

ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY EPISCOPAL CHURCH



CELEBRATION SERVICE THE HOLY EUCHARIST—RITE II The Second Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2023

10:45 A.M.

*You are welcomed whether you are a guest or a member,
and we invite you to join us in our worship of God.*

*If you are worshipping with us for the first time, please introduce yourself to our clergy following the service.
We also invite you to please take a moment to sign our Guest Book
which can be found at the Welcome Center.*

This Service Bulletin contains all that you will need to worship with us this morning.

*If you have a prayer request, please write it in the book that is located at the prayer desk just outside the back
of the sanctuary.*

*Please note that this worship service will be recorded and live streamed.
If you wish, you may remain out of the camera's view by sitting in the Chapel
(stained glass window area.)*

We want to honor and respect your privacy.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*We are an enthusiastically welcoming and inviting Christian community
committed to the unity of all people with God through Christ.*

DECLARACIÓN DE NUESTRA MISIÓN

*Somos una comunidad Cristiana que da la bienvenida con entusiasmo y acogedor,
comprometida con la unidad de toda la gente con Dios a través de Cristo.*

Welcome to St. Augustine of Canterbury Episcopal Church!

We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us during this Advent Season.

During these four weeks before Christmas, the Church stops to prepare for the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. Advent bridges the past and the future, and brings them into the present. Advent is a time of the Christ who was, who is, and who is to come. Christ is seen not only as a child born of Mary, crucified and resurrected, nor as the fulfillment of all things, but as an active presence here and now. Christ stirs power from the past and hope from the future, to begin his Messianic reign in the present, which begins in the hearts of those who follow the Christ.

Even as we look at our liturgical environment, we see that it echoes what nature herself displays. Indeed, Advent is that inky blue hour between night and day, between the deep purple darkness and the light, when we know in our hearts that indeed “the dawn from on high will break upon us.” It is the messenger before the day of God, as John the baptizer was the messenger before Jesus, calling people in darkness to increase in light of love, and bear fruit worthy of repentance.

It is only through our waiting and preparation, listening to the Word proclaimed, and partaking of the Sacraments that we are able to reply with Mary, “Let it be with me according to your word.” Only then will the golden dawn of the future for which we yearn begin to break forth in all of its splendor.

If this is your first time in the Episcopal Church, everything you need to follow worship is in this Worship Guide. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask anyone around you for help.

I hope to meet you before or after worship but just in case I do not, please fill out the attendance sheet in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate so we can connect with you.

Again welcome to you and your family.

Happy Advent,

Fr. Joseph C. Alsay +
Rector

+ THE GATHERING RITE +

Voluntary: “Three Festive Carols”

Chadwick, Wade, and Montgomery

Welcome and Announcements

See Insert

Moment of Silence

At this time you are invited to reflect, meditate, pray, or engage in other silent activity. At the tolling of the bell, please stand and face the entrance.

Opening Acclamation

Presider Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People **You come to your people and set them free. Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Confessor Repent, for the kingdom of God has come near. – *Matthew 3:2*

Confessor Let us prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sins against God and our neighbor.

People **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.**

Absolution

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.

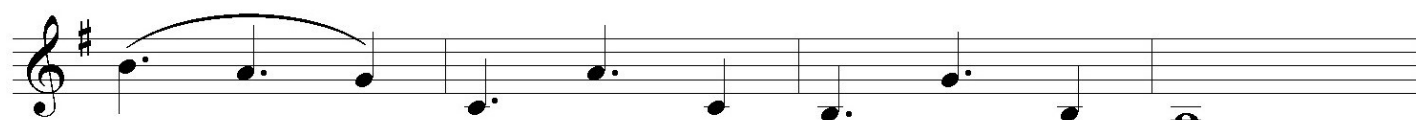
People **Amen.**



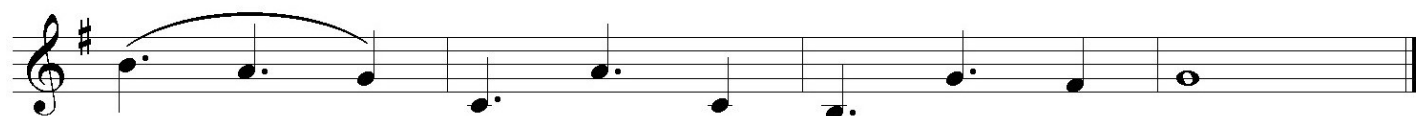
The congregation is invited to follow the Ministers of the Liturgy and place your raffia twist in the creche.

