Yazell |
| Musicians | The Trinity Choir Dr. Lucas Fletcher |
| Lectors | Mark Galus Clare Stern-Burbano Jeff Johnson Deborah Buckner Harrison Mattson The Rev. Barbara Wegener |
| Acolyte | Harrison Mattson |
| Greeters | Nigel Jones, Beth Keyse |
| Sound/Livestreaming | Julian Mattson, Chris Morrison |

Cathedral Prayer List

Pray for: Gail; Leesa Fanning; Lisa Helgenkamp; Mary Sklar; Sherry and Randy Mueller; Diego Garcia; Melanie Boyd; Darwin Weaver; Kendal Van Scoyk; D'angelo and Deondra; Ralph and Billie; Kurt Brack; All impacted by recent hurricanes; Holiday Travelers; Betty Loy; Sally Livengood; LaGreta Gitta; Phineas Gitta; Anne Huston Hayes; Isaiah Fanning; First Responders; Gloria Stocks; Jim Royer; Thaddeus Samuel Withers; Larry McMullen; All those fighting cancer; Doyle White; Mike Barzee & Family; Joyce Morrow; All families affected by gun violence; Charlotte Colburn

Comfort and Peace: the family and friends of James Shaffer; the family and friends of Bonita White; 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; all families affected by gun violence

Pray for the Departed: Bonita White; James Shaffer; Donald Bradley; Gabriel Kney; Robert Boehm; The Rev. Tim Murphy; Joann Immenschuh; for all those lost in war; for all who have died from gun violence

Diocesan Prayer Cycle: St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Savannah—Mr. Greg Hall, Bishop's Warden; Episcopal Church Women

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

Today's Flowers

are given to the Glory of God and ...

December 15

Bill Brown
Lindsay Munsell
Milt Tootle

December 17

Chris Morrison
Davina & Troy
Reed

December 21

Gina Jones
Keith & Linda
Oliver

- in memory of Willie Joe Finnie, Jr.—Jackye Finnie

December 16

Manni Obiesie

December 20

Julie Toma

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

Donations of any amount toward the weekly flowers can be given by anyone who wants to acknowledge special events or people in their lives.

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, *Director of Music*; 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.

Youth

Weekly Youth Opportunities Sundays

Youth Formation at 9:15 a.m.

with light breakfast

Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Youth Group at 6 p.m.

Dinner is provided!

Questions? Contact Clare, cstern@kccathedral.org



No Youth Group

Dec. 1

Dec. 8 (Tree Lot at St. Andrew's for Ski Trip 3-6 p.m.)

Dec. 15

Dec. 22

Dec. 29

Jan. 5

Jan. 12

Merry Everything, Happy Always

Questions, Contact Clare (cstern@kccathedral.org)



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.

Adult Formation

Sunday

The Path

Sundays • 9:15 a.m. • Common Room

New attendees welcome at any time!

In our Adult Formation this year we will take a journey using Forward Movement's *The Path*, an excerpted version of the Bible that covers most of the major stories chronologically. Through *The Path*, we will become familiar with the grand overarching narrative of the entire Bible. We will learn the story of God's extraordinary and unrelenting love for us in its many dimensions. Copies of *The Path* are available in the Cathedral Bookstore if you would like to own a personal copy. Each chapter will be printed out weekly and made available so that everyone can follow along.

Tuesday

GHTC's Virtual Cafe • 7:30 a.m.

Please join us for our weekly conversation in GHTC's Virtual Cafe! Tuesday mornings from 7:30-9 a.m. For details, visit kccathedral.org/other-activities.

Women's Bible Study • 12:30 p.m.

Conversation is lively, thought-provoking, and often irreverent. All are welcome. Visit the WBS page, kccathedral.org/adultformation/wbs for more information.

Lectionary Bible Study • 6:45 p.m.

We study the lessons for the upcoming Sunday. Join the Lectionary Bible Study group in Realm or visit the LBS page, kccathedral.org/adultformation/lbs for more details.

Children

Formation Class • 9:15 a.m.

Join us for formation hour and wonder about God with your friends and teachers and hear sacred stories as told with the help of Godly Play resources!

