

St. Monica's Episcopal Church

Where we "Pray, Love, Give"

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

Saturday 5:00 pm November 29, 2025

Sunday 10:00 am November 30, 2025

Welcome to Saint Monica's Episcopal Church. We rejoice that you came to our church today, and we hope that you feel at home here.

As an Episcopal Church, we believe the mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ. The Church pursues its mission as it prays and worships, proclaims the Gospel, and promotes justice, peace, and love. The church carries out its mission through the ministry of all its members.

(Book of Common Prayer, p. 855)

As you consider what brought you here, perhaps seeking spiritual growth, looking for community, or responding to a simple invitation, please take a moment to look at the opportunities listed in the announcements included with this bulletin to find ways to grow in your faith and find a place of welcome. If you have any questions about how you can take part in the community of St. Monica's or about the Episcopal Church, please feel free to contact The Rev. Sylvia Czarnetzky, Interim Rector or The Rev Ken McCaslin, Deacon.

Again, we are glad you are here at Saint Monica's Episcopal Church where all are welcome.

**** Please remember to silence your electronic devices during the service. ****

Welcome and Announcements

Please stand as you are able

Processional Hymn

Prepare the Way, O Zion

Hymn 65

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be His kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Collect for Purity

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 Eleison

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us

Healey Willan, S-91

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Word of God

Please be seated

The First Lesson

Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.



- 1 I was glad when they / said to me,*
"Let us go to the / house of the LORD.
- 2 Now our feet are / standing*
within your gates, / O Jerusalem.
- 3 Jerusalem is built as a / city*
that is at un/ity with itself;
- 4 To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the / LORD,*
the assembly of Israel, to praise the / Name of the LORD.
- 5 For there are the thrones of / judgment,*
the thrones of the / house of David.
- 6 Pray for the peace of Jer/usalem:*
"May they pros/per who love you.
- 7 Peace be within your / walls*
and quietness with/in your towers.
- 8 For my brethren and com/panions' sake,*
I pray for / your prosperity.
- 9 Because of the house of the / LORD our God,*
I will / seek to do you good. "

Second Reading

Romans 13:11-14

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Hymn 66

The Gospel

Matthew 24:36-44

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

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will

be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Sylvia R. Czarnetzky

Please stand as you are able

The Nicene Creed

Page 358, BCP

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.*

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

The Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively

For Advent through Epiphany

Adapted from the New Zealand Prayer Book

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, giving thanks for God's goodness.

Reader: Blessed are you eternal God,

People: to be praised and glorified forever.

Reader: Heavenly Father, hear us as we pray for the unity of the Church.

People: May we all be one that the world may believe.

Reader: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you,

People: that the life of Christ may be revealed in us.

Reader: We remember those who have died.

People: Father, into your hands we commend them.

Reader: Remembering especially Saint Monica, we praise you for all your saints who have entered your eternal glory.

People: May we also come to share your heavenly kingdom.

Reader: We lift before you those on our parish prayer list. Have compassion on all those who suffer from sickness, grief, or trouble.

People: May they find strength in your presence.

Reader: Look with kindness on our homes and families.

People: Grant that your love may grow in our hearts.

Reader: Keep us ever mindful of the needs of others.

People: Help us to share one another's joys and burdens.

Reader: Inspire and lead those who hold authority in the nations of the world

People: Guide them in the ways of justice and peace.

Reader: Strengthen all who minister in the name of Christ, especially Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and Doug, our Bishop.

People: Give us courage to proclaim your Gospel.

Reader: We pray in silence for our own needs and the needs of others.

Concluding Collect

Almighty and most merciful God, you gave your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born of the Virgin Mary; grant that we, who have been made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy and Life-Giving Spirit. We ask this through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin

Celebrant 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.*

Absolution

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*

Please stand as you are able.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

Offertory *Saturday Only*
Sunday Only

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People
With a Voice of Singing

Hymn 67
Martin Shaw

Please stand as you are able.

Presentation

The Doxology (Stanza 3)

Hymn 380

**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.**

Please stand as you are able.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B, BCP 361

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 him thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant continues:

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

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

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Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

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. 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

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 Saint Monica and 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

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

Fraction Anthem

Jesus, Lamb of God

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The Invitation to Communion

You are invited and encouraged to come to God's table. The communion bread is received on an outstretched palm.

If you wish to receive a blessing instead of the sacrament, please cross your arms over your chest.

Communion Hymn *Sunday Only*

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Hymn 67

Sending Prayer (*as needed*)

Celebrant Most Gracious God, we send forth your servants bearing these Holy Gifts, that those to whom they 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 in the Body and Blood of Christ. **Amen.**

Please stand as you are able.

Post Communion Prayer

Page 365, BCP

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Blessing

Response: *Amen.*

Recessional Hymn

Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers

Hymn 68

The Dismissal

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude *Sunday Only*

Advent Chorale

Felix Mendelssohn

What is St. Monica's about?

As an Episcopal Church, we believe the mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ. The Church pursues its mission as it prays and worships, proclaims the Gospel, and promotes justice, peace, and love. The church carries out its mission through the ministry of all its members. (*Book of Common Prayer*, p. 855)

Within this framework, St. Monica's maintains a culture where ...

- We warmly welcome all. We affirm the dignity of all humanity through a warm and friendly welcome.
- We connect with the community. We support ministries with our talents, finances, and passions.
- We cultivate a culture that welcomes children and youth, affirming them in their baptismal identity and that they are children of God with gifts to offer to the church.
- Music plays a vital role in our worship and outreach to the community.
- Through prayer, friendship, and community, God's Spirit heals us.
- Fun is a high value in our community and is woven throughout our congregational life.
- We open ourselves to the Spirit. We have a long history of trying new ventures and ministries. Within the framework of our Episcopal values, we are open to change.

LECTORS THIS WEEK

5pm Theresa Miller
10am Sue Adams

USHERS THIS WEEK

5pm Mary Gentzle
Ann Hoffman
10am Kyle Williamson
Tom Cotè

FLOWER GUILD MEMBERS

Debbie Corey
Sharon Lapierre

GREETERS THIS WEEK

5pm Ed and Toni Strong
10am Heather Williamson

ACOLYTES THIS WEEK

5pm Toni Strong
10am Jesse Roberts

CAMERA TEAM

Tom Cotè
Matt Devlin
Ashan Nabbie
Jim Sarconi
Kyle Williamson

ALTAR GUILD MEMBERS

Linda Duffy
Linda Freund
Mary Gentzle
Sandy Kilmon
Stacey McCurdy
Theresa Miller
JoAnn Sarconi
Ruthann Turley
Heather Williamson

VESTRY

Ed Strong - Sr. Warden, Ralph Pike - Jr. Warden, Heather Williamson - Secretary
Margaret Holt, Dick Rumpf, Marilyn Dessauer, Melanie Rose

STAFF

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