Gathering Song: "Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord"

Text: *Stephen Schwartz*



Pre - pare ye the way of the Lord!



Pre - pare ye the way of _____ Lord!

Gathering Hymn: "Prepare the Way O Zion"

Text: *Frans Mikael Franzen*
Tune: *Bereden väg för Herran*



Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sav - ior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.



Oh blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

Collect for the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Children's Moment

During the singing of O Come, O Come Emmanuel, the children are invited to gather around the Advent Candles at the Altar.

Hymn of Light: "O come, O come, Emmanuel" (v. 3 & 4)

Tune: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*



O come O come, thou Lord of might,
O come, thou Branch of Jes - - - - se's tree,



who to thy tribes on Si - - - - nai's height
free them from Sa - tan's ty - - - - ran - ny



in an - cient times didst give the law
that trust thy might - y power to save,



in cloud and ma - jes - ty and awe.
and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.



Re - joice! Re - joice! E - man - - u - el



shall come to thee, O Is - - - - ra - el.

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

Advent family Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. You call all nations to walk in you and to seek your ways of peace and justice, for night is past, and the dawning of your coming is near. As we light this candle, rouse us from sleep and kindle in us the fire of your justice and righteousness. That when you come, we will welcome you into our hearts and homes: for you are our light and salvation.

People **Blessed be God forever.**

After the Hymn of Light, the children are invited to follow the Cross and attend Children's Chapel. The children will return during the "Peace."

Hymn of Light: "Light Two Candles"

Wayne L Wold



Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is-ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.

+ THE LITURGY OF THE WORD +

The First Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-11

Lector A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

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 for ever.

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!”

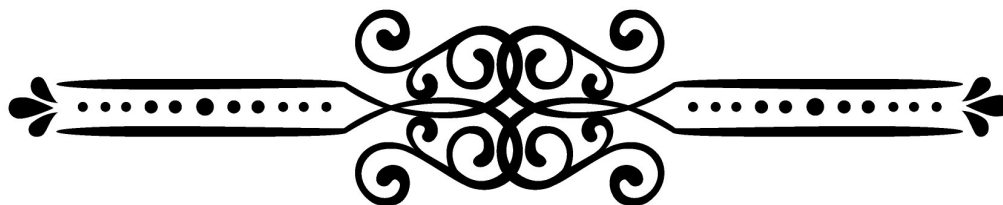
See, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;

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.

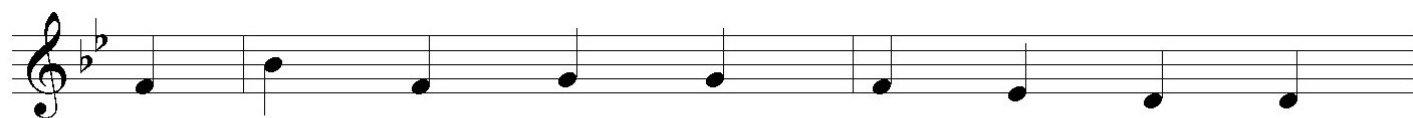
Lector The Word of the Lord
People **Thanks be to God.**



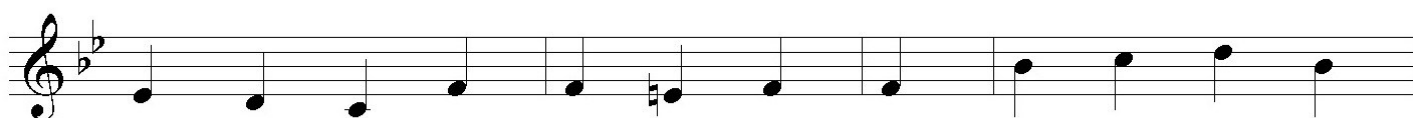
Please stand.

Gospel Acclamation: "On Jordan's Bank"

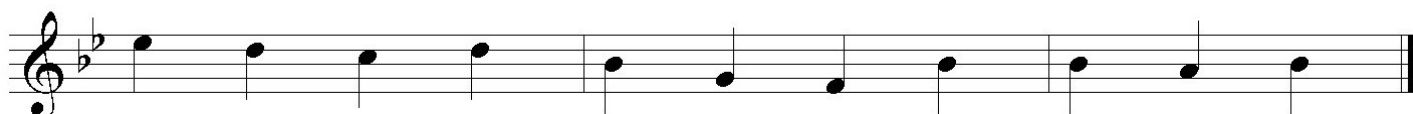
Text: *Charles Coffin*
Tune: *Winchester New*



On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tists cry an -
Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make
For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our
To heal the sick stretch out thine hand and
All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose



noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en
straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -
ref - uge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we
bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth and let thy
ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.



