

CALVARY

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 14th, 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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Louisville, Kentucky 40203
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(502) 587-6011
calvaryepiscopal.org

SCAN TO DONATE



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 76

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

WINCHESTER NEW

SALUTATION

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People *And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP 355

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.*

KYRIE S-96

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

Available in 4-part harmony in the Hymnal 1982

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY *Please remain standing*

BCP 236

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

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.

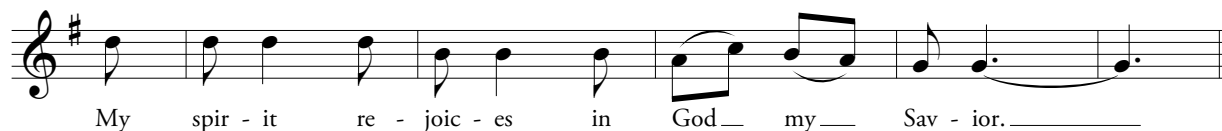
A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall 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.

CANTICLE 15

TUNE: VENI EMMANUEL

Antiphon

- 47 My soul proclaims the greatness [of] the Lord;*
my spirit rejoices in [God] my Savior,
48 **for he has looked with favor on his [low]-ly servant.***
From this day all generations will [call] me blest;
49 The Almighty has [done] great things for me,*
and holy [is] his name.
50 **He has mercy on [those] who fear him***
in every [gen]-eration.

*Antiphon**Continued on next page*



- 51 He has shown the [strength of] his arm;*
he has scattered the proud in [their] conceit.
- 52 **He has cast down the mighty [from] their thrones,*
and has lifted [up] the lowly.**
- 53 He has filled the hungry [with] good things,*
and the rich he has [sent a]-way empty.
- 54 **He has come to the help of his [ser]-vant Israel,*
for he has remembered his [promise] of mercy,**
- 55 the promise he [made to] our fathers,*
to Abraham and his [children] forever.

Antiphon

A READING FROM JAMES

James 5:7-10

BE PATIENT, THEREFORE, BELOVED, UNTIL THE COMING OF THE LORD. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN 72

Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes

RICHMOND

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 11:2-11

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

WHEN JOHN HEARD IN PRISON WHAT THE MESSIAH WAS DOING, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ “Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

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

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
The Leader and People pray responsively

BCP 388

<i>Leader</i>	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.
<i>Silence</i>	
<i>People</i>	Lord, in your mercy <i>Hear our prayer.</i>
	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.
<i>Silence</i>	
	Lord, in your mercy <i>Hear our prayer.</i>
	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.
<i>Silence</i>	
	Lord, in your mercy <i>Hear our prayer.</i>
	Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, especially those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.
<i>Silence</i>	
	Lord, in your mercy <i>Hear our prayer.</i>
	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.
<i>Silence</i>	
	Lord, in your mercy <i>Hear our prayer.</i>
	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.
<i>Silence</i>	
	Lord, in your mercy <i>Hear our prayer.</i>

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: 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

