

CHORAL EUCHARIST FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT NOVEMBER 30, 2025 10:30AM



Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Anglican Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words and actions through which public worship is conducted.

The people's responses are in **bold**.

Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we gather today on the lands occupied by the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe nations at the time of the creation of the "Dish with One Spoon" wampum agreement. We honour and respect these nations and commit ourselves to walk together gently upon this land.



The Gathering of the Community

When the service is accompanied by music, it often begins with an instrumental or vocal piece of music during which the congregation can prepare for worship.

GATHERING MUSIC

Prelude on 'Come, Now, Saviour'

JS Bach

WORDS OF WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL HYMN Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

CP#88

We begin our worship together in community by praising God in song.

1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.

3 Born thy people to deliver; born a child and yet a King; born to reign in us forever; now thy gracious kingdom bring.

2 Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart. 4 By thine own eternal Spirit, rule in all our hearts along; by thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

This prayer was an English rendering of a Latin prayer that began the liturgy in the medieval church before the Reformation. It remains a distinctive part of Anglican worship to this day.

Almighty God,

to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. 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.

AN ADVENT BIDDING

My siblings, we enter today the solemn season of Advent in which the Church bids us prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ; a coming that we recall in the Child of Bethlehem; a coming that we experience in the gift of his Spirit, in the bread of the Eucharist, in the joy of human lives that are shared; a coming we wait for when God gathers up all things in Christ.

Let us in this holy season reflect on the coming of Christ who brings light to the world. Let us leave behind the darkness of sin, walk in the light that shines on our path and renew within ourselves the hope of glory to which he beckons us. And as we turn towards the light, let us have on our hearts all those who see no light, for whom all is darkness and despair. Let us pray that they too may be illumined by Christ who is our light.

DEDICATION OF THE NEW ADVENT CANDLESTAND

Let us pray.

We bless your Name, O Lord, because it has pleased you to enable your servant Bishop Ralph Spence to offer this gift for your worship. Remember him for good, and grant that all who benefit from this gift may show their thankfulness to you by using it in accordance with your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Before the throne burn seven lamps of fire, which are the seven spirits of God.

You, O Lord, are my lamp;

My God, you make my darkness bright.

O heavenly Father, who revealed to us the vision of your Son in the midst of the candlesticks, and of your Spirit in seven lamps of fire before your throne: Grant that this Advent Candlestand, to be kindled for your glory, may be to us a sign of your presence and the promise of eternal light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

The tradition of the Advent Wreath goes back to early Europe. The successive lighting of four candles on each Sunday in Advent symbolizes the marking of the weeks leading to Christmas and the Birth of Our Lord as well as the sense of increasing Light in the face of lengthening darkness.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has begotten us again unto a living hope!

Let us now light a candle of hope.

The candle-lighter lights the first candle on the wreath and then asks...

What is our hope?

Our hope is in the Word made flesh, the Lord Jesus who was crucified and yet raised from the dead, who sits now at the right hand of the Father in majesty and power.

He will come in glory to redeem the world and us with it.

Blessed indeed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has begotten us again unto this living hope.

Let us pray to the Lord.

The community prays in silent expectation.

Most merciful God, you are ever faithful to your promises to your people. Do not let us be put to shame but give us the assurance of a future filled with hope in which your justice will triumph. This we ask for the sake of your steadfast love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ADVENT RESPONSE

Hope Is a Star

SNC#35 (v1)

Hope is a star that shines in the night, leading us on till the morning is bright.
When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Collect is the prayer appointed for each day that "collects" or brings out the theme of the day or season of the Church year. It summarizes God's attributes as shown in the scriptures for the day.

Let us pray.

O God, in Christ you give us hope for a new heaven and a new earth. Grant us wisdom to interpret the signs of our times, courage to stand in the time of trial, and faith to witness to your truth and love. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 2.1-5

This reading is typically from the Hebrew Scriptures, which Jesus knew and which he often referred to and quoted from.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come

the mountain of the Lord's house

shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation;

let us walk in the light of the Lord!

neither shall they learn war any more.