Please remain standing.
Holy Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

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

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

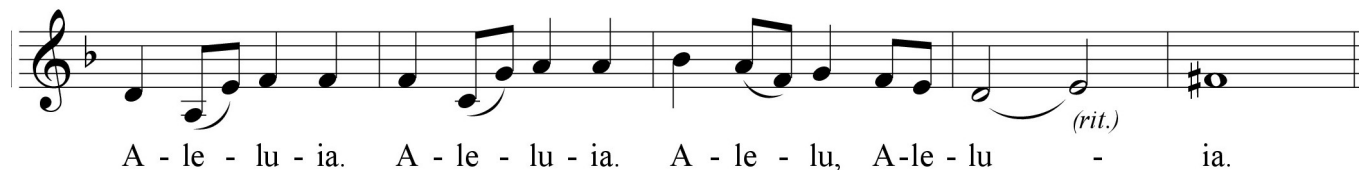
“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

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

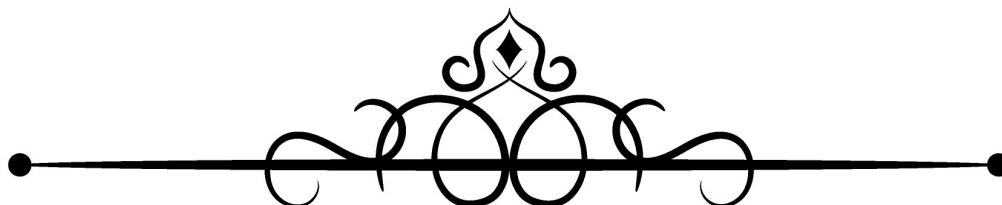
Gospel Response: “Alleluia”

S. Chard



Please be seated.
Sermon

The Reverend Joseph Alsay



Please stand.

During the Season of Advent, we will sing our faith using a Kenyan form of the Creed thus uniting us with Christians of other places, times and cultures. *Ninasadiki means "I believe"

Nicene Creed: "Ninasadiki"


Tune: *Nasadiki*



I be - lieve in God, the al - might-y, NI - NA - SA - DI - KI,
And con - ceived by the Ho - ly Spir - it,
Tru - ly hu - man, he lived a - mong us,
On the third day he rose tri - um - phant,
He shall come once more then to judge us,
I ac - knowl - edge one ho - ly bap - tism,



who cre - a - ted earth and the heav - ens, NI - NA - SA - DI - KI,
he was born of the vir - gin Mar - y,
and he suf - fered much un - der Pi - late,
as was proph - e - sied in the scrip - tures,
and his king - dom shall have no end - ing,
and for - give - ness, par - don for sin - ners,



and in Je - sus, God's son from heav - en, NI - NA - SA - DI - KI,
to the earth he came as a ba - by,
he was cru - ci - fied, died, was bur - ied,
he as - cend - ed then up to heav - en,
I be - lieve in one Ho - ly Spir - it,
I ex - pect one great res - ur - rec - tion,



of e - ter - nal love, the be - got - ten, NI - NA - SA - DI - KI.
born for us and for our sal - va - tion,
he de - scend - ed down in - to hell,
and shall come a - gain in great glo - ry,
I be - lieve in one ho - ly church,
and the life of the world to come,

Prayers of the People

During the season of Advent, we invite you to write your prayers on the slips of paper provided in the envelope holders in front of each chair. Please bring your prayers forward with you as you receive communion and deposit them in the receptacles at the head of the center aisle.

Peace

Presider God will speak peace to his people, to those who turn to him with their hearts
The peace of our Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

+ THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARISTIC MEAL +

Please be seated.

Offertory Sentence

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due God's Name; bring offerings and come into God's courts. *Psalm 96:8*

During the Offering in Song, please sign the Canterbury Connection Cards in the service bulletin and kindly drop it in the wicker basket with your offering.

To submit your offering electronically, text the amount you would like to give to 405-645-6608 or go to "bit.ly/Give SAC" in your browser and follow the instructions.

Thank You.