Gaude et laetare

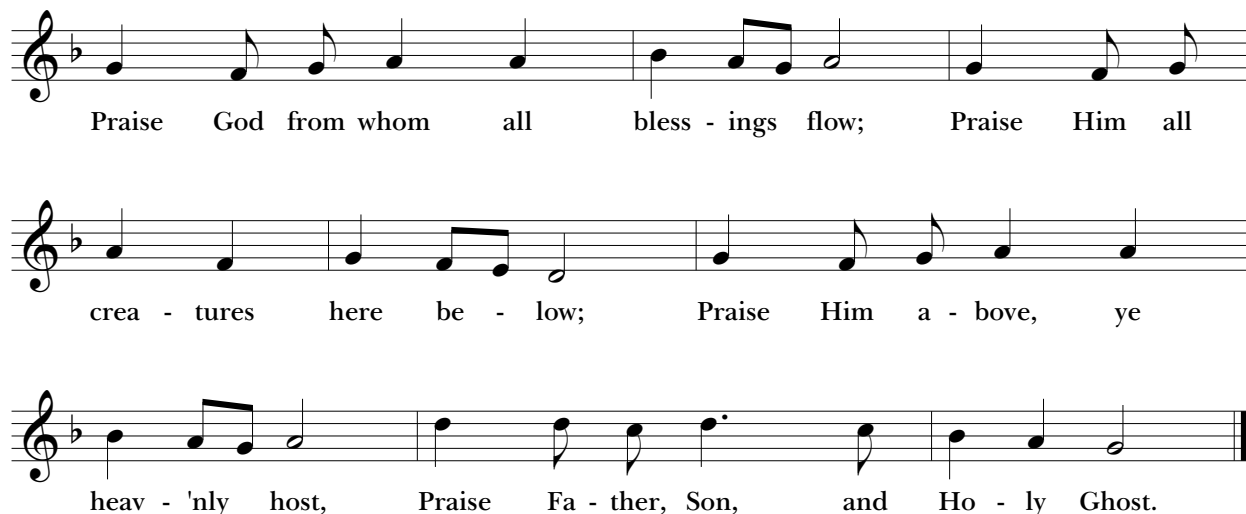
C. McDOWALL

Gaude et laetare, exultatio angelorum,
Gaude, Domini Virgo Prophetarum gaudium,
Dominus tecum est.

Gaude, quae per angelum gaudium mundi suscepisti,
Gaude, quae genuisti, Factorum et Dominum.
Gaudeas, quia digna es, esse Mater Christi.

THE DOXOLOGY *Please stand*

A LA VENUE DE NOËL



Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him all
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye
heav - 'nly host, Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

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

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 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, —

hea - 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.

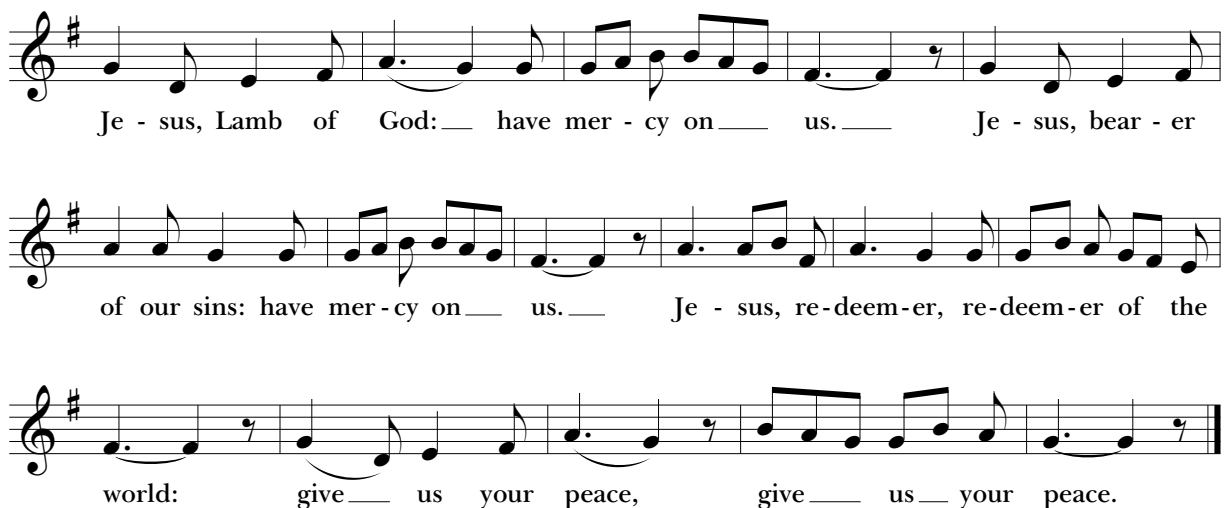
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

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

This is the record of John

G. IVES

This is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and
Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou? And he
confessed and denied not, and said plainly, I am not the
Christ.

And they asked him, What art thou then? Art thou Elias?
And he said, I am not. Art thou the prophet?

And he answered, No.

Then said they unto him, What art thou? that we may
give an answer unto them that sent us. What sayest thou
of thyself? And he said, I am the voice of him that crieth
in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord.

COMMUNION HYMN 64

O heavenly Word, eternal Light

O HEILAND, REISS

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 66

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

STUTTGART

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

*The Altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for the children and grandchildren of
Judy and Richard Wilson.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAST CALL: Christmas Poinsettias and Greenery If you would like to contribute toward Christmas greenery and poinsettias, please use the attached link/form in the weekly blast. 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.

Food Pantry Update Bread! We have been fortunate in the freezing weather to still have an abundance of donated bread and sweets, thanks to our dedicated volunteers like Lisa Allen, who holds up the buns that will find their way into a bag and eventually onto a hungry neighbor's table. Below-freezing temperatures this past week have not deterred our people in need of food, so keep it coming!

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 back 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

VESTRY
Larry Reining, Class of 2026
Amanda Walton, Class of 2026
Lauren Anderson, Class of 2027
Don Esbenshade, Class of 2027
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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Larry Frederiksen, Ally Mason, Linda French

ACOLYTES
Gray Howell & Opal Walton

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