



## THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

Third Sunday of Advent

8:30 and 10:30 am • December 14, 2025

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ABBREVIATIONS: **BCP** Book of Common Prayer | **CG** A Child's Guide to the Holy Eucharist | **LEVAS II** Lift Every Voice and Sing II | **WLP** Wonder, Love and Praise

### THE PRELUDE

Fugue in C minor

Johann Christian Bach

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

We light this candle to celebrate God's joy in our hearts.

*Silence is kept.*

Today, Isaiah paints a picture of deserts bursting with blossoms and songs of gladness. Jesus proclaims good news to John's disciples: the blind see, the lame walk, and the poor receive hope. And the psalmist rejoices in the God who lifts up the lowly and sets the captive free.

*Silence is kept.*

Joy can mean a moment of happiness, but it is also a deep, abiding confidence that God is restoring all creation, even when we wait with patience like the farmer for the harvest.

*Silence is kept.*

What brings you joy?

*Silence is kept.*

### QUIET MOMENT OF CONTEMPLATION

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN:

436. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates

*Truro*

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

EOW

*Celebrant* Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

*People* **Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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

THE SONG OF PRAISE:

8:30 | 10:30 Kyrie S85

BCP 356 | CG 5

*Celebrant* Kyrie eleison.

*People* **Christie eleison.**

*Celebrant* Kyrie eleison.

## THE WORD OF GOD

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

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 CHILDREN'S HOMILY (10:30)

*After the homily, the children aged 3–11 are invited to process out for Christian Formation time in Curry Hall, Room 201. They will return at the Peace.*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

## CANTICLE 15

The Song of Mary | Luke 1:46–55

BCP 91

*Magnificat*

8:30 *The canticle will be read antiphonally by whole verse by side of the church, beginning with the Narthex side.*

10:30 *Cantor sings antiphon*

*Cantor & congregation sing antiphon*

*Cantor sings verses*

*Cantor & congregation sing antiphon when noted*



The LORD is my light and my sal - va - tion; whom then shall I fear? †

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.

*Antiphon*

He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.

*Antiphon*

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

*Antiphon*

THE SECOND LESSON

James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

THE SEQUENCE HYMN:

91. Break forth, O beauteous light

*Ermuntre dich*

*Deacon*      The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
*People*      **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' 'Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

*Deacon*      The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*      **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rev. Grey Maggiano

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358 | CG 9

**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.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The congregation will read the bold text together.*

Brothers and sisters, as we joyfully await the full manifestation of God's reign in Christ, let us pray for the needs of the church and the world.

**O Wisdom, you come forth** from the mouth of the Most High and reach from beginning to end, ordering all things. Behold and bless your church, remembering especially Sean our presiding bishop, Sam and Jennifer our Bishops, George, Grey, and Ryan our clergy, our vestry and leaders. Be present in ordering the life of this and every congregation.

**Come and teach us the way of prudence.**

**O Adonai, God of the Covenant**, ruler of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and on Mount Sinai gave your law. Forgive us when we stray from your guidance and will.

**Come and redeem us for our life together.**

**O Root of Jesse, you stand** as an ensign to humankind; before you rulers will shut their mouths, and nations bow in worship: We pray for your peace and justice in every nation and throughout the world; be present to all whose lives are ravaged by war and strife. Guide the leaders of this and every land into the paths of peace and goodwill.

**Come save us and do not delay.**

**O Key of David, and scepter of the house of Israel**, you open and no one can shut, you shut and no one can open: Guide us in opening the doors of opportunity for the unemployed, for the homeless, for prisoners, and for all who are oppressed; and lead us in closing the doors that lead to poverty, bigotry, and injustice.

**Come and bring the captives out of the prison house.**

**O King of the Nations and their Desire**, you are the cornerstone that makes us one: We lift up all who are suffering and in need, especially Alice, Betty, Bill, Diane, Eva, Gregory, Jan, Jane, Liz, Lorrie, Margaret, Maxine, Nancy, Nancy, Remmy, and Scarlett. And for our friends and family including Austin, Andrea, Bill, Bob, Caitlyn, Caline, Cally, Charlie, Danielle, Denise, Doug, Evonne, Fitzroy, Gemma, Geralyn, Ginger, Allen, Caden, Crew, Hannah, Harper, Heather, James, Joe, Joelle, John, June, Kate, Keili, Kevin, Laura-Benton, Linda, Lois, Lori, Marci, Moira, Nadia, Rae, Renee, Robert, Rosalie, Roy, Roy, Sam, Sandy, Sandy, Sara, Sarah, Shannon, Shannon, Stephanie, and Thom. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous and help us minister to them in your love.

**Come and save us whom you have fashioned out of clay.**

**O Dayspring, radiance of the Light Eternal** and Sun of Righteousness: Shine your light on those who have died; remember especially those we now name. Finley June Eason, Mohan Pant, Maeley Roach, and Marilyn Kavulich; and bring comfort

to all those who mourn.

