

CALVARY
E P I S C O P A L C H U R C H

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Deccember 21st, 2025
10:30 am

We welcome ALL:
People of Color
Immigrants
LGBTQ+
Drag Queens
Partnered and Single
Differently Abled
Families and Children
Young and Old
Our Unhoused Neighbors
The Alcoholic and Addicted
Believers and Those Questioning Faith
Anyone Who Desires a Spiritual Home.

Calvary's welcome extends to all. But more importantly-
God welcomes you for exactly who you are.

The Rt. Rev. Terry Allen White
VIII Bishop of Kentucky

SCAN TO DONATE



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Please be seated.

AGAIN THE LORD SPOKE TO AHAZ, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

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

PSALM 80:1-7, 16-18

TUNE: VENI EMMANUEL

Antiphon

Show the light of your coun - ten - ance O God, and we shall be saved.

- 1 Hear O Shepherd of Israel, ... leading Joseph [like] a flock;*
shine forth you that are enthroned up-[on] the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, ... Benjamin [and] Manasseh,*
stir up your strength and [come] to help us.
- 3 Restore us O [God] of hosts;*
show the light of your countenance, ... and [we shall] be saved.

Antiphon

- 4 O LORD [God] of hosts,*
how long will you be angered despite the [prayers of] your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the [bread] of tears;*
you have given them bowls of [tears] to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision [of] our neighbors,*
and our enemies [laugh us] to scorn.
- 7 Restore us O [God] of hosts;*
show the light of your countenance, ... and [we shall] be saved.

Antiphon

- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of [your] right hand,*
the son of man you have made so [strong for] yourself.
- 17 And so will we never [turn] away from you;*
give us life that we may call up-[on] your name.
- 18 Restore us O LORD [God] of hosts;*
show the light of your countenance, ... and [we shall] be saved.

Antiphon

PAUL, A SERVANT OF JESUS CHRIST, CALLED TO BE AN APOSTLE, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN 56

O come, O come, Emmanuel

VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL

THE GOSPEL

MATTHEW 1:18-25

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

NOW THE BIRTH OF JESUS THE MESSIAH TOOK PLACE IN THIS WAY. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

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

THE SERMON *Please be seated*

The. Rev. Chris Brannock

THE NICENE CREED *Please stand*

BCP 358

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth,
 of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
 the only Son of God,
 eternally begotten of the Father,
 God from God, Light from Light,
 true God from true God, begotten, not made,
 of one Being with the Father.
 Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
 he came down from heaven:
 by the power of the Holy Spirit
 he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
 and was made man.
 For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
 he suffered death and was buried.
 On the third day he rose again
 in accordance with the Scriptures;
 he ascended into heaven
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Form IV

The Leader and People pray responsively

BCP 388

Leader Let us pray for the Church and for the world.
Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence
People Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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

Silence
People Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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

Silence
People Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, especially those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence
People Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially those on our Calvary prayer list; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence
People Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence
People Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Celebrant continues.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

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.*

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

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. *Amen.*

Those for whom our prayers have been requested: David, Zander, Bonnie, Mark, Nick, Sandra, Shelly, Sandy, Phillip, Ruth and family, Ben, John, Michael, Greg, Eva, Bob, and Rusty.

THE PEACE *Please stand*

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS *Please be seated*

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY

O Emmanuel

E. ESENVALDS

O Emmanuel, Rex et legifer noster,
 O Emmanuel, exspectatio gentium et salvator earum:
 veni ad salvandum nos, Domine Deus noster.

THE DOXOLOGY *Please stand*

A LA VENUE DE NOËL

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.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING - PRAYER B
The people remain standing. The Celebrant continues

People The Lord be with you.
Celebrant *And also with you.*
People Lift up your hearts.
Celebrant *We lift them to the Lord.*
People Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
Celebrant *It is right to give our thanks and praise.*
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS S-130

Available in 4-part harmony in the Hymnal 1982

SETTING: FR. DEUTSCHE MESSE; F. P. SCHUBERT

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, —

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, —

he a - ven and earth are full, — full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless-ed is he who comes — in the name of the Lord. — Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The people stand or kneel
Then the Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *Amen.*

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 364

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.

