THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II
NOVEMBER 29, 2026
8:45AM AND 11:00AM

Quiet in the nave before the service helps us to mark sacred space and time.
We invite you to use this time to prayerfully prepare for worship.
Please remember to silence your cell phone.

Voluntary *Rorate caeli* Melissa Dunphy

The Word of God

Hymn 66, *Standing, sung by all* *Come, thou long-expected Jesus* STUTTGART

The Opening Acclamation
Celebrant Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Kyrie S94, *Sung by all* Plainsong
Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.
Christ have mercy, Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.

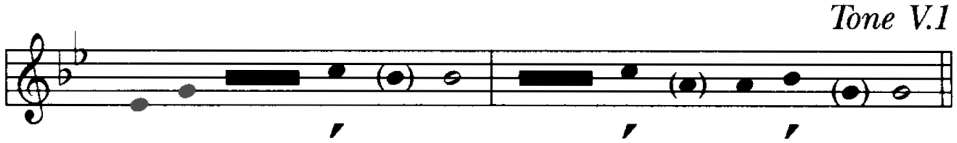
The Collect of the Day
Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.
Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; 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 First Reading, *Seated* **Isaiah 64:1-9**
O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence-- as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil-- to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.

You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

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

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18, *Please join in singing the bold portions of the Psalm*



1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph / like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned u-/pon the cherubim.
2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Ma-/nasseh, *
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.
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.
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 a-/way from you; *
give us life, that we may / call upon your Name.
18 Restore us, O Lord / God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and / we shall be saved.

The Second Reading **1 Corinthians 1:3-9**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ

Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Hymn 59, *Standing, sung by all* *Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding* MERTON

During the sequence hymn, children aged 4 through 4th grade are invited to follow the children's cross to Children's Chapel. Parents are always welcome to attend. All will return during the Peace.

The Holy Gospel **Mark 13:24-37**
Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

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

The Sermon Amanda Boyce, Seminarian

The Nicene Creed, *Standing* 358

The Prayers of the People, Form I, *Standing or kneeling* 383

The Confession and Absolution 360

The Peace, *Standing* 360

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

8:45am *Advent Prose* Mode V

Antiphon: Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness.

1. Be not wroth very sore, O Lord, neither remember iniquity forever:
thy holy cities are a wilderness, Sion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation:
our holy and our beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee. [Ant.]

2. We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing, and we all do fade as a leaf:
and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away:
thou hast hid thy face from us: and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities. [Ant.]

3. Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen:
that ye may know me and believe me:
I, even I, am the Lord, and beside me there is no Saviour:
and there is none that can deliver out of my hand. [Ant.]

4. 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. [Ant.]

—7th century Latin

11:00am *Rorate caeli* Josef Rheinberger

Rorate caeli desuper et nubes pluant iustum.
Aperiatur terra et germinet salvatorem.

Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness:
let the earth open, and let it bring forth a Saviour.
—7th century Latin

Presentation Hymn 290, st. 4, *Standing, sung by all* ST. GEORGE'S

Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest home;
gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin;
there, for ever purified, in thy presence.
To abide; come, with all thine angels
Come, raise the glorious harvest home.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer C 369

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.**

Celebrant God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
People **Glory to you forever and ever.**

Celebrant At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.
People **By your will they were created and have their being.**

Celebrant From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.
People **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Celebrant Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time your sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.
People **By his blood, he reconciled us.**
By his wounds, we are healed.

Celebrant And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus S122, *Sung by all* Plainsong

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.

Standing or kneeling
Celebrant And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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."
After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving:

People **We celebrate his death and resurrection,**
as we await the day of his coming.

Celebrant Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Celebrant Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Sprit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **Amen.**

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

The Lord's Prayer, *Said by all* 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

Agnus Dei S160, *Sung by all* Plainsong

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 Communion

Regardless of the denomination of your baptism, you are invited to receive Holy Communion in the Episcopal Church. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest. If you are interested in being baptized please speak with a clergy person after the service or contact the church office. Gluten free wafers available upon request.

Music during Communion *Advent Prose, 'Rorate caeli' (11am only)*
For text, please see the 8:45am offertory.

Hymn 640 *Watchman, tell us of the night* ABERYSTWYTH

Hymn 62 *"Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us* WACHET AUF

When Lay Eucharistic Visitors are sent forth to take communion to the sick or homebound, the following is offered:
Celebrant We send you forth bearing these holy gifts, 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, one cup.**

The Postcommunion Prayer, *Said by all, standing or kneeling* 366
Celebrant Let us pray.
Celebrant and People **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

Hymn 57 , *Standing, sung by all* *Lo! he comes, with clouds descending* HELMSLEY

The Dismissal
The Deacon offers a dismissal followed by:
People **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary *Le Monde dans l'attente du Sauveur (Symphonie-Passion, op. 23)* Marcel Dupré

In loving memory of N.W. and Anne Blue Tucker and Virginia Clark Parnell by Shari, Nicholas and Clara Williams.

CELEBRANT The Rev. Michael Goldsmith
PREACHER Amanda Boyce
ASSISTING The Rev. Dr. Melissa M. Hartley
DEACON The Rev. Dn. Dr. Robert A. Serio
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC Dr. Aaron Tan

You may scan the QR code to be directed to the Shelby Giving Page to make a gift or pledge.

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where faith holds wide the door
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