

CALVARY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*Lessons & Carols on
The Second Sunday of Advent*

December 7th, 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

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SCAN TO DONATE



ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS WITH HOLY EUCHARIST

PRELUDE

CHORAL INTROIT

Drop Down, Ye Heavens, From Above

J. WEIR

Drop down ye heavens from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness.
Comfort ye, comfort ye my people; my salvation shall not tarry.
I have blotted out as a thick cloud, thy transgressions:
Fear not, for I will save thee; For I am the Lord thy God, the holy one of Israel,
thy redeemer.

Please stand

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 59

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding

MERTON

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

THE BIDDING PRAYER

BELOVED IN CHRIST, in this season of Advent, let it be our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, to see the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by his holy Child; and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within this city.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless; the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. *Amen.*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY *Please remain standing*

BCP 211

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 FIRST LESSON: A READING FROM ISAIAH

Isaiah 35:1-10

Please be seated.

THE WILDERNESS AND THE DRY LAND SHALL BE GLAD, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

CAROL

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

P. MANZ

Peace be to you and grace from Him who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed His blood that we might saved be.
Sing Holy, Holy to our Lord, the Lord, almighty God,
Who was and is and is to come; Sing Holy, Holy Lord!
Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
For Christ is coming, is coming soon, for Christ is coming soon.
E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more;
They need no light nor lamp nor sun, for Christ will be their all!

THE SECOND LESSON: A READING FROM ISAIAH

Isaiah 40:1-11

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 flesh 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 flesh is 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 forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion,

Lector	The Word of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	<i>Thanks be to God.</i>

4

the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity, for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord—and their descendants as well. Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, but the serpent—its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

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

CAROL 597
Please stand

O day of peace that dimly shines

JERUSALEM

THE FIFTH LESSON: A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW
Please remain standing

Matthew 3:1-12

Gospeller 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 ax 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.”

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

CAROL
Please be seated

Bogoroditse Devo

S. RACHMANINOFF

Bogoróditse Dévo, ráduyŝia,
Blagodátnaya Mařiye, Ghospód s Tobóyu.
Blagoslovēnna Tì v zhenáh,
i blagoslovēn Plod chřéva Tvoyegó,
yáko Spása roδίlá yeŝi dush náshih.

Mother of God, Virgin, rejoice,
Mary full of grace, the Lord is with You.
Blessed are You among women,
and blessed is the Fruit of Your womb,
for You have borne the Savior of our souls.

THE SERMON *Please be seated*

The Rev. Richard Schmidt

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

BCP 388

The Leader and People pray responsively

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

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

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

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

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

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 359

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: Sandra, Shelby, 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

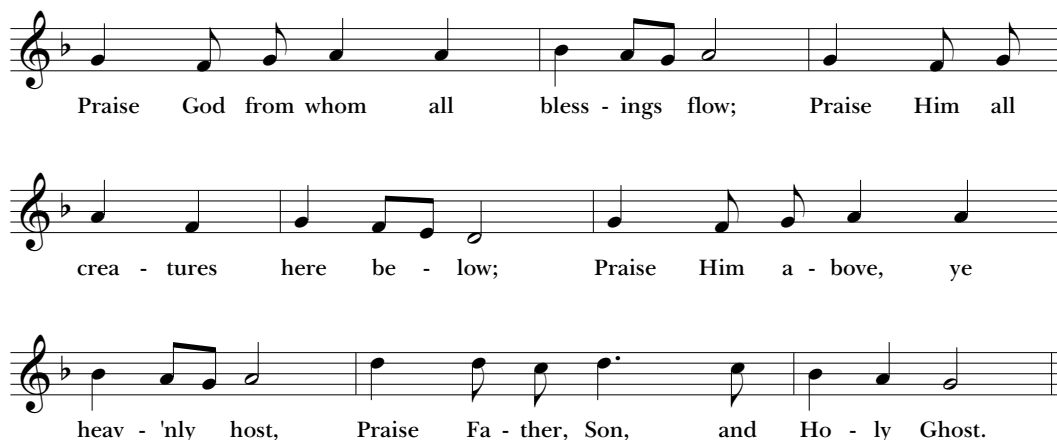
Lo, how a rose e'er blooming

ARR. M. CULLOTON

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming,
From tender stem hath sprung.
Of Jesse's lineage coming, As men of old have sung;
It came, a flow'ret bright, Amid the cold of winter,
When half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
The Rose I have in mind,
With Mary we behold it, The virgin mother kind;
To show God's love aright, She bore to men a Savior,
When half spent was the night.

O Flower, whose fragrance tender With sweetness fills the air,
Dispel with glorious splendour The darkness everywhere;
True man, yet very God, From Sin and death now save us,
And share our every load.



