

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



November 30, 2025 • 10:30 am
+ Holy Eucharist



*The King shall come when morning dawns and
light triumphant breaks;
when beauty gilds the eastern hills and
life to joy awakes.*



WELCOME

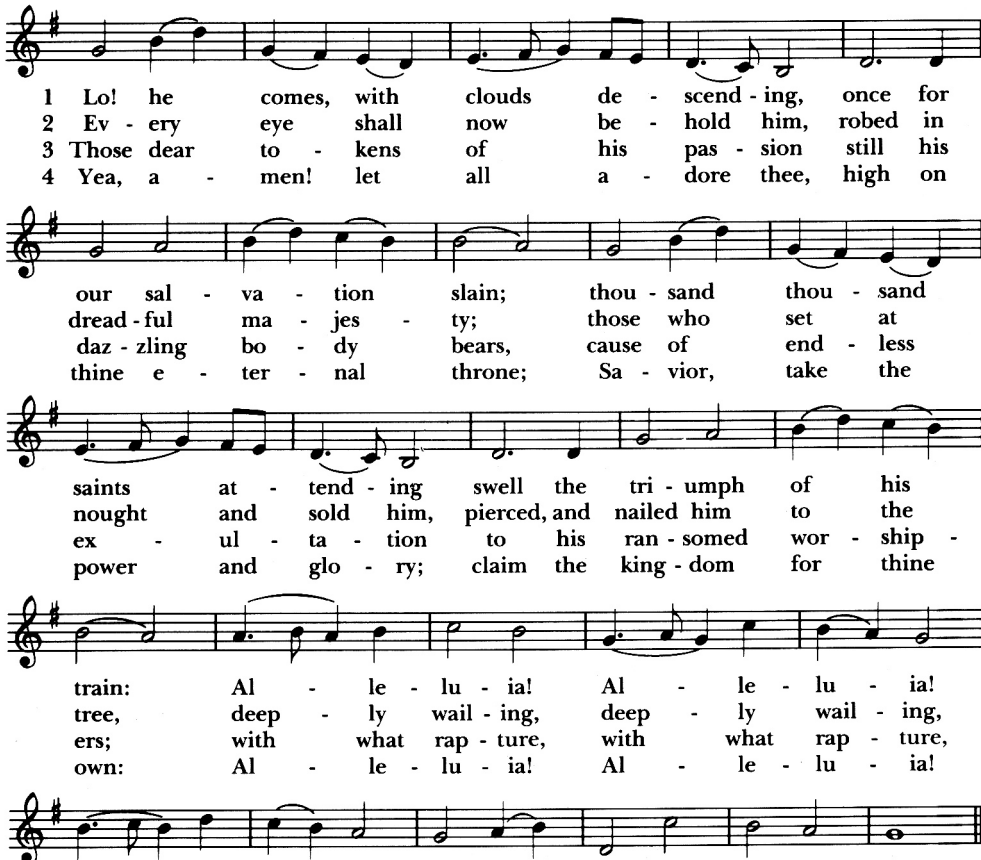
- Nave services may be livestreamed for our online congregation. Cameras focus primarily on vested ministers, but others in the cathedral may also be visible in live or archived video.

Prelude *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*, BWV 645

J. S. Bach

- at the sound of the bells, all stand

Hymn 57 *Lo! he comes with clouds descending*



1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
 2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
 3 Those dear to - kens of his pas - sion still his
 4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on

our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
 dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
 daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
 thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
 nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
 ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
 power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
 ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
 own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: *Helmsley*, melody Augustine Arne (1710-1778)

87. 87 12 7

Opening Acclamation

Blessed are you, holy and living One.
You come to your people and you set them free.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath • Liturgy for the Whole Church

The evening of the year is upon us.

We enter the darkness and wait for the light's return.

We light one candle to remind us of God's light which has come
to us all through Christ.

**We open our hearts to that light, and ask for help to shine
with the brilliance of love.**

- *the candle is lighted*

All of our waiting is waiting for God.

God of our hearts, we wait for you alone.