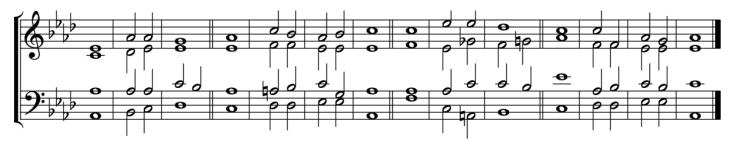
Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

O house of Jacob, come.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM Psalm 122

The psalms and other scriptural canticles are prayers Jesus used and cover every mood of our relationship with God and one another.



- I was glad when they / said to / me, *"Let us / go to · the / house of · the / Lord."
- 2 Now our / feet are / standing, * with/in your / gates O · Jer/usalem.
- 3 Jerusalem is / built as · a / city, * that is at / uni·ty / with it/self.
- To which the tribes go up, the / tribes of \cdot the / Lord, * the assembly of Israel, to / praise the / name of \cdot the / Lord.



- 5 For there are the / thrones of / judgement, * the / thrones of · the / house of / David.
- 6/7 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they / prosper who / love you. * Peace be within your walls and / quietness · with/in your / towers.
- 8 For my brethren and com/panions' / sake, * I / pray for / your pros/perity.
- 9 Because of the house of the / Lord our / God, * I will / seek to / do you / good."

THE SECOND READING

Romans 13.11-14

This reading, taken from the New Testament, is typically from a letter (epistle) to the early Church, the Acts of the Apostles, or the Revelation of John.

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN

You Servants of the Lord

CP#93 (vv1-3)

1 You servants of the Lord, each in your calling wait, observant of his heavenly Word, and watchful at his gate. 2 Let all your lamps be bright, and trim the golden flame; attentive stand, as in his sight, for awesome is his name.

3 Watch; 'tis your Lord's command, and while we speak, he's near; mark the first signal of his hand, and ready all appear.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 24.36-44

This reading is from one of the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) which depict the life, teachings, death, resurrection and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. We stand for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance placed on Jesus' words and actions.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

The Gospel of Christ.

GRADUAL HYMN

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

You Servants of the Lord

CP#93 (vv4-5)

4 How happy shall we be 5 Christ shall the banquet spread with his own royal hand

if in his service found! with his own royal hand,

We shall our Lord with rapture see and raise each faithful servant's head

and be with honour crowned! amid the angelic band.

THE SERMON Dr. Matthew Green

The sermon directly follows the Gospel because it is to be grounded in the scriptures. It illuminates the scriptural readings and relates them to daily life.

THE CREED

The word "creed" comes from the Latin "credo" for "I believe." The Apostle's Creed is believed to have it's origins in a baptismal profession of faith from the earliest years of the church.

Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We pray for ourselves and particularly on behalf of others. In our prayers we pray for the universal church, the nation and all who govern, the welfare of the world, the concerns of our community of faith, including those who are in need or suffer, and for the departed. We are reminded in prayer that we are a part of a larger fellowship, the Church – the Body of Christ.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Confessing our sins, receiving forgiveness (absolution) and showing signs of peace to one another prepare us to receive Christ in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

The presider invites the people to confession.

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

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 neighbours 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.

The presider offers absolution and the people respond.

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The community stands for the Peace.

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

The Celebration of the Eucharist

THE OFFERTORY

At the offertory we gratefully offer back some of what God has given us, symbolically in the elements, and in our contributions towards the work of the church. Donations to the mission of the Cathedral can be made via PayPal, using the QR code here.



OFFERTORY HYMN

'Sleepers, Wake!' A Voice Astounds Us

CP#110

1 "Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us; the shout of rampart-guards surrounds us: "Awake, Jerusalem, arise!:
Midnight's peace their cry has broken, their urgent summons clearly spoken: "The time has come, O maidens wise! Rise up, and give us light; the bridegroom is in sight.
Alleluia!

Your lamps prepare and hasten there, that you the wedding feast may share."

2 Zion hears the watchmen singing. Her heart with joyful hope is springing; she wakes and hurries through the night. Forth he comes, her bridegroom glorious in strength of grace, in truth victorious: her star is risen, her light grows bright. Now come, most worthy Lord, God's Son, incarnate Word, alleluia! We follow all and heed your call to come into the banquet hall.

forever let our praises ring.

3 Lamb of God, the heavens adore you; let saints and angels sing before you, as harps and cymbals swell the sound. Twelve great pearls, the city's portals: through them we stream to join the immortals as we with joy your throne surround. No eye has known the sight; no ear heard such delight: alleluia! Therefore we sing to greet our King;

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Let us pray.

