

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



December 7, 2025 • 10:30 am
+ Holy Eucharist



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 *Two settings of Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* Hanz Klotz & Paul Siefert

- at the sound of the bells, all stand

Hymn 65 *Prepare the way. O Zion*



- 1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
- 2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
- 3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound-ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.



Refrain
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847); tr. composite; adapt. Charles P. Price (b. 1920)
Music: *Bereden väg för Herran*, melody from *Then Svenska Psalmboken*, 1697

76. 76. 77 with Refrain

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 a second candle to remind us of the light of justice in the prophets' words.

We open our hearts to the light of justice, and ask for help to create a just world.

- 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)

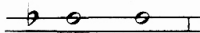
LITURGY OF THE WORD

Collect for the Second Sunday of Advent

celebrant people celebrant

God be with you. And also with you. 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.



A - men.

• *all be seated*

First Reading Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
 and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
 the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
 the spirit of counsel and might,
 the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.
The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.
On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples;
the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 • *antiphon sung by all*



Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;

That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;

That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.

He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor. *antiphon*

He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.

He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.

In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!

And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen. *antiphon*

Second Reading Romans 15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days
was written for our instruction, so that by
steadfastness and by the encouragement of
the scriptures we might have hope. May the
God of steadfastness and encouragement
grant you to live in harmony with one
another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so
that together you may with one voice glorify
the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just
as Christ has welcomed you, for the
glory of God. For I tell you that Christ
has become a servant of the circumcised
on behalf of the truth of God in order
that he might confirm the promises given
to the patriarchs, and in order that the
Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy.
As it is written,

and again he says, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name";
"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";

and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him";

and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound
in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

Hymn 597 *O day of peace that dimly shines*

Introduction

1 O day of peace that dim - ly shines through all our
2 Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the
hopes and prayers and dreams, guide us to jus - tice, truth, and
fierce de - vour the small; as beasts and cat - tle calm - ly
love, de - liv - ered from our self - ish schemes. May swords of
graze, a lit - tle child shall lead them all. Then en - e -
hate fall from our hands, our hearts from en - vy find re -
mies shall learn to love, all crea - tures find their true ac -

lease, till by God's grace our war - ring world shall see Christ's
cord; the hope of peace shall be ful - filled, for all the

1 Interlude

prom-ised reign of peace.
earth shall know the (Lord.)

Final Ending

Lord.

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944)

Music: *Jerusalem*, Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918)

LMD

Gospel Matthew 3:1-12

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

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."

The Gospel of our Savior.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

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 those who celebrate a birthday, Susan Teal and Alexis Barbieri, for Jim Watkins & Dean Weller who celebrate an anniversary, 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*

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.

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 *Thou Shalt Know Him*

Mark Sirett

Thou shalt know him when he comes,
Not by any din of drums,
Nor his manners, nor his airs,
Nor by any thing he wears.

Thou shalt know him when he comes,
Not by a crown nor by a gown,
But his coming known shall be,
By the holy harmony
Which his coming makes in thee.
Thou shalt know him when he comes. Amen.



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.

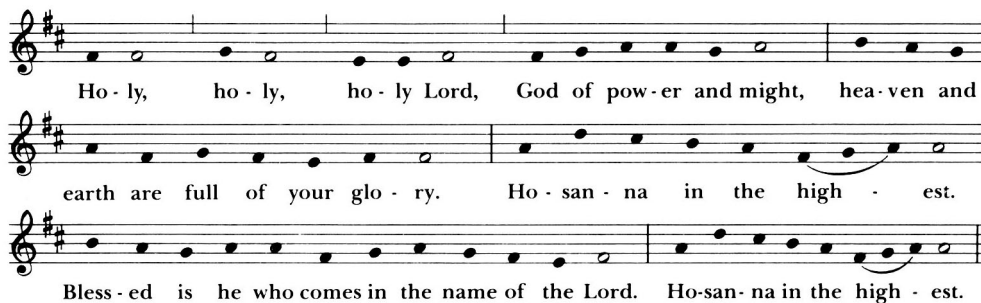
Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

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



Blessed are you, Lord our God, for sending us Jesus, the Christ, who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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.

