

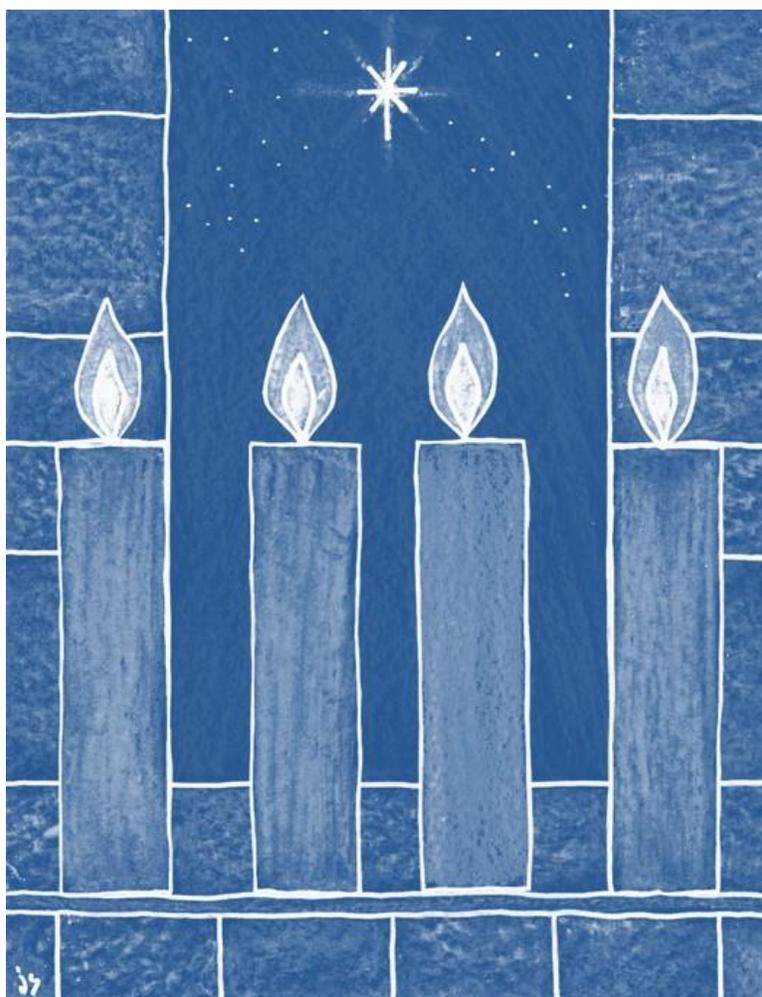
THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PAUL

Detroit, Michigan

The Very Reverend Joseph Caldwell Alsay
Dean-Elect

The Right Reverend Dr. Bonnie A. Perry
Eleventh Bishop of the Diocese of Michigan

December 21, 2025
The Fourth Sunday of Advent
Sung Holy Eucharist
Eleven O' Clock
with the Schola Cantorum



WELCOME! Our vision is to be an extraordinary spiritual gathering place where people of all backgrounds and ages are welcome to question and learn, pray, worship and serve; being loved by God in ways that change and improve their lives and the lives of others.

Worship is at the heart of Christian life and community. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Episcopal Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy, the work of the people, encompasses the movements, prayers, music, and forms that make up a service. Liturgies for the Episcopal Church are generally found in the Book of Common Prayer.

The Collect for Purity is an English rendering of a Latin prayer that began the liturgy in the medieval church.

The Gloria in excelsis, or some other song of praise, centers the service on the God we gather to praise. In Advent, we generally sing the Trisagion or the Magnificat.

Please silence all electronic devices.
The 11:00 service is also livestreamed on our YouTube channel.
Hymns are found in the blue hymnal in the pew racks.
Hymn numbers preceded by LEVAS are found in Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing in the pews.

THE ENTRANCE RITE

Organ Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming Mary Beth Bennett b. 1954)

At the bell, please stand as you are able. From the West End, the Choir sings

The Introit plainchant

O Dayspring, brightness of Light everlasting and Sun of Righteousness: Come and enlighten them that sitteth in darkness, and the shadow of death.

O Oriens, from the *Great 'O' Antiphons*

All then sing

Processional Hymn 66 Come, thou long-expected Jesus *Stuttgart*

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The 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.**

All sing

Trisagion *New plainsong service, David Hurd (b. 1950)*



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.

The Collect of the Day

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

PURIFY our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE WORD OF GOD

The congregation is seated.

The Lesson

Isaiah 7:10-16

AGAIN the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Choir sings

Psalm 80:1-7

Qui regis Israel

plainchant tone IV.4

HEAR, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; * shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, * 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.

The Epistle

Romans 1:1-7

PAUL, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Collects are prayers that "collect" all of the themes of the day as well as our own petitions into one place.

The Lesson is usually from the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures), with which Jesus would have been familiar, and to which he often referred or quoted.

Sung by Jesus and Jewish worshippers, the Psalms highlight many facets of our relationship with God and each other. The entire psalter can be found in the Book of Common Prayer beginning at page 585.

The Epistle, a reading from the New Testament, is typically from a letter (epistle) to the early Church, the Acts of the Apostles, or the Revelation to John.

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 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.

The Prayers of the People

Celebrant

AS we wait with pregnant expectation for the coming of Jesus, let us offer prayers to God who sends his Son in the womb of a virgin.

Intercessor

For the peace of the world, and for our unity in Christ.

People Come, O Lord, and save us.

For Bonnie, our bishop; Joseph, our Dean-Elect; Anthony, our priest; Mike, deacon in the Detroit Church Partnership; for all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God. *Come, O Lord, and save us.*

For the church throughout the world and the faithful in every place.
Come, O Lord, and save us.

For the leaders of the nations and all in authority. *Come, O Lord, and save us.*

For justice, peace, and freedom among peoples of the earth.
Come, O Lord, and save us.

For travelers, for the sick and the suffering, for the hungry and the oppressed, and for those in prison. *Come, O Lord, and save us.*

For the dying and the dead. *Come, O Lord, and save us.*

For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need.
Come, O Lord, and save us.

The Celebrant may add other intercessions and then continues

Joining our voices with the blessed Virgin Mary and with all the saints and angels