



FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

December 28, 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 *Of the Father's love begotten*

arr. Wilbur Held

- at the sound of the bells, all stand

Processional Hymn 497 *How bright appears the Morning Star*

1 How bright ap - pears the Morn-ing Star, with mer - cy beam-ing
 2 Though cir - cled by the hosts on high, he deigned to cast a
 3 Re - joice, ye heavens; thou earth, re - ply; with praise, ye sin - ners,
 from a - far; the host of heaven re - joic - es;
 pit - ying eye up - on his help - less crea - ture;
 fill the sky, for this his In - car - na - tion.
 O right-eous Branch, O Jes - se's Rod! Thou Son of Man and
 the whole cre - a - tion's Head and Lord, by high-est ser - a -
 In - car - nate God, put forth thy power, ride on, ride on, great
 Son of God! We, too, will lift our voic - es;
 phim a - dored, as - sumed our ve - ry na - ture;
 Con - quer - or, till all know thy sal - va - tion.

Words: William Mercer (1811-1873), after Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608)
 Music: *Wie schön leuchtet*, melody att. Philipp Nicolai, (1556-1608);
 arr. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Opening Acclamation

Unto us a child is born. Alleluia, alleluia

— — — — —

Come, let us adore him. Alleluia, alleluia

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.

Song of Praise • S 278

Gloria in excelsis

praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,
 on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
 ceive our prayer. 6. For
 you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
 Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of
 God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Setting: William Mathias (b. 1934)

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Collect for the First Sunday after Christmas

celebrant

people

celebrant

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

- *all be seated*

First Reading Isaiah 61:10-62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.

The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;

and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the Lord will give.

You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

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

Psalm 147:13-21 • *spoken*

Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; *
 praise your God, O Zion;
For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
 he has blessed your children within you.
He has established peace on your borders; *
 he satisfies you with the finest wheat.
He sends out his command to the earth, *
 and his word runs very swiftly.
He gives snow like wool; *
 he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
 who can stand against his cold?
He sends forth his word and melts them; *
 he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.
He declares his word to Jacob, *
 his statutes and his judgments to Israel.
He has not done so to any other nation; *
 to them he has not revealed his judgments.
Hallelujah!

Second Reading Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come,

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

Thanks be to God.

God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Hymn 82 *Of the Father's love begotten*

1. Of the Fa-ther's love be-got-ten, ere the worlds be-
 2. O that birth for ev-er bless-ed, when the Vir-gin,
 3. Let the heights of heaven a-dore him; an-gel hosts, his
 4. Christ, to thee with God the Fa-ther, and, O Ho-ly
 gan to be, he is Al-pha and O-me-ga,
 full of grace, by the Ho-ly Ghost con-ceiv-ing,
 prais-es sing; powers, do-min-ions, bow be-fore him,
 Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks-giv-ing,
 he the source, the end-ing he, of the things that
 bore the Sa-vior of our race; and the Babe, the
 and ex-tol our God and King; let no tongue on
 and un-wea-ried prais-es be; hon-or, glo-ry
 are, that have been, and that fu-ture
 world's Re-deem-er, first re-vealed his
 earth be-si-lent, ev-ery voice in
 and do-min-ion, and e-ter-nal
 years shall see, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!
 sa-cred face, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!
 con-cert ring, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!
 vic-to-ry, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!

This hymn may be performed in equal note values: ♩ ♩ ♩ ♩

Words: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-410?); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866)
 and Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), alt.

Music: *Divinum mysterium*, Sanctus trope, 11th cent.; adapt. *Piae Cantiones*, 1582

87. 87. 87 with Refrain

Gospel John 1:1-18

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not

accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of our Savior.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon The Rev. Dr. Eva Markham

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, whose Incarnate Son poured light into our lives and whose light shines through us into his world, may our prayers rise up to you, saying 'Come, let us adore Him.'

• *the intercessor continues:*

Let us pray for the Church Universal throughout the world; and particularly 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, and at this time especially for the ancient churches of the East and for the Anglican presence in Jerusalem, saying

Come, let us adore Him.