God of love and power, your word stirs within us the expectation of the coming of your Son. Accept all we offer you this day, and sustain us with your promise of eternal life. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

In the Great Thanksgiving, we do what Jesus himself asked us to do: thank God and recall all that God has done for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. The Great Thanksgiving, or Eucharistic Prayer, is a long prayer with four parts. Each of these four parts corresponds to a different action of Jesus at the Last Supper, where he took, blessed, broke, and gave bread and wine as sacraments of his body and blood. We begin the Great Thanksgiving with the Sursum corda, meaning "Lift up your hearts."

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

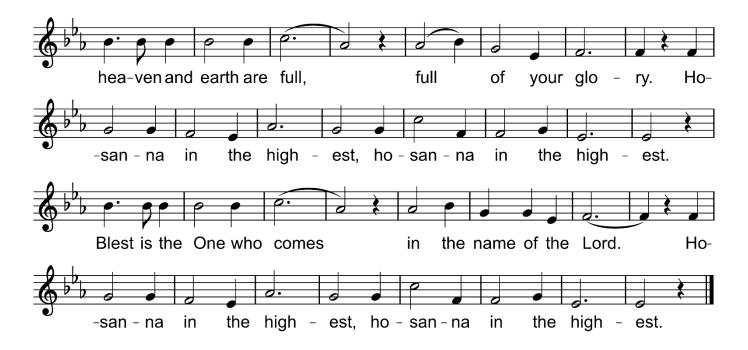
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Saviour Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God Incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

We pray together the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray. The link between our daily bread and the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist is an ancient connection.

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

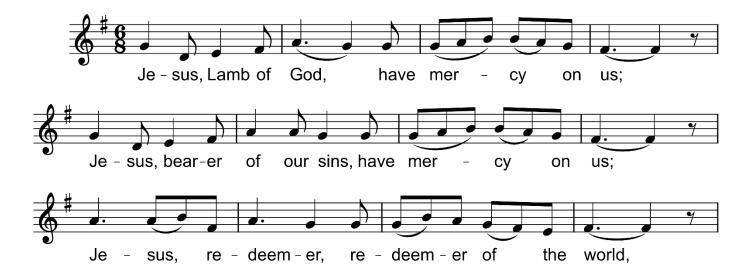
THE COMMUNION

To receive communion, please come forward to the altar rail or to the standing station. To receive a blessing instead of communion, please cross your arms over your chest. Gluten free wafers are available if requested.

The gifts of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

LAMB OF GOD





MUSIC AT COMMUNION

Rejoice in the Lord Always

George Rathbone

Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. Be careful for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Sending Forth of the Community

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God for whom we wait, you have fed us with the bread of eternal life. Keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready to stand before the Son of man. We ask this in the name of Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Glory to God,

whose power working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory: and the blessing of God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

1 Lo, he comes with clouds descending, once for favoured sinners slain; thousand thousand saints attending swell the triumph of his train: hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah! God appears on earth to reign.

3 Now redemption, long expected, see in solemn pomp appear; all his saints, on earth rejected, thrill the trumpet sound to hear: hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah! See the day of God appear!

4 Yea, amen, let all adore thee, high on thine eternal throne; Saviour, take the power and glory; Claim the kingdom for thine own:
O come quickly! O come quickly! O come quickly! Hallelujah! Come, Lord, come!

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Prelude on 'Sleepers, Wake!'

JS Bach

PERMISSIONS

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PARTICIPANTS

PRESIDER

The Reverend Monica Romig Green

PREACHER

Dr. Matthew Green

THE CHOIR OF CHRIST'S CHURCH CATHEDRAL

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES
Bruce Burbidge

GREETERS

Sally Braun Jackson and Michael Nash

LECTORS

Sue Crowe Connolly and Friedrich Liu

INTERCESSOR

Sister Margaret Hayward

COMMUNION MINISTERS

Dale Guenter, Sister Heather Broadwell and Sandra Cross

HOSPITALITY

St. Andrew's Team

WARDEN ON DUTY

Sandra Cross

VERGER

Michael Fitzpatrick

SOUND & LIVESTREAM

Jiawei Zhang

HEAD SERVER

Randy Woods