Cathedral Kids • 10:30 a.m.

Cathedral Kids meets during the first half of the 10:30 a.m. worship service and during this time we weave together our sacred stories and our Episcopal identity with the Weaving God's Promises curriculum! Children attending Cathedral Kids will meet their parents or guardians inside the tower doors during the passing of the peace.

Questions? Contact Clare, childrensformation@kccathedral.org for more information.



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.

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.

A reception will follow in the Common Room.

Gifts of Flowers and Greens



Gifts of flowers and greens in memory of or in thanksgiving for a loved one help provide festive decorations from Christmas Eve through the Epiphany. You can:

- Give online (yellow give button at the top of kccathedral.org).
- Text "GIVETOGHTC flowers" to 73256 to give using your mobile device.
- Mail a check to the Cathedral office.

Please contact the Cathedral office (jtoma@kccathedral.org) with the following information:

- The names of those you wish honored or the blessing(s) you wish to name.
- Your name as donor (optional).
- Your name will appear in Epiphany bulletins and the next issue of The Angelus.

Thank you for your generous gift in celebration of Christmas!



Christmas Services

Tuesday, December 24, 5 p.m.—Christmas Eve (with Nativity Pageant)

Join us Christmas Eve at 5 p.m. and watch the Cathedral kids present the Nativity Pageant.

Tuesday, December 24, 10 p.m.—Christmas Eve

Come celebrate the birth of Christ with us. Traditional, familiar carols and service music will be featured.

Wednesday, December 25, 10 a.m.—Christmas Day

Greet the Incarnate Lord on Christmas morning with a celebration of Holy Eucharist with carols and organ music.

Announcements

Today's Focal St. John's Bible Illumination: Proclaiming Good News (Luke 3:7-18) [utilizing "The Baptism of Jesus" Illumination (Mark Frontispiece)]

We begin today's focus on the message of John the Baptist by giving attention to the locus of his work. It is significant that John's message did not originate from the circles or institutions of political, religious, intellectual, military, social, or economic power. Rather, it derived from a very unconventional man who lived in the desert on the fringes of society. As the scene of today's illumination depicts, the Forerunner and his message emerge in an unlikely place and from an unexpected source. Those who assumed God's messianic work would fit normal, safe, or traditional structures were inclined to dismiss John the Baptist's lifestyle and message. He was not conventional and those who expected God to act in comfortable and predictable ways tended to miss the messianic revelation announced by the Baptist.

Note that the sky in this illumination is open, suggesting accessibility. Angels are ascending and descending, similar to those depicted in the "Jacob's Ladder" illumination of Genesis 28. Yet, John the Baptist's demeanor is somber, not celebratory. He seems to perceive the deep meaning of Jesus' divinity and its demands. Above John is a stamped image of Compostela de Santiago, possibly intimating the much larger ministry that is being inaugurated as well as the role baptism would hold for initiation into the new community of faith, the church.



John the Baptist's message emphasized "a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins" (Mark 1:4). He declared: "I baptize you with water (for repentance), but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire" (Luke 3:16). The Baptist tells all who listen of the need to repent because in Jesus "the kingdom of heaven is near," a message symbolically portrayed in this illumination through the open sky and the ascending and descending angels. Jesus proclaims the same message upon assuming his public ministry following his baptism by John the Baptist. Later, Jesus tells his followers to preach this same message (e.g., Matthew 10:7). The people of God are challenged to hear and follow this same message today if we wish to experience the story of Jesus: "Repent and believe the good news, that in Jesus God's kingdom has arrived."

Although deceptively simple, this message is truly subversive to the competing claims of the powerholders that dominate the world in which we live.

What does John the Baptist mean when he calls upon his listeners to repent? Why would they need to repent? What does he mean when he declares that "the kingdom of God is at hand"? What role does repentance have in Advent preparations?

PRAYER FOR THE TRANSITION OF OUR NEXT BISHOP

Gracious and Loving God, we give thanks for the election of our next Bishop, Amy. Watch over Amy, her husband Jared, and their 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.