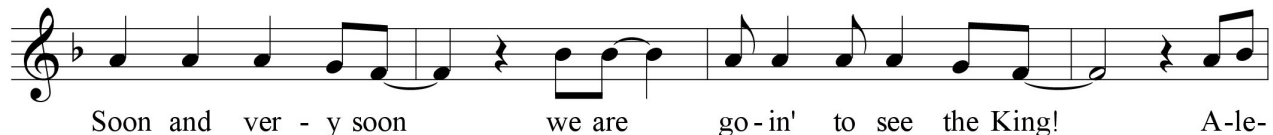
Offering in Song: "Ave Maria"

Franz Schubert

Please stand.

Presentation Song: "Soon and Very Soon"

Tune: *Very Soon*



Please remain standing.
The Great Thanksgiving

Tune: *O Come All Ye Faithful*

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And with you His servant.**

Presider Lift up your hearts unto the Lord
People **With hearts uplifted, thanks to Him we render:
With joy we come before Him.
In gratefulness implore Him.
With thankful hearts adore Him evermore!**

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and Father, through Jesus Christ your Son. For he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh, he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world to open for us the way of salvation.

Confident that your promise will be fulfilled, we now watch for the day when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.

And so we join our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven to proclaim your glory for ever praising you as we sing,

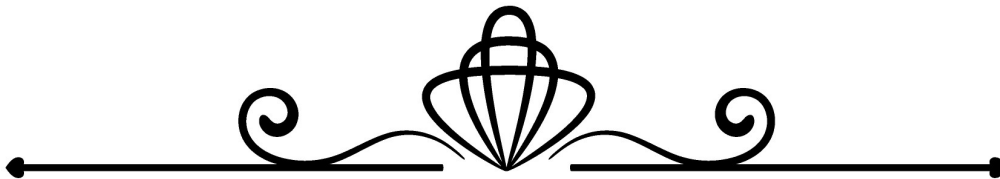
Sanctus

Tune: *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord! God of hosts, by all adored!
Heav'n and earth cannot contain all the glory of your name!**

**Hail, Hosanna, God most high! Blest is He who now draws nigh.
In the name of God the King! Hallelujahs glad we sing;**

Hail, Hosanna! Praises due, be forever, Lord, to you.



Please stand or kneel.

Eucharistic Prayer 3

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us. We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

**Dying, you destroyed our death,
Rising, you restored our life,
Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with the blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph, Saint Augustine of Canterbury, and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Blessed are you now and forever. AMEN.

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

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

**Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo,
santificado sea tu Nombre,
venga tu reino,
hágase tu voluntad,
en la tierra como en el cielo.
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.
Perdona nuestras ofensas,
como también nosotros perdonamos
a los que nos ofenden.
No nos dejes caer en tentación
y libranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la gloria,
ahora y por siempre. Amén.**

Fraction Anthem: “Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel”

Tune: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*

Re - joice! Re - joice! E - man - - - u - el

shall come to thee, O Is - - - - ra - el.

Communion Distribution

All Baptized are invited to receive the Holy Meal at the Lord’s Table.

For Communion, come forward as the ushers release you from your seat.

If you wish to receive Communion under both kinds, please receive a napkin from an usher. The bread will be dipped in the wine for you by one of the clergy, then placed on the napkin. After consuming the bread, please place the napkin in one of the wicker receptacles.

Continue down the outside aisle to return to your seat.

Please note that gluten-free bread is available for those who request it.

Kindly let the usher know if you need the clergy to bring the bread to you.

If you wish to only receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest.

Altar Prayer

After receiving communion, please feel free to kneel at the Altar Rail and take time for personal prayer and reflection.

Communion Meditation: “Coventry Carol”
“Wexford Carol”
“In the Bleak Midwinter”

*Robert Croo
Gustav Holst / Harold Darke
Traditional Irish*



Postcommunion Hymn: "Lo He Comes (#57)

Text: Charles Wesley

Tune: Helmsley



Lo! He comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
Those dear to - kens of his pas - sion still his
Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on



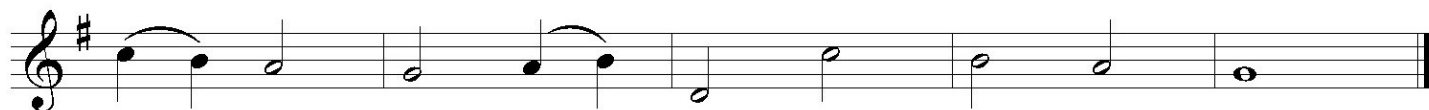
our salv - va - tion slain; thou - sand thous - sand
dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the



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! Al - le -
tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly
ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture, with what
own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

+ THE SENDING RITE +

Please stand.