Song of Praise • S 100 *Trisagion*

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im -
mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us. Ho - ly God,
Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy
up - on us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Setting: From *New Plainson*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Collect for the First Sunday of Advent

celebrant *people* *celebrant*

God be with you. And also with you. 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.

A - men.

- *all be seated*

First Reading 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!

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

I was glad when they said to me, *
"Let us go to the house of the Lord."
Now our feet are standing *
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
Jerusalem is built as a city *
that is at unity with itself;
To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, *
the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the Lord.
For there are the thrones of judgment, *
the thrones of the house of David.
Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: *
"May they prosper who love you.
Peace be within your walls *
and quietness within your towers.
For my brethren and companions' sake, *
I pray for your prosperity.
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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn 75 *There's a voice in the wilderness crying*

1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a ____
 2 O ____ Zi - on, that bring - est good tid - ings, get thee ____
 3 but the word of our God ____ en - dur - eth, the ____

call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a
 up to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late
 arm of the Lord is strong; he stands in the midst ____ of

high - way, a high - way for our God! The ____
 peo - ple the com - ing of their King. Like the
 na - tions, and he will right the wrong. He shall

val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the
 flowers of the field they ____ per - ish, like
 feed his ____ flock like a shep - herd, the

lof - ty hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed
 grass our works de - cay, the power and ____ pomp of
 lambs he'll gent - ly hold; to pas - tures of peace he'll

pla - ces where the Lord our ____ God ____ may go!
 na - tions shall ____ pass like a dream ____ a - way;
 lead them, and ____ bring them safe to his fold.

Words: James Lewis Milligan (1876-1961), alt.
 Music: *Ascension*, Henry Hugh Bancroft (b. 1904)

Irr.

Gospel Matthew 24:36-44

The Holy Gospel of our Savior, Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

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 our Savior.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon The Very Reverend Matthew Bradley

Nicene Creed • *all stand*

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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

• *the deacon says:*

Almighty God, you have given us grace to worship and praise you. In these days let us seek the paths of justice and righteousness, and let our prayers rise up to you, saying 'Amen. Come Lord Jesus.'

• *the intercessor continues:*

Let us pray for the Church Universal throughout the world; for Bartholomew, Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, for the ancient Churches of the East, for Leo, Bishop of Rome and Patriarch of the West, for Sarah chosen to be Archbishop of Canterbury, for Sean our Presiding Bishop, for Terry our own Bishop, for all bishops, priests and deacons, and for all who minister to God's people, saying

Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

Let us pray for our country, and for our elected leaders and representatives, especially President Trump, Vice President Vance, Governors Beshear and Braun, and for those newly elected to office, that we may be governed rightly and wisely, and led in peace, saying

Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

Let us pray for peace throughout the world, especially in Ukraine, the Middle East and West Africa and Sudan, saying

Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

Let us pray for all who are in danger, for the victims of hunger and oppression, saying

Amen. Come Lord Jesus

Let us pray for the needs, concerns and thanksgivings of those who have asked for our prayers, especially Judy Donahue, Kitten Lawless, George Hubbard, Robert Huffman, Carlos LaGantta, Ginger Shackleton, Dean Weller and Marcia Wilmet, for Frazier Marsh who celebrates a birthday, and for those whom we now mention either silently or aloud , as we say

Amen. Come Lord Jesus

Let us pray for those who have died or are nearing death, including those whom we now mention either silently or aloud , that they may behold your face in your eternal kingdom, saying

Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

- *the celebrant concludes*

Father of all, we pray to you for Sallie, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May her soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Amen.

Confession • *bidden by the deacon*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

- *said by all*

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 our Savior 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 • *declared by the celebrant*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. .

Amen.

The Peace • *all greet one another in the name of the Lord*

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

LITURGY OF THE ALTAR



You can make a gift in support of the Cathedral's ministry online by scanning the QR code or going to <https://abundant.co/christchurchlouky/give>

Offertory Anthem

O, Pray for the peace of Jerusalem

Herbert Howells

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

They shall prosper that love thee.

