



# THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT HOLY EUCHARIST

December 1, 2024

We welcome you today, and always, just as you are. All directions for sitting, standing, and kneeling are “as you are able”. If you need assistance, please ask a neighbor or an usher.

Let us gather in silence to listen to God before the Eucharist and gather to build community after the service.

*The Congregation shares in saying the words in **bold**.*

## PRELUDE

## THE GATHERING

### PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Advent Gathering Song

G 338

*All Stand.*

*All:*

Come, come Em - man - u - el. Come, Em -  
man - u - el.

*Cantor:*

- |        |       |                 |              |                |      |
|--------|-------|-----------------|--------------|----------------|------|
| 1. For | the   | Lord            | of           | cre - a - tion | will |
| 2. Oh  | the   | son             | of           | Mar - y        | will |
| 3. See | God's | mar - vel - ous | deeds        | and            |      |
| 4. For | God   | chose us,       | and          | so we          | will |
| 5. For | the   | an - gel        | pro - claims | he             | will |
| 6. As  | the   | ser - vants     | of           | God            | we   |
| Lord,  | have  | mer - cy        | up - on      | us             | and  |
| Christ | have  | mer - cy        | up - on      | us             | and  |
| Lord,  | have  | mer - cy        | up - on      | us             | and  |

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*All Remain Standing.*

*Presider:* Blessed are you, holy and living One.  
*People:* You come to your people and set them free. Amen.

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

*All Remain Standing.*

*Cleric:* 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.

*People:* **Amen.**

## KRYIE

*All Remain Standing. 8:00AM is Spoken. 10:00AM is Omitted as it is sung in the Processional Hymn.*

*Presider:* Lord, have mercy.

*People:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Presider:* Christ, have mercy.

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

*Presider:* Lord, have mercy.

*People:* **Lord, have mercy.**

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

*All Remain Standing.*

*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.

*People:* **Amen.**

## THE WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

*All are Seated.*

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah.

<sup>14</sup>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. <sup>15</sup>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. <sup>16</sup>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."

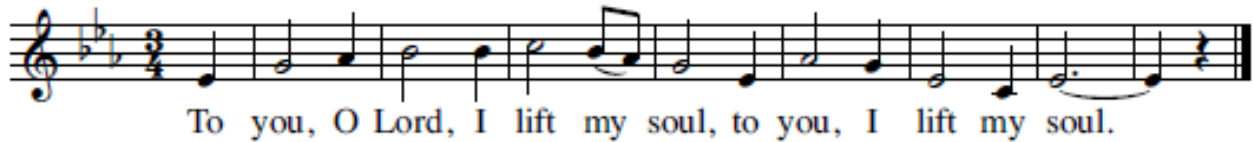
*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 25 – To You, O Lord

*All Remain Seated. 8:00AM is Spoken. 10:00AM is Sung.*

**Refrain:**



Verses:

1. Lord, make me know your ways,  
teach me your paths,  
and keep me in the way of your truth,  
for you are God, my Savior.
2. For the Lord is good and righteous,  
revealing the way to those who wander,  
gently leading the poor and the humble.
3. To the ones who seek the Lord,  
who look to God's word,  
who live God's love,  
God will always be near,  
and will show them mercy.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

*All Remain Seated.*

A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Church in Thessalonika.