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 they may be led by the light of your grace, so that we may be governed rightly and wisely, and led in peace, saying

Come, let us adore Him.

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

Come, let us adore Him..

Let us pray for all who are in danger, for all victims of hunger and natural disasters, and for all refugees and those displaced by oppressive governments, saying

Come, let us adore Him.

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, Michael Vincenti, Vance Fritton, Hollis Real, Mike DaRif, Susan Shockey and Carolyn VanZant, for the anniversary of Jerry & Carol Brown, and for those whom we now mention either silently or aloud
., as we say

Come, let us adore Him.

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

Come, let us adore Him.

- *the celebrant concludes:*

Almighty God, you have given your only begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever.

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.

Dean's Welcome

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 Solo *I Wonder as I Wander*

John Jacob Niles

I wonder as I wander, out under the sky,
how Jesus the Savior did come for to die
for poor ordinary people like you and like I;
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cow's stall
with wise men and farmers and shepherd and all,
but high from God's heaven a star's light did fall,
and the promise of ages it did then recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,
a star in the sky, or a bird on the wing,
or all of God's angels in heaven for to sing,
he surely could have it, 'cause he was the King.

I wonder as I wander, out under the sky,
how Jesus the Savior did come for to die
for poor ordinary people like you and like I;
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B • Expansive Language

celebrant God be with you. *people* And al - so 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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect human of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children..

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 S 128



Ho ly, ho ly, ho ly,
ho ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo ry. 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.

Setting: William Mathias (b. 1904)

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 Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, 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 Savior 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 Jesus 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,

**We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior 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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, 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 [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

The Great Amen



A - men.

The Lord's Prayer • *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 WLP 866



Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia.
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.
ia.

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.

Communion Hymn 324 *Let all mortal flesh keep silence*

1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and
 2 King of kings, yet born of Ma - ry, as of old on
 3 Rank on rank the host of hea - ven spreads its van-guard
 4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph; cher - u - bim with

trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly -
 earth he stood, Lord of lords in hu - man
 on the way, as the Light of Light de -
 sleep - less eye, veil their fa - ces to the

mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
 ves - ture, in the Bo - dy and the Blood
 scand - eth from the realms of end - less day,
 Pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry,

Christ our God to earth de - scand - eth,
 he will give to all the faith ful
 that the powers of hell may van - ish
 "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu ia!"

our full hom - age to de - mand.
 his own self for heaven - ly food.
 as the dark - ness clears a - way.
 Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Words: Liturgy of St. James; para. Gerard Moultrie (1829-1885)

Music: *Picardy*, French carol, 17th cent.; melody from *Chansons populaires des Provinces de France*, 1860 87. 87. 87

Sending of Eucharistic Visitors

- *deacon*

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.

- *all stand; said by all*

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.

Christmas Blessing

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness.

Amen.

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel.

Amen.

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor.

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 100 *Joy to the world*

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
 *3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and
 2 re - peat the sound-ing joy, re -
 3 far as the curse found, far

Dismissal

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

Thanks be to God.

Postlude *Miniature on Adeste, fideles*

David Schelat

serving today ...

Rev. Charles Myers, *celebrant*

The Very Rev. Matthew Bradley, *dean*

The Rev. Dr. Eva Markham, *deacon*

Austin Echols, *organist & choir director*

Dorothy Converse, Mike Wright, *lectors*

Hunter Lumbatis, *intercessor*

Mike Wright, Page Curry, Carolyn VanZant, Mike Foster, *eucharistic ministers*

Hunter Lumbatis, Henry Lawrence, Bill Shelton, *acolytes*

Patsy Melton, *altar guild*

Lee Cochran, Becky Collings, Mike DaRif, *greeters/ushers*

Louise Isaacs, *bell ringer*

Tim Tice, *live stream*

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

Joshua 24:15

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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 Myers, Associate Dean

The Rev. Dr. Eva Markham, Deacon

Austin Echols, Music Director & Organist

Dr. Jack Ashworth, Associate Organist

Susan Shockley, Parish Coordinator

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