Peace be within thy walls and plenteousness within thy palaces

— Psalm 122:6-7



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer C • Expansive Language

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God of all power, Source and Sustainer of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: shining light and enfolding dark; the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with the capacity for memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of your creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

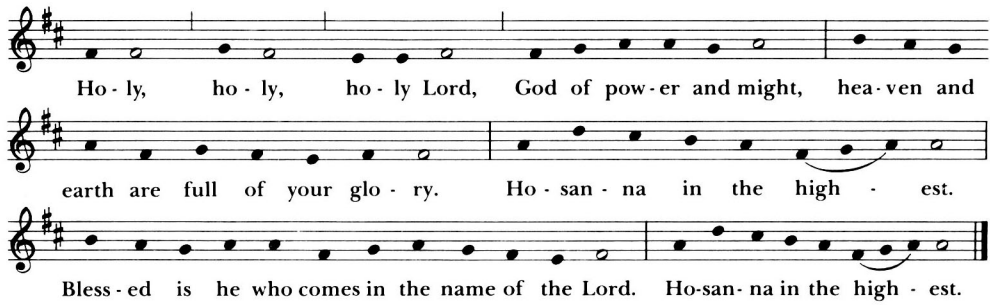
Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your eternal Word, born of your servant Mary, to fulfill your Law, opening for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

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 S 124



On the night he was betrayed Jesus 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, Jesus 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 all 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,

We celebrate Christ's death and resurrection as we await the day of his coming.

Therefore, O God, we who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ, 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 Savior.

Sanctify us also, and 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.

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

God of our ancestors; Redeemer and Mother of Israel; 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.

Accept these prayers and praises, Almighty God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer • BCP 364 • *contemporary version*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will
be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Fraction Anthem S 154

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

there - fore let us keep the feast.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Setting: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

Invitation to Communion

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

- *any baptized person from any Christian tradition who wishes to encounter the Real Presence of the Risen Christ in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood is welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you wish to learn more about the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, please speak with a priest or deacon following the liturgy.*
- *gluten free wafers are available; as you prepare to receive bread indicate your preference to the priest*
- *if you would like to receive a blessing instead of Communion, please indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest*

An Act of Spiritual Communion • *for those attending virtually*

Jesus, my Savior, I ask you to come into my heart and fill me with your love. Although I cannot physically join with others to celebrate the Eucharist today, I desire to offer my thanksgivings and prayers in union with all who worship you, wherever they may be. And although I cannot receive you now sacramentally in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, still I desire to receive your body and blood spiritually and feed on your love, that I may be united with you and with all your people in one communion and fellowship, your mystical body the church, now and ever more. Amen.

Anthem *Sleepers, Wake!* from *St. Paul*

Felix Mendelssohn

Sleepers, wake! a voice is calling,
It is the watchman on the walls:
Thou City of Jerusalem!
For lo! the Bridegroom comes!
Arise, and take your lamps! Hallelujah!
Awake! His Kingdom is at hand!
Go forth to meet your Lord!

Anthem *These are they which follow the lamb*

John Goss

These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth.
These were redeemed from among men, being the first-fruits unto
God and to the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no guile, for
they are without fault before the throne of God. — Revelation 14:4b-5

- *This anthem was sung at Sallie Bingham's funeral service.*

Sending of Eucharistic Visitors

- *celebrant*

In the name of this congregation we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Body and Blood of Christ.

- *people*

We are all one Body, for we all share one bread, one cup. Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our sister Sallie, who was reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that her death may recall to us your victory over death, and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in your Father's love. Give us, we pray, the faith to follow where you have led the way; and where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, to the ages of ages.

Amen

Blessing

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin.

Amen.

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love.

Amen.

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life.

Amen.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

Amen.

Concluding Hymn 68 *Rejoice! Rejoice believers*

1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!
 2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple - nish them with oil;
 3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
 look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
 a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark - ened sphere!

The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;
 The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.
 rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride - groom is at hand!
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt.

Music: *Llangloffan*, melody from *Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru*, 1865

76. 76 D

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve Jesus Christ our Savior.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude *Improvisation*

Dr. James Rightmyer

serving today . . .