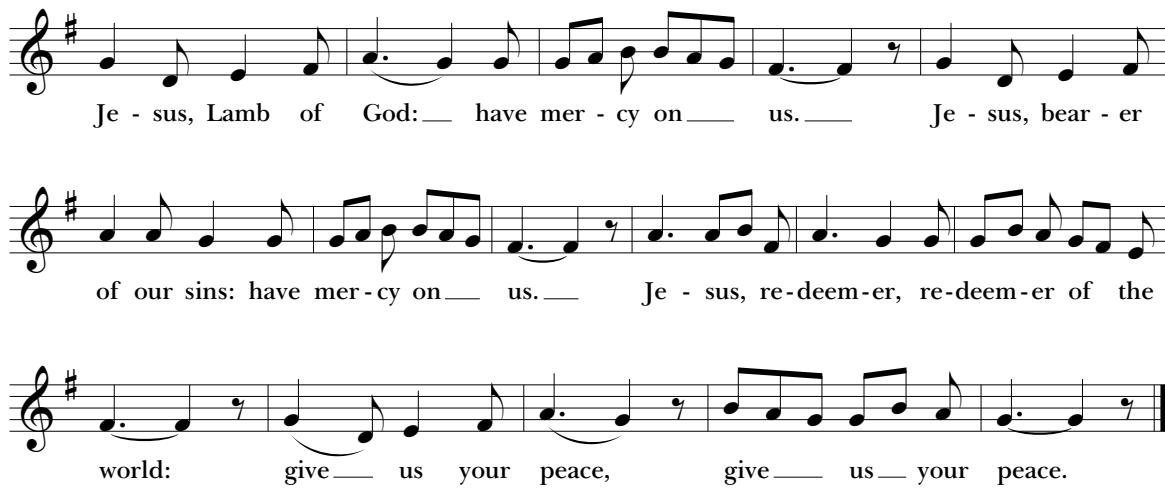
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE FRACTION ANTHEM S-164

Available in 4-part harmony in the Hymnal 1982

SETTING: FR. DEUTSCHE MESSE; F. P. SCHUBERT



Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us. Je - sus, bear - er
of our sins: have mer - cy on us. Je - sus, re-deem - er, re-deem - er of the
world: give us your peace, give us your peace.

THE COMMUNION

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Song of Mary

H. FRIEDELL

Bring not a crown to wear, upon his head so fair,
He needs no gold upon his shining hair,
Place not a scepter in his hands,
For this my babe no glory understands,
Nor shall he reign o'er earthly lands.

Bring not your incense sweet, to lay before his feet,
For thrones shall pass and kingly joys are fleet,
Greet not my babe in homage deep,
Let no praise break upon his sleep,
Like guarding angels, silence keep.

Bring him your hearts along, to God such gifts are known,
The poor and meek the Father calls his own,
Only your love and service bring,
At gifts so sweet the heavens sing,
O enter now and greet your King!

COMMUNION HYMN 60

Creator of the stars of night

CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM

Please stand or kneel

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE BLESSING

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People *Thanks be to God.*

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Eve Service Please join us at Calvary on Wednesday, December 24th, for our Christmas Eve Service. The music program will begin at 3:30 p.m., followed by the Eucharistic service (and Christmas pageant!) at 4:00. All are welcome!

Updates from the Senior Warden Calvary has begun to receive names of and discern with prospective Interim Candidates with a targeted start date in early 2026. In the meantime, services of Holy Eucharist will continue with supply clergy. This Sunday, we welcome The Rev. Chris Brannock to the pulpit.

Food Pantry Update Last Tuesday, our volunteers were delighted to receive a monstrous food donation collected by Gallagher Insurance workers. Our 117 clients received gallons of milk, plus eggs, cheese, cereal, peanut butter, tuna, chicken, sugar, bread and a host of canned staples. Other donors stepped up with Christmas decorations, toys, canned items, cards, and then St. Paul's Episcopal rushed in with 740 items. That wasn't all! The final donation of the day gave us bag after bag of potatoes, pears, and apples. And two unexpected cash donations sweetened the pot as well. Overabundance? No way! 117 chilly clients received most of the food and gifts before the morning was over!! Just another exciting day in our Calvary Food Pantry! We are grateful.

LEM: Help Us Make a List With both Vestry and Diocese approval, plans are moving forward to begin the ministry of the Lay Eucharistic Visitors. We had an excellent response and expect to be able to visit recovering and homebound parishioners as soon as Christmas. We need your help in creating a list of those folks who might want us to visit. Please put a note or card in the alms basin during the offertory with the names of those parishioners you would like us to remember. We will contact them.

We will introduce the new LEVs to you after our training session. We are delighted to reconnect more often with these parishioners!

TODAY WE WELCOME
The Rev. Chris Brannock

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Andrew Weinberger, *Senior Warden*, Class of 2026
Donna Duvall, *Junior Warden*, Class of 2026
Stephanie Smith, *Treasurer*
Mary Redden, *Secretary*, Class of 2028

VESTRY

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Matthew Moye, Class of 2028
J.C. Phelps, Class of 2028
Kathleen Wooldridge, Class of 2028

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