

GOOD SHEPHERD

Episcopal Church and School



THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Holy Eucharist

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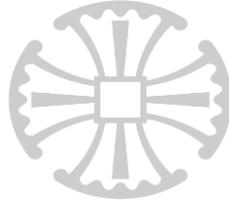
December 7, 2025 ♦ 10:00 a.m.

MISSION

We exist to be a beacon of faith, hope, and love.

VISION

We are a vibrant, spiritual, and educational community, radiating God's love for everyone, everywhere.



WE HAVE A PLACE FOR YOU

We are so glad you're here. Whether you're visiting for the first time or returning after some time away, we all belong in God's community. We'd love to get to know you better and stay connected! Please scan the QR code below to share your information with us. It's a simple way for us to welcome you personally, answer any questions, and let you know about upcoming events. You are always welcome here—just as you are.



WELCOME FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Jesus welcomed children and so do we. We don't mind wiggles and noise, but if you would prefer a quiet room when infants become fussy, one is located off the lobby. A window and sound system allow families to see and hear the service. Nursery care for children under three is available in the Ryon Building (office) for the 10 a.m. service and is well-staffed by caring adults. For children in preschool through 5th grade, Sunday School is available at 10:00 in the Ryon Building. Children join their families in church mid-service for communion. Be sure to ask the greeters for directions or help.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

Today we continue the season of Advent - the first season of the church year, beginning with the fourth Sunday before Christmas and continuing through the day before Christmas. The name is derived from a Latin word for "coming." The season is a time of preparation and expectation for the coming celebration of our Lord's nativity, and for the final coming of Christ "in power and glory." During the season of Advent, our worship is focused on the themes of hope, waiting, and expectation.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST



THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

The people stand.

HYMN • 65

Prepare the way, O Zion

(Verses 1 - 2)

Before the final stanza of the entrance hymn, the procession will pause for the lighting of the Advent Wreath.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Quinn Foerch, Helene Chaplow, Lauren Rodger

Celebrant The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together.
People **O come, Emmanuel.**

Celebrant The Lord will feed his flock like a shepherd.
People **He will gather the lambs in his arms.**

The first two Advent candles are lighted.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God of peace and lover of justice, open our hearts and enlighten our minds, that your Son Jesus Christ at his coming may find in us a dwelling place prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen.**

During the singing of the final verses, the Sunday School children (age 3 – 5th grade) and their teachers will follow the acolyte down the aisle and go to their classrooms.

HYMN • 65

Prepare the way, O Zion

(Verse 3)

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY *Prayed by Celebrant*

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.**

TRISAGION • S102 *Holy God, Holy and Mighty* (sung three times)

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant 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.**

The people are seated.

THE READINGS

THE OLD TESTAMENT

ISAIAH 11:1-10

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

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19



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- 1 Give the King your justice, O / God, *
and your righteousness to the King's / Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people / righteously *
and the poor with / justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the / people, *
and the little hills bring / righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the / people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the o- / ppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon en- / dure, *
from one generation to a- / nother.

- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown / field, *
like showers that water the / earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous / flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no / more.
- 18 Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of / Israel, *
who alone does wondrous / deeds!
- †19 And blessed be his glorious Name for-/ ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. A-/ men.
†*Sung to the second half of the double chant*

THE SECOND READING

ROMANS 15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN • 67

Comfort, comfort ye my people

THE HOLY GOSPEL

MATTHEW 3:1-12

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

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

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. "I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Ted Pardoe

*A moment of quiet reflection will follow the sermon.
The people stand.*

THE NICENE CREED

**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 FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

The prophet John the Baptist preached a repentance which would bear fruit in the lives of those who heard him. In penitence and faith, let us offer to God our prayer for all people, saying,

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We pray for the church throughout the world, and for all those ordained to particular ministries for the building up for the body of Christ that in our diverse vocations we serve to the glory of God.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We pray for this nation and for all nations of the world, remembering especially those who are victims of political or social injustice. We pray for those whom we have elected to public office and for political leaders everywhere, that they may administer the tasks of government with courage and equity.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We pray for the natural world and for our own stewardship of creation, that we might be advocates for actions needed to leave an abundant creation for future generations.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We pray for the sick, the elderly, and those who live alone, especially for all those on our parish prayer list and for those we now offer, either silently or aloud. We pray for those who are overworked and for those who cannot find work. Send them the power of the Holy Spirit, that they may abound in hope.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

For those who have died, especially Les Waton, father of Kelley Bonneau and those we remember either silently or aloud. For those who are dying, and for those who grieve, that they might find hope in your promise of lasting life.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We pray for our parish family.

Almighty and everlasting God, make our parish of Good Shepherd truly a community of prayer and belonging. Raise up in our midst the resources and leadership which will enable us to act upon what you would have us do, in this place and in a ministry of love and concern for others. *Open my mind and heart to discern what you would have me do;* through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, you entered into our world and blessed our lives through the life, death and resurrection of Christ, your son and our Lord. Bless us still as we strive to become the people we were meant to be. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Priest Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept for a moment.