The Very Rev. Matthew Bradley, *celebrant*

The Rev. Dr. Eva Markham, *deacon*

Austin Echols, *organist & choir director*

Dr. James Rightmyer, *organist*

Hunter Lumbatis, Jan Margerum, *lectors*

Bryan Platt, *intercessor*

Phoebe Moore, Page Curry, *wreath candle lighters*

Mike Wright, Dorothy Converse, Marilyn Werst, Jan Margerum, *eucharistic ministers*

Graham Whatley, Susan Shockey, Carolyn VanZant, *acolytes*

Patsy Melton, *altar guild*

Sissy Lanier, Lee Cochran, Susan Wettle, *greeters/ushers*



Flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory
of Sallie Bingham by her family.

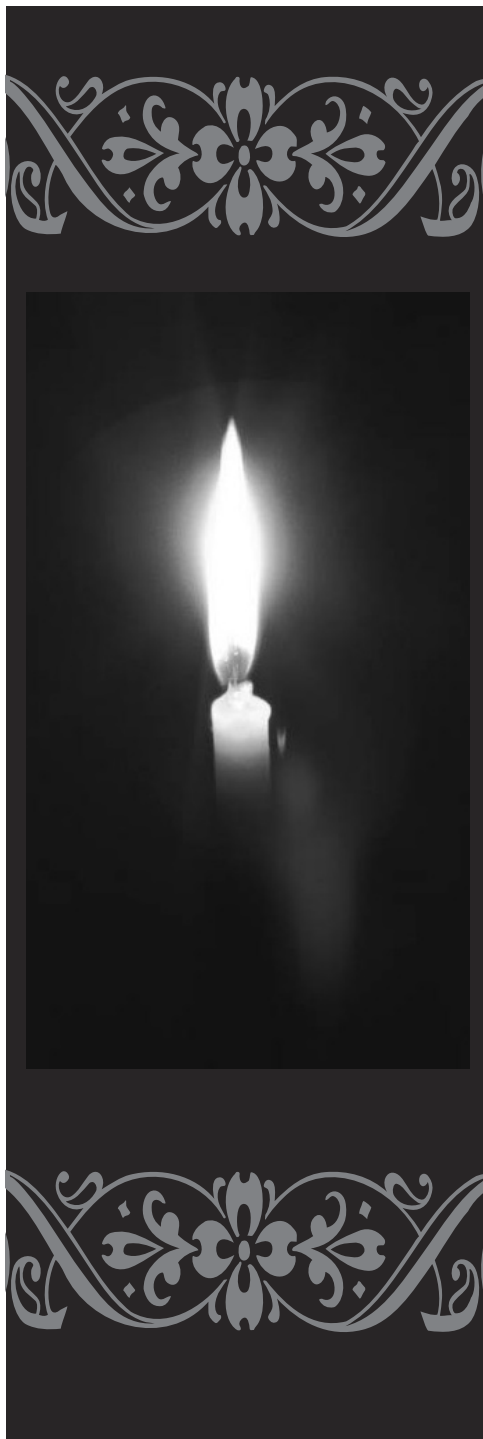


*... as for
me and my
household,
we will
serve the
Lord*

Joshua 24:15

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Christ Church Cathedral Land Acknowledgement

Christ Church Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of Kentucky gathers and stands on land which has been home, for over 11,000 years, to primarily Shawnee, Cherokee, Osage, Haudenosaunee Seneca, Hopewell and Adena peoples.

Today we acknowledge the role our Church has played in colonialism's devastating legacy of death, stolen lands, dehumanizing removals, and forced assimilation of native people.

We repent of our complicity in perpetuating the dominance of white European culture, even to the present day.

We seek forgiveness.

We honor the original peoples of this land and the presence of native people still living in Kentucky.

We honor with respect their Elders, past, present, and future, their traditions, and the land itself.

We commit to listen, learn, and walk in love.





Christ Church Cathedral

→ a church in the heart of the city with a heart for the city ←

Episcopal Diocese of Kentucky

The Rt. Rev. Terry Allen White, Bishop
The Very Rev. Matthew Bradley, Dean
The Rev. Charles Myer, Associate Dean
The Rev. Dr. Eva Markham, Deacon

Austin Echols, Music Director & Organist
Dr. Jack Ashworth, Associate Organist
Susan Shockey, Parish Coordinator
Thomas Thill, Sacristan

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