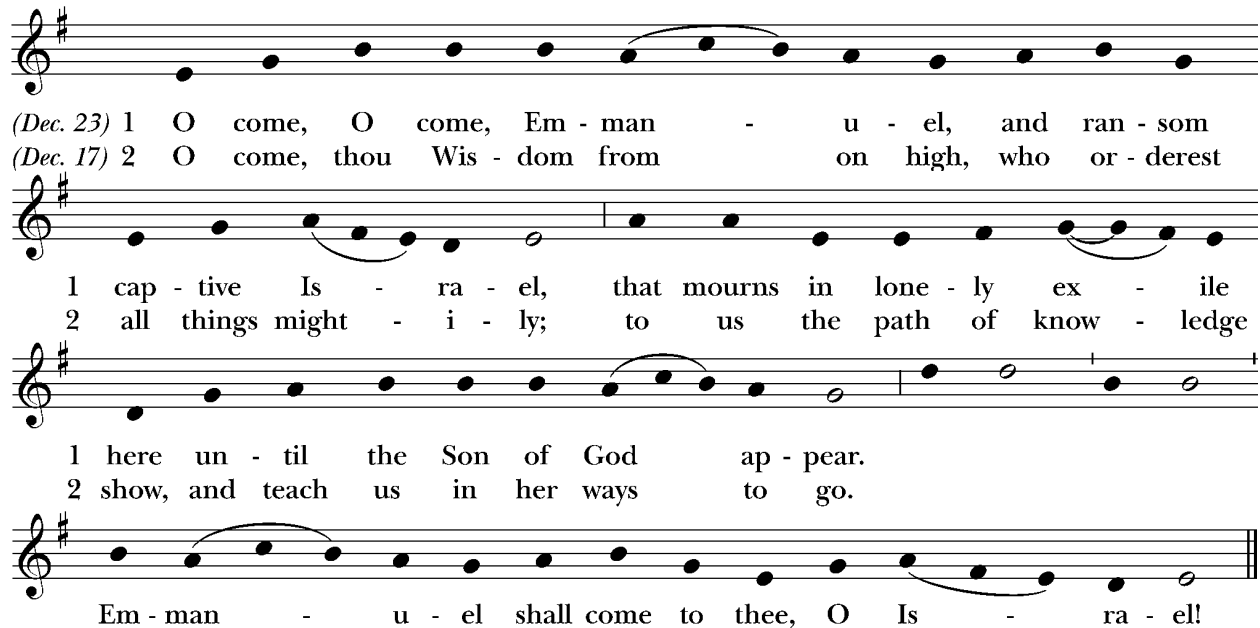
<sup>9</sup>How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? <sup>10</sup>Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>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.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

*All Stand. 2 Verses of the 8 Verses will be sung during each of the 4 Weeks of Advent.*



(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
 (Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest

1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
 2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge

1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.

Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36

*All Remain Standing.*

*Gospeler:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

[Jesus said:] <sup>25</sup>“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. <sup>26</sup>People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

<sup>29</sup>Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup>as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>34</sup>“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup>like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>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.”

*Gospeler:* The Holy Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

*All are Seated.*

*There will be a Period of Silence after Sermon as it is good to meditate on the Word of God.*

## THE NICENE CREED

*All Stand.*

*People & Presider:* 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

*All Remain Standing.*

*Cleric:* Together let us pray for the Church and for the world.

*The Lay Reader continues with the following Prayers, and the People respond saying "hear our prayer" after each petition:*

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bring peace to the whole world so that all people may live and grow in love with one another, especially those living in Israel, Palestine, Gaza, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, Sudan, Ukraine, and Haiti;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Keep safe those suffering from recent natural disasters as they rebuild their lives, especially those affected by the drought-ridden areas across the world; the mudslides and flooding in California; and the aftermath of the hurricanes across the Southern United States, the Caribbean, and Mexico;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all those who serve in the military, education, healthcare, law enforcement, and anyone who cares for the well-being of others that they be supported in their efforts, especially David B., Shawn M., Jackie C., Doug C., Richard W., Eric C., Chris W., Michael B., Marshal N., Nicole G., Deonne H., Tony G., Timothy N., Jerome S., Tommy K., William S., Bianca D., Julie S., Rob H., Tom H., Joan H., Michael D., Mitchell H., and Wayne M.;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all those who are sick, suffering, ill, infirm, disabled, confined, homebound, hungry, thirsty, needy, homeless, and addicted, especially these persons, especially Bill A., John D., R.P., Vicki, T., Jane B., David L., Jeff L., Lisa S., Theresa T., Fran F., Mark S., Patty, Christine M., Lisa P., Katie C., Bill G., Don G., Michele, Bill F., Janice K., Tracy, Jim, Susan A., Emily D., Becca D., Katharyn H., Ben G., Frank D., Bill N., Ollie R., Mary Lou W., Jimmy Carter, and Vincent N.;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom; as we especially remember Patricia Bonner and David Rawson;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*The Presider reads the concluding collect:* Hasten, O Father, the coming of thy kingdom; and grant that we thy servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold thy Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate.