**Come and enlighten all who sit in darkness and the shadow of death.**

**O Emmanuel, God with us,** Expected One and Savior, We give thanks for all the blessings of this life; for those recently born, including Grace Marie Maloney, daughter of Kristen and Bailey, and granddaughter of Lucy and Kit Maloney; and for all those who preparing for marriage including George and Lindsey and for the other blessings we now name silently or aloud. Make each of us ready to receive you into our hearts, to serve you in all whom we meet, and to greet you in the fullness of your glory in the day of your appearing.

**Come and save us, O Lord our God.**

#### THE CONFESSION

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins to God.

*People* **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

#### THE PEACE

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

#### THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM:

O Come, Divine Messiah

Setting by Howard Helvey

O come, divine Messiah! The world in silence waits the day when hope shall sing its triumph and sadness flee away. Dear Savior, haste. Come, come to earth, dispel the night and show your face, and bid us hail the dawn of grace. O come, divine Messiah! The world in silence waits the day when hope shall sing its triumph, and sadness flee away. You come in peace and meekness, and lowly will your cradle be; all clothed in human weakness, shall we your God-head see. Dear Savior, haste. Come, come to earth, dispel the night and show your face, and bid us hail the dawn of grace. O come, divine Messiah! The world in silence waits the day when hope shall sing its triumph, and sadness flee away. O Christ, whom nations sigh for, whom priest and prophet long foretold. Come break the captive fetters, redeem the long-lost fold. Dear Savior, haste. Come, come to earth, dispel the night and show your face, and bid us hail the dawn of grace. O come, divine Messiah! The world in silence waits the day when hope shall sing its triumph and sadness flee away.

THE OFFERTORY HYMN:

56. O come, O come, Emmanuel - vss 5 & 6

*Veni, Veni Emmanuel*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER 2

EOW

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also 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 God thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing (say):

SANCTUS

8:30 **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

10:30 S113 (Sanctus)

John Merbecke

*Celebrant* Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant,

which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER: TRADITIONAL VERSION

BCP 364 | CG 23

THE FRACTION

BCP 364 | CG 23

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore let us keep the feast.**

THE COMMUNION HYMN:

53. Once He came in blessing

*Gottes Sohn ist kommen*

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

EOW

**Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ’s Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

THE SENDING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

*Celebrant* In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ’s body and blood.

*People* **We who are many are one body,  
because we all share one bread, one cup. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

THE FINAL HYMN:

67. Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

*Psalm 42*

THE DISMISSAL

*The Deacon or Celebrant dismisses the People, and the People respond:*

**Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE

O Heavens, Open from Above

Colin Mawby

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of the parents of  
Chris and Patsy Christiansen.*



We stand with communities across the Holy Land facing extraordinary challenges, and invite you to join American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. Through the “Be a Friend for Hope” campaign, we are able to help keep schools open, hospitals running, and children with disabilities supported and embraced. Together, we can bring healing, dignity, and hope to those who need it most. We are grateful for our partnership and for the hope you help carry forward each day. You can help support by following the link via the QR code below. Simply use the camera on your phone and click the link.





CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY VESTRY 2025

*Wardens* Sarah O'Connor (Senior) and Dave McKinnon (Junior)

*Members* David Dykes, Hannah Harris, Emily Jividen, Robert Joines, Susan Kelley, Yvette Smith, Lillis Ward, Sam Wesonga

*Officers* Matt Dutton (Treasurer), Bill Sena (Assistant Treasurer) and Hannah Harris (Registrar)





## QUICK LINKS

Scan this QR code to fill out  
a welcome card, give online,  
and more.

*We thank the following people for their service today:*

CELEBRANT	The Rev. Grey Maggiano
PREACHER	The Rev. Grey Maggiano
DEACON	The Rev. George Black
MUSICIANS (10:30)	Christian Schoen and the Nativity Choir
ADVENT CANDLES (8:30)	Ed and Annette Hughes
(10:30)	The Booth Family
LECTORS (8:30)	Cindy Schreiner, Dee Wallis
(10:30)	Anne Ramirez, Scott Beaver, Marcia Perry
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS (8:30)	Helen Armstrong
(10:30)	Jeremy Clos, George Douglas
BANNER (10:30)	Logan Lee
CRUCIFER (10:30)	Alicia Lester-Bodford
TORCHES (10:30)	Hannah Parker, Raylan Neece
LIVESTREAM TECHNICIAN (10:30)	Rick Burts
ALTAR GUILD	Susan Jordan, Paula Valeri, Brian Fentress
ALTAR FLOWERS	Emilie Sigel
VESTRY REPRESENTATIVE	Lillis Ward

## Church of the Nativity

A Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina  
8849 Ray Road, Raleigh, NC 27613 919-846-8338

### CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. Grey Maggiano	Rector
The Rev. George Black	Curate
The Rev. Ryan Parker	Priest Associate
Jeremy Clos	Lay Associate for Christian Formation
Christian Schoen	Organist and Choirmaster
Josh Anderson	Lay Associate for Communications and Administration
Kate Mohan	Diaconate Discernment Intern
Monique Holmes	Business Manager
Eva Warren	Nursery Attendant
Robert Krahel	Sexton