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.

ABSOLUTION *prayed by the Celebrant*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and then are seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Celebrant and People

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on these your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant

And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon you as you celebrate your birthday or wedding anniversary this week, and always. **Amen.**

THE OFFERING

Celebrant Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

During Advent, we join the prophets, John the Baptist, and Mary in preparing the way for Christ. This season reminds us that God works through ordinary people who offer what they have with trust and joy. Your giving helps Good Shepherd embody that hopeful readiness—serving our community, nurturing faith, and extending mercy. Thank you for helping us “make ready” a place where Christ’s light is seen.



Scan to give

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Creation Will Be at Peace

Page

DOXOLOGY • (blue Hymnal, 380 vs. 3)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Blessed are you, Lord of the coming dawn, whose promise breaks upon us like light long-awaited. Receive these offerings, given with hope and joy, the first glows of your Kingdom. Make them lamps of mercy for a world still waiting for healing. Bless givers and receivers alike, that together we may watch, wait, and walk in the light of Christ our Redeemer, who is coming to make all things new. **Amen.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Eucharistic Prayer 1 – Enriching Our Worship*)

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 our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant continues

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. 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, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Celebrant and People

**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.**

The Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.

Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, 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, 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

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

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

People and Celebrant

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM • S-161

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: Grant us peace.

THE INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

You are invited to receive communion, an ancient practice intended for all baptized Christians, no matter your tradition.

You may receive just the bread (which is full participation in the sacrament), or both the bread and the wine. As an alternative to sipping directly from the cup, you are invited to receive by intinction and the priest will dip the bread in a separate chalice for you. To receive by intinction please fold your hands in front of you at the altar rail to indicate your preference. Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your need known to the minister.

For those not receiving communion, you may also cross your arms over your chest for a blessing.

If you would like special prayers for healing--whether it be physical, emotional, mental, or spiritual--members of the Healing Team are available to pray with you in the side chapel. Please notify an usher if you would like a Healing Team member to come to you.

MUSIC AT THE COMMUNION

Sung by the congregation

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

O day of peace that dimly shines

Disrud & Christensen

Hymn 597

SENDING FORTH EUCHARISTIC VISITORS *When scheduled*

Celebrant In the name of God and of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts to N., 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 and one cup. Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *All stand*

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE BLESSING

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN • 75

There's a voice in the wilderness crying

THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

TODAY'S SERVANT LEADERS

Celebrant and Preacher	The Rev. Ted Pardoe
Crucifer/Server	Sophie Riddle
Torch Bearers	Samantha Taylor, Alia Thomas
Verger	Dan Gilbert
Reader	Margaret Dunstan
Intercessor	George Creel
Eucharistic Ministers	Lucy Lanpher, Beth Bohnsack, Alicia Howard
Healing Ministers	Tamara Martin, Patti Dunn
Ushers	Kevin and Maggie Riddle
Greeters	Rob and Andrea Taylor
Vocalists	Dennis Ayer, Peter Carras, Jenna Hoefert, Eddie Howard, Emily Kane, Patrick Levitsky, Chantal Pontbriand, Gary Riggs, Loretta Smith, Tom Valk, and Debbie White
Organist	Timm C. Johnson-Reynolds
Altar Guild	Wendy Frezza, Linda ClenDenning
Coffee Hour	Mary Jane Seitz, Valerie Hampe
Sound and Livestream	Erik Pariseleti

OUR STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Sanford H. Groff, Jr., *Rector*
The Rev. James A. Cook, *Assisting Priest*
The Rev. Bonnie Q. Jones, *Non-stipendiary Clergy*
Timm C. Johnson-Reynolds, *Organist & Choir Director*
Heather Vaughn, *Head of School*
Jo Wood, *Director of Hospitality*
Debbie White, *Assistant Choir Director*
Lynn Evans, *Business Manager*
Michelle Lane, *Parish Admin & Children's Ministries*
Mary Lou Crifasi, *Office Coordinator*
Lisa Ellington, *Office Assistant*
Beth Long, *Thrift Store Manager*
Jennifer Johnson, *Thrift Store Assistant Manager*
Erik Pariseleti, *Technology Coordinator*
Evelyn Seely, *Digital Media Assistant*
Yolanda Aquilar, *Custodian*
Laz Fernandez, *Sexton*
America Hernandez, *Nursery Attendant*
Alex Serra-Wolfington, *Seminarian*

OUR VESTRY

Dan Gilbert, *Senior Warden*
Kevin Riddle, *Junior Warden*
Carolyn Reikenis, *Clerk*
Mike Greene, *Treasurer*
Sophie Riddle, *Youth Liaison*
Caroline Boren
Dimitri Chimerakis
George Creel
Ron Doucette
Kate Gouery
Mike Grashof
Julie Hirsch
Larry Smith
Janice Thomas



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