*People:* **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

*All Remain Standing. The Ministers and People may greet one another with the sign of peace.*

*Presider:* The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*All are Seated.*

[See the Announcements Section in the Bulletin for all the events happening around our Parish Church.](#)

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*All Remain Seated.*

*The Presider selects an Offertory Sentence.*

*8:00AM The Offering Plate is stationary, positioned in the back by the baptismal font. Please leave your sacred gift there.*

*10:00AM Offering Plates will be passed through the congregation. Please make your sacred gift when it comes to you.*

OFFERTORY HYMN

Rejoice! rejoice, believers (*Llangloffan*)

H 68

*All Stand.*

1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!  
 2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;  
 3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.  
 look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.  
 a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark - ened sphere!

The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;  
 The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;  
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.  
 rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride - groom is at hand!  
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

# THE TABLE

## SURSUM CORDA

*All Stand. 8:00AM is Spoken. 10:00AM is Sung.*

*Presider:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* And also with you.

*Presider:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* We lift them to the Lord.

*Presider:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:* It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*10:00AM is Sung.*

Lift Up Your Hearts

S 120

The musical notation is arranged in two rows. The first row contains two staves: the left staff is for the Celebrant and the right for the People. The second row also contains two staves: the left for the Celebrant and the right for the People. The lyrics are written below the notes.

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you. *People* And al - so with you. *Celebrant* Lift up your hearts. *People* We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *People* It is right to give him thanks and praise.

## PROPER PREFACE

*All Remain Standing.*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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:

## SANCTUS

*All Remain Standing. 8:00AM is Spoken. 10:00AM is Sung.*

*People & Presider:* Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy, holy, holy (*Hurd*)

S 124

The musical notation consists of three staves in G major. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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.



## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*All Stand or Kneel.*

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,

## MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

*All Remain Standing or Kneeling. 8:00AM is Spoken. 10:00AM is Sung.*

*People & Presider:* **We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory.**

Therefore, according to his command (*Chant/Martens*)

S 136

*Celebrant and People*

We re - mem - ber his death, We pro - claim his re - sur -  
rec - tion, We a - wait his com - ing in glo - ry.

## EPICLESIS

*All Remain Standing or Kneeling.*

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 all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; 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.

## THE GREAT AMEN

*All Remain Standing or Kneeling. 8:00AM is Spoken. 10:00AM is Sung.*

*People & Presider: Amen.*

### Amen (Plainsong)

S 142



## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*All Remain Standing or Kneeling.*

*Presider:* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

*People & Presider:* **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD – FRACTION ANTHEM

*All Remain Standing or Kneeling. 8:00AM is Spoken. 10:00AM is Sung.*

*People & Presider:* **Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.**

### Lamb of God (Hurd)

S 161

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.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*All Sit or Kneel.*

*Presider:* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*All Remain Sitting or Kneeling.*

Communion is distributed by kneeling or standing at the altar rail. You can receive the Body of Christ in the form of bread and the Blood of Christ in the form of wine from the common chalice. Please do not intinct (dip) the host. If you are unable to walk or kneel, you may stand or remain in your pew, and Communion will be brought to you. Gluten-free wafers are available. If you would like to receive a blessing instead, cross your arms over your chest, as you are able. If the steps are difficult, please alert an usher for assistance.

## COMMUNION HYMN

The Kingdom of God

G 637

*All Remain Sitting or Kneeling.*

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'The Kingdom of God'. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system has the lyrics 'Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.' The second system has the lyrics 'Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!'. The music is in a key with one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C).