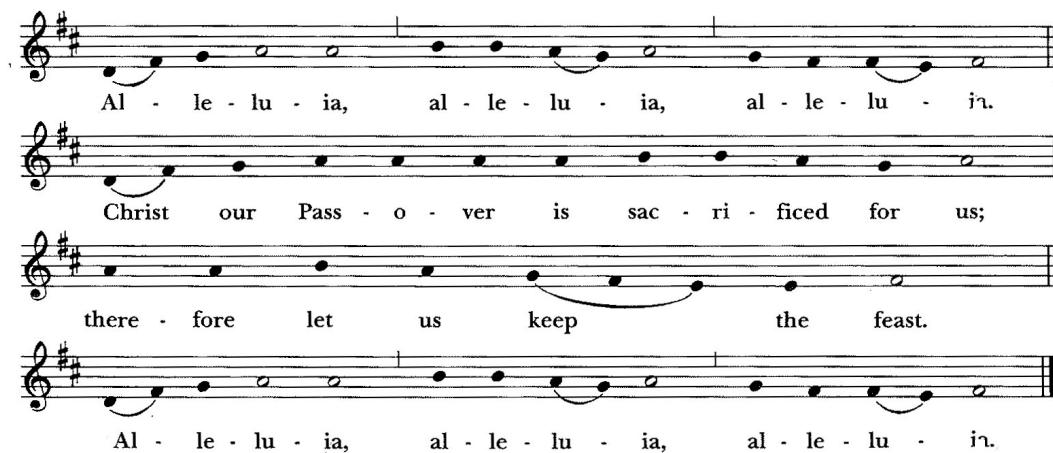
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

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.

The musical score is written for a single voice part in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of four staves of music. The first staff contains the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' The second staff contains 'Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;'. The third staff contains 'there - fore let us keep the feast.' The fourth staff contains 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' The music is a simple, melodic setting of the Fraction Anthem.

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.

Hymn WLP 723 *Isaiah the prophet has written of old*

1. I - sa - iah the proph - et has writ - ten of old how
2. Yet na - tions still prey on the meek of the world. And

God's earth - ly king - dom shall come. In - stead of the thorn tree the
con - flict turns par - ent from child. Your peo - ple de - spoil all the

fir tree shall grow; the wolf shall lie down with the lamb. The
 sweet - ness of earth; the brier and the thorn grow wild. Lord,

moun - tains and hills shall break forth in - to song, The
 has - ten to bring in your king - dom on earth, when

peo - ples be led forth in peace. For the earth shall be filled with the
 no one shall hurt or de - stroy. When wis - dom and jus - tice shall

knowl - edge of God as the wa - ters cov - er the seas.
 reign in the land and your peo - ple shall go forth in joy.

Words: Joy F. Patterson (b. 1931) © 1982 The Hymn Society. All rights reserved.

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Music: *Samanthra*, American folk melody, arr. Alice Parker and Robert Shaw;
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Sending of Eucharistic Visitors

- *priest*

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

Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of 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 Savior. 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 76 *On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry*

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make
 3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our
 4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark-en,
 2 straight the way for God with-in, and let each heart pre -
 3 ref - uge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we
 4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy
 5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
 2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.
 3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.
 4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
 5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944),
 after John Chandler (1806-1876); alt.

Music: *Winchester New*, melody from *Musicalishes Hand-Buch*, 1690;
 harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.

LM

Dismissal

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

Postlude

serving today . . .

The Very Rev. Matthew Bradley, *celebrant*

The Rev. Charles Myers, *preacher*

The Rev. Dr. Eva Markham, *deacon*

Austin Echols, *organist & choir director*

Jerry Brown, Susan Shockey, *lectors*

Jan Margerum, *intercessor*

Amelia Newton, Emma Christian, *wreath candle lighters*

Jan Margerum, Susan Shockey, Carolyn VanZant, Mike Foster, *eucharistic ministers*

Hunter Lumbatis, Josh Edwards, Henry Lawrence, *acolytes*

Ben Wilson, Betsy Marker, *altar guild*

Dorothy Converse, Kirt Jacobs, Susan Torok, *greeters/ushers*

Rob Guillen, *bell ringer*

Betsy Marker, *live stream*

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

Joshua 24:15

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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