Post-Communion Prayer

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.

Blessing

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. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever.

People **Amen.**

Dismissal

Presider As we await our coming Savior, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary: "The Giving"

Michael W. Smith

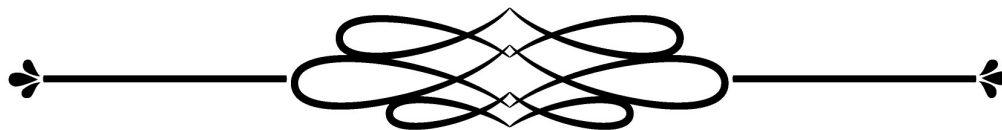
You are cordially invited to the Parish Hall following the service, so that we may get to know you.

We invite those who are celebrating birthdays or anniversaries to gather in the side chapel after the service.

Birthday & Anniversary Blessing

DOK Let us pray.

People **O God, our days are in your hand: Look with favor we pray, on those who begin another year. Grant that your wisdom, grace, love, and strength may continue to be with them all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



+ PRAYER LIST +

For those with medical and other concerns: *Maxine Grayson, Collin Wilbur, Debra Greene Jolly, Erlinda Layman, Nahomi Gudino, John Wehr, Megan Posey, JonEvah Murray, Cornerstone Counseling and Consulting, Traci Eliot, Breanna Troutman, Shary Weis, Bill Landis, Reggie Egins, Kris Wade, Mahogany Brown, Leanne Hoffbeck, Lynn England, AimeeAnn, Jim Davidson, Anita Kirkpatrick, Angela & Ron Cochran, Judy Spencer, Ann Merritt, Sandy and Bill Hodges, David King, Evelyn Wehr, Bill Collins, Richard Stuhr, Jim Emig, Lee Johnson, Edith Kenney, Evelyn Thrower, Bill Kerr, Judy Reeder, Steve Bauer, Robby Housh, Wyatt Didamo, Barbara Traylor-Lane, Valerie Lewis, Camilla Manning, Philip Worrell, Bill Johnson, Scott Mills, Tess Wade, Michael Parks, Allen Weaver, Kermit Jones, Inna Jones, Felicia Estrada-Trujillo, Ernesto Trujillo, Valdo Trujillo, Claudia Estrada, Ricardo Estrada, Tatiana Velasquez Chicas, Brandi Eaton-Wiles, Charlotte Cascio, Baby Jack, Leah Brashear, Martha Leary, Marina Jones, Julissa Estrada, Ray Friedl, Jaime Mizael Fuentes, Rachel, Eric, Sean Acol, Damian Wiles, Melvin Jones, Luz Estrada, Sebastian Weaver, John Muran, Sr., Lois Muran, Priscilla, Jack Stephens, Patty, Patrick Hays, Jonathon and Alyse, Faith, Evelyn Wehr, Sharon and Don Bole, Neil Ray, Ricky and Eta Womack, Whitney Mayfield, Dobi, Rusty, Cathy, Lee, Pamela, Steve Gilman, Deyanira Gudino, Melissa Notson, Lazaro Gudino, Antonia Dueñez.*

For those in the military: Rick Narvaiz, Colby Gibson, J.R. Singleton, Bryce Singleton, Parker Singleton, Joshua Westmoreland, Megan Weimer, Ryan Natale, Rylee Natale, Brody Campbell, Justin Jones, Christopher Rosentreter, Sam Carter, Caleb Mitchell, Aaron Long, Terry Caraway, Reed Hall, Zach Renfro, Rev. Octavia Lindsey, McKenna McCullough, Noel Puryear, Simon Lizeski, Keaton Latner, Kaleigh Hensch, Kayleigh Henson, Freddie Kegler, Jay Jordan, William VanSant, Nick Coleman, Rebecka Blaire, Stephen Lizeski, Ted Lizeski, Kyle Belt, Andrew Stienl, James Roberts, John Andrews, Thomas Andrews, Chase Biel Weishaupt, Perry Harding, Nate Phillips, Ashley Adkins, Matt Lake, Derek Wolf, Jefferson C, our troops at home and abroad and their families.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom including *Carter Blue Clark*.