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING - PRAYER B

The people remain standing. The Celebrant continues

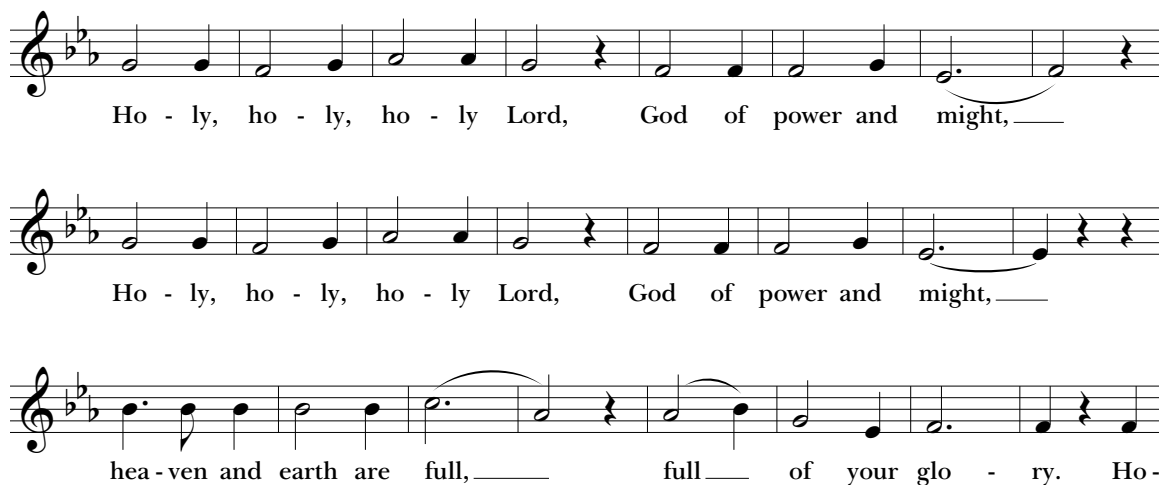
	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	<i>And also with you.</i>
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	<i>We lift them to the Lord.</i>
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<i>People</i>	<i>It is right to give our thanks and praise.</i>
Celebrant	It is right, and a good and joyful thing,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

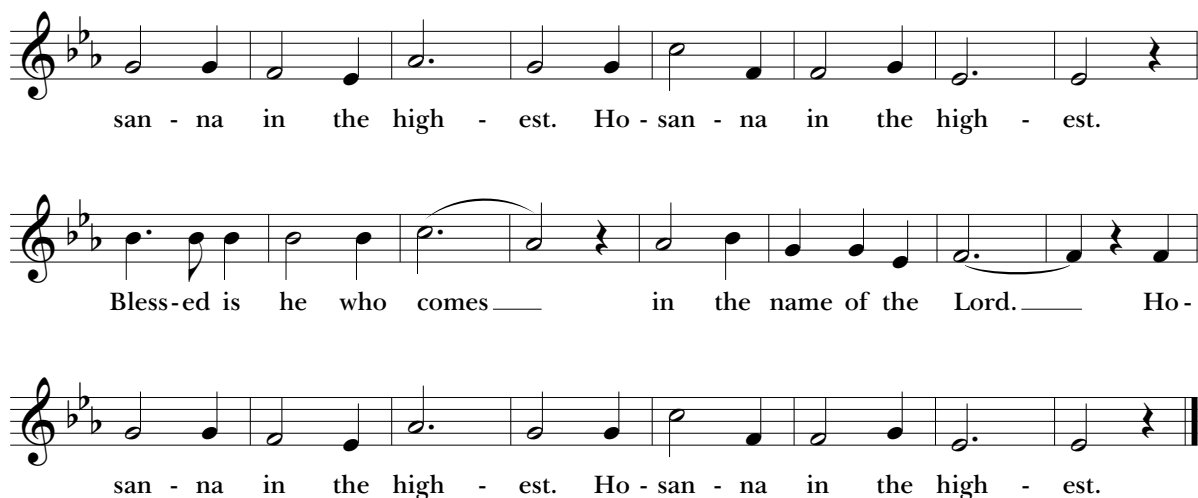
Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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

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

Available in 4-part harmony in the Hymnal 1982



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

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

Available in 4-part harmony in the Hymnal 1982

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 HYMN 56

O come, O come, Emmanuel

VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL

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

RECESSIONAL HYMN 67

Comfort, comfort ye my people

PSALM 42

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Discretionary Fund Cash offerings from this Sunday's service go to the Calvary Discretionary Fund, to support various ministries and individuals on an as-needed basis. If you would like to contribute by check, please make a notation in the check memo line. Thank you!

Christmas Poinsettias and Greenery If you would like to contribute toward Christmas greenery and poinsettias, please use the form provided in the weekly blast or from the back of the nave. You may make your contribution in memory or in honor of family or friends, in thanksgiving, or simply to the glory of God. Please consider a donation of \$35 or more, payable to Calvary Episcopal Church. The deadline to include your donation in the Christmas bulletin is December 18th.

Advent Bible Study Breaking open God's splendid love letter (called the Bible) will continue at Calvary for the remaining Sundays during Advent. All are welcome as we gather to reflect and discuss the Gospel readings for Advent found in the lectionary in the BCP. We meet in the Rector's office from 9:30-10:15 with Robert Dever leading.

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!

Updates from the Senior Warden The Vestry will begin discerning with Interim candidates in the near future for a targeted Interim start date in early 2026. In the meantime, Sunday services of Holy Eucharist will continue with supply Clergy. This Sunday, we welcome The Rev. Richard Schmidt, who will lead our Eucharistic service.

TODAY WE WELCOME
The Rev. Richard Schmidt

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

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Amanda Walton, Class of 2026
Lauren Anderson, Class of 2027
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Ally Mason, Class of 2027
Jacob Middleton, Class of 2027
Matthew Moye, Class of 2028
J.C. Phelps, Class of 2028
Kathleen Wooldridge, Class of 2028

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ACOLYTES
Clark Koch & Quinn Rhodes

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