*There will be a Period of Silence after Communion as it is good to meditate on receiving the Eucharist.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*All Remain Sitting or Kneeling.*

*Presider:* Let us pray.

*People & Presider:* **O Lord our God, Make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE SENDING

### BLESSING

*All Remain Standing or Kneeling.*

*Presider:* May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin.

*People:* **Amen.**

*Presider:* May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love.

*People:* **Amen.**

*Presider:* May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life.

*People:* **Amen.**

*Presider:* And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

*People:* **Amen.**

*All Stand.*

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.

## DISMISSAL

*All Remain Standing.**Cleric:* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.*People:* Amen. Come Lord Jesus!

## POSTLUDE

From RitePlanning.com.

From The Book of Common Prayer, 1979.

From The Hymnal, 1982.

From The New Revised Standard Version Bible, 1989.

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## CCRP EVENTS & INFORMATION

Whoever you are, for whatever draws you to join us today, we are glad that you are here. If you would like to learn more about the ministries of the Episcopal Church in this region and Christ Church Ridley Park (CCRP), please go to our website and click “Join” under the Connect Tab: [ChristChurchRidleyPark.org](http://ChristChurchRidleyPark.org).

### PRAYER

**Adult Forum:** The casual free-flowing conversation will continue every Sunday. We will start at 9:00AM in the Deppich Room. Starting in Advent, Adult Forum will be reflecting on some major Advent Saints:

- Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>: John the Baptist & Charles de Foucauld
- Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>: Nicholas of Myra
- Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>: Joseph & Mary

**Daily Office:** Through Facebook or the Parish Website you can join Fr. Michael on Mondays through Saturdays for Morning Prayer at 8:30AM and Evening Prayer at 7:00PM. These services last about 10 to 15 minutes and include a Psalm, a Scripture Reading, and Intercessions for those in need. You do not even have to leave the comfort of your home. Join live or replay videos at your convenience.

**Midweek Eucharist:** Fr. Michael will preside over the Eucharist every Wednesday evening at 7:00PM. Not a morning person? Work on the weekends? Looking for a midweek faith practice? Then we will see you in the pews on Wednesdays.

**Homebound Visits:** Our Team of Lay Eucharistic Visitors are ready to bring communion to homebound parishioners. If you would like a visit and want to receive communion in your home, notify the Church Office so that it can be arranged for you.

**Children’s Sunday School:** This is creative and fun Christian Education using the Godly Play method for children Pre-K to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade which meets in the Whaley Room with Leader Sharon Cotter on Sundays at 10:00AM. It uses a play-filled method of invitation into Bible Stories and the Christian Tradition. We love to make art, share stories, and build relationships together while learning about our faith. There will be no Sunday School on Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Lay Ministers:** Ministries are open to anyone who would be interested in being a Lector, Acolyte, Eucharistic Minister, and Eucharistic Visitor. If you would like to be included in the upcoming schedule, please e-mail [Office@ChristChurchRidleyPark.org](mailto:Office@ChristChurchRidleyPark.org).

**Living Well Through Advent:** Booklets with daily devotionals are available as a resource for your Advent prayer practice. A digital version is accessible on our website, and limited hardcopies can be picked up at the church on the table near the Green Doors. The theme this year is “Practicing peace with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind.”.

**Advent Healing Eucharist:** In recent years, a special service has been happening near the Winter Solstice, the darkest day of the year, to remind us that we all need healing. This year Christ Church will be hosting other local churches in a special time of prayer and healing on Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7:00PM. There will be a time for the Sacrament of Healing and Communion. This is also an opportunity to connect with other Christians throughout the area.

**Confession:** Confession is part of the Episcopal Church. Contact Fr. Michael to schedule a meeting.

**Christmas Nativity Pageant:** If you have a child that would like to be a part of the Children's Christmas Nativity Pageant please reach out to Nancy Kenyon at [610-308-1662](tel:610-308-1662) or [KenyonNancy@Yahoo.com](mailto:KenyonNancy@Yahoo.com). There will be a Rehearsal on Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 at 9:30AM in the Church.

### Christmas Eucharist Service Times

Children's Christmas Nativity Pageant with Music – Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 5:00PM  
Candlelit Liturgical Service with Music and the Choir – Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 8:00PM  
A Said Service – Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 10:00AM

### SERVICE

**Outreach Christmas Collections:** This Christmas Outreach is partnering with the Ridley School District Holiday Help Drive and Cradles to Crayons Gear Up for Winter to bring warmth to our neighbors. We are collecting hoodies, hats, mittens, and warm clothes for kids of all ages and sizes. The full list of requested items is on our website or hanging in the church. All donations are due by Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Life Center Needs Your Help:** On Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Christ Church will provide a meal for the 50 residents at Life Center. We need volunteers to prepare the main meal and donate supplies. Please contact Carole McManus at via e-mail at [CaroleMcManus@Comcast.net](mailto:CaroleMcManus@Comcast.net) or by text at [610-509-6614](tel:610-509-6614) to sign-up and arrange donations. Items can be dropped off at Church by Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 5:00PM. Can you help? The Life Center needs these extras: milk, coffee, creamer, sugar, plates, bowls, cups, utensils, napkins, aluminum foil, canned soup (chicken noodle, chicken rice, and tomato), single serving oatmeal, and cereal.

**Free Shared Meal:** Starting in January 2025, Christ Church Ridley Park will host a free community meal called "The Gathering" so that we can connect with others who are hungry or lonely. They can be members of Christ Church or anyone outside of our Church; it is open to all. No questions asked, just a simple warm meal and good company. Meals will be held in Musselman Hall on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month. A Planning Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 9:00AM during Adult Forum.

### COMMUNITY

**Office Closed:** The Church Office will be CLOSED on the following Dates:  
Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Closed for Staff Meeting Off-Site  
Monday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 through Friday, December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Christmas  
Monday, December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 through Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 – New Years

**Savings Cards:** Savings Cards are back for 2025 and will be sold for \$10.00 beginning with the Cookie Walk and Luncheon on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024. 17 Local Merchants are participating, and all proceeds will go to the Outreach Committee.

**Book Group:** On Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 2:00PM all readers are welcome to come discuss At Home in Mitford, by author Jan Karon. In a comedic story abounding in mystery and everyday miracles, the main character, priest, Father Tim, gets more than he bargained for as he gets acquainted with the ordinary people of Mitford in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

**Free Books:** Do you know of any community supporters who could utilize books? The Kara Barnard Youth Literacy Fund is looking for Teachers, Day Care Workers, or Tutors in the Ridley Park area to share books with from the fund's stockpile.

**Making Appointments at the Office:** As you know the church office can be a revolving door of deliveries, projects, visitors, and more! In order to manage our workload and be present to the needs of the parish, please contact the office ahead of time to make appointments for visits with Fr. Michael or Nick that are not brief pass-through hellos. Thank you!

**Return of Photos:** All Saints of God Memorial Photos can be picked up in the Whaley Room.

**Sponsor Weekly Flowers:** During Advent there will not be Weekly Flowers, but you can donate toward the Christmas Flowers and Evergreens instead. Sponsoring of Weekly Flowers will return after the Epiphany in January 2025.

**Christmas Poinsettias & Evergreens:** Monetary donations of any amount are being collected for Christmas Poinsettia Flowers and Evergreens. You may complete the Special Order Form Online on the Website or complete a Paper Form in the back of the Church. You can also Call or E-mail the Church Office or drop it in the Plate during Service. Please add a note with your donation if you would like the flowers to be in honor or in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving of a special occasion. Please submit all requests with payment by Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Go Deeper Online!** Scan the QR code pictured here on the right with your smartphone camera to connect with Christ Church Ridley Park online platforms or visit [linktr.ee/ccrp1](https://linktr.ee/ccrp1) in your web browser. Watch livestreams, visit our website, sign up for lay ministries, give online, follow our social media, and so much more!



### Cookie Walk and Luncheon

Join us on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 for our new tradition: Celebrating Advent with a Luncheon and Cookie Walk in Musselman Hall! There will only be one (1) service this week at 10:00AM so that our entire church family can worship and enjoy a meal together. The Cookie Walk will begin after lunch has been served. The cost of cookies is \$10.00 per box.

All proceeds from this gathering will support the efforts of the Outreach Committee.

[Calling all bakers and chefs!](#)

Lists to bake cookies and to RSVP for the Lunch will be in the back of the church. You may also RSVP to Nikki Melso: [NikkiMelso@Comcast.net](mailto:NikkiMelso@Comcast.net) or 610-209-3949. If you do not bake, but like to cook and can make a soup, stew, chili, or another fun side to add to our luncheon, please contact Michelle Mason: [DefenderMason@RCN.com](mailto:DefenderMason@RCN.com). We are offering an incentive this year to our bakers: a Baking Themed Basket and a Personal Care Basket to be raffled off at the event. Each baker will receive one (1) raffle ticket for every dozen cookies baked for the Cookie Walk.





*This season we are thrilled to be celebrating the mystery of the Incarnation of God in the birth of Jesus together. You are welcome here.*

**COOKIE WALK & LUNCHEON**

**December 8, after the 10 AM Eucharist**

Lunch is a free-will offering and the Cookie Walk will be \$10.00 per bag, with all proceeds from the event going to assist in the efforts of the Outreach Committee.

**ADVENT HEALING EUCHARIST**

**December 18, 7 PM**

We know the holiday season can be emotional and challenging. Participate in the Sacrament of Healing and Eucharist on the darkest day of the year with space for quiet reflection.

**BAMBINO SUNDAY**

**December 22, 8 AM & 10 AM Eucharist**

Bring your Baby Jesus (from a creche or an image) for a blessing.

**5 PM CHRISTMAS EVE**

**December 24, 5 PM**

A service for the whole family with hymns and the joy of the Children's pageant. Come sing the familiar songs and hear the ancient story.

**8 PM CHRISTMAS EVE**

**December 24, 8 PM**

Sing along to the sacred classics. Share the light of Christmas as we illuminate each others candles during the hymn Silent Night.

**10 AM CHRISTMAS DAY**

**December 25, 10 AM**

A spoken service giving thanks through the Eucharist. This will be a quiet and simple time of prayer.

**ADULT FORUM**

Join us on any Sunday in Advent at 9 AM for Adult forum to reflect on a few of the major Advent saints.

**December 1**

John the Baptist & Charles de Foucauld

**December 8**

Nicholas of Myra

**December 22**

Mary & Joseph

**Feast Days of the Week:**

- Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024: Channing Moore Williams, Bishop and Missionary
- Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024: Francis Xavier, Priest and Missionary
- Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024: John of Damascus, Priest and Theologian
- Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024: Clement of Alexandria, Priest and Theologian
- Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024: Nicholas of Myra, Bishop
- Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024: Ambrose of Milan, Bishop and Theologian

**Christ Church Ridley Park (CCRP) Leadership**

The Reverend Michael Ruk, Interim Priest-in-Charge  
Mackenzie Alexander, Communications Director  
Nicholas D'Amato, Parish Church Administrator  
Guest Organist: Eric Jorgenson

Choir Members: Julie Wickland, Alice Berry, Aria Anderson, Carole Buchan, Robert Hand

Vestry Members: Sharon Cotter, Nicole Bowden, Eileen Capozzoli, Earl Dempsey, Bruce Horne, Nancy Mobley, Kathleen Okarski, Patrick O'Neill, Carol Parasink, Barbara Torrens, & Judy Yorke

Church Office Address: 104 Nevin Street, Ridley Park, PA 19078

Church Office Phone Number: 610-521-1626

Church Office E-mail: [Office@ChristChurchRidleyPark.org](mailto:Office@ChristChurchRidleyPark.org)

Church Website: [www.ChristChurchRidleyPark.org](http://www.ChristChurchRidleyPark.org)