We rejoice with those celebrating birthdays this week: *Gus Cook, Parker Inselman, Andy Matias, Emily Fields, Sylvia Burns, Anner Jacobs, John Potter, Danny Glenn, John Madison, Adona Haase, Tessa Yeakley.*

We rejoice with those celebrating anniversaries this week: *Kyle & Matthew Lawson, Joshua & Crystal Westmoreland, James Burkhart & Brett Cash.*

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

+ MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY +

Today, Sunday December 3, 2023 10:45 a.m.

The Second Sunday of Advent

Presider: The Reverend Dr. James Detrich

Confessor and Preacher: The Reverend Joseph Alsay

Eucharistic Ministers: Cal Jones, Claudia Rios-Estrada, and Cheryl Mims-Wilson

Acolytes: Amethyst Beck, Eric Rios-Estrada, and Mia Bocanegra

Lector: Bob Vanek

Guest Guitarist: Eric Brinley

Staff Musicians: Scott Chard and Guy Nembhard

Guest Musicians: Randy Polk (Trumpet), Dr. Scott Erickson (Oboe), Elizabeth Sousa-Bolt (Vocalist).

Crossings Chapel Trio: Patrick Hays (Organ), Janet Thiessen (Piano), Jim Shelley (Cello)

Organists: Roger Barton and Patrick Hays

Oblation Bearers: The Olson Family

Advent Family: The Wilsons

Greeters: Adonna Haase and Lynne Suchy

Altar Guild: Gil Haas and Jan Pope

Ushers: Rick Inselman

Camera Crew: Josh Eliot and Bri McGhee

Sound: Eric Brinley

Cover and Divider Art: freepik.com

+ THIS IS OUR STORY +

Estimates of the value of the gold, frankincense, and myrrh given by the Magi range as high as \$3-4 million dollars. This would be a fortune to the poor Holy Family, but what did they do with their newfound wealth? A simple tradition holds that the proud parents used the gold to pay for the stable, the frankincense to perfume it, and the myrrh as an ointment for the new-born baby. Another tradition suggests that Joseph and Mary used the gifts to finance their flight to Egypt to avoid King Herod's plan to kill Jesus. The event is shrouded with interpretations that have no substantiation in Mathew's gospel, the event's only chronicle. For example, the gospel never mentions the number of Magi; in Eastern Christianity, the Magi number twelve. Their identification as kings is not mentioned by Mathew, but it is linked to Isaiah, who refers to "kings (coming) to the brightness of your dawn" bearing "gold and frankincense". Although most traditional nativity scenes depict three Wise Men accompanied by the shepherds and angels around the manger, this is an artistic convention allowing the chronologically separate visits of the shepherds and the Magi to be combined for convenience.

If you have a liturgical question or an inquiry about anything that transpires during or around our worship service, please forward the question you would like researched to: gghaas@aol.com. Please note whether we can credit you as the source of the question.

ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY EPISCOPAL CHURCH



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Follow us on Facebook! <http://www.facebook.com/St.AugustineofCanterburyOKC>

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday – Holy Eucharist – 8:30 A.M. & 10:45 A.M.

Wednesday – Holy Eucharist – 12 Noon

STAFF

Rector: The Reverend Joseph Alsay

Deacons: The Reverend Karen Hansen and The Reverend Mary Ann Coffman

Administrative Assistant: Coleen Christian

Social Media Coordinator: Daphne Christian-Muran

Bulletins: Jesse L. Heath

Contribution Registrar: Kenny Koch

Staff Musicians: Scott Chard and Guy Nembhard

VESTRY

Sr. Warden: James Reeg **Sr. Warden Elect:** Michael Johnston

Jr. Warden: Jon Wallingford **Jr. Warden Elect:** William “Bill” Kenney

Treasurer: Marian Moon

Other Members: Brad Davidson, John Fink, Jay Kyte, Valerie Hall, Rick Inselman,
Valerie Lewis, Scott Myers, & Jason Seabolt

Clerk: Renee Lewis

OFFICE HOURS

To offer our staff a Sabbath, the St. Augustine business offices are closed on Mondays, with staff available remotely for urgent matters. Ministry Leaders are welcome to access the building independently with their key, as needed.

Father Joseph Alsay, Rector

Tuesday -Thursday 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M

Coleen Christian, Admin Assistant

Tuesday -Friday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

AFTER HOURS CONTACT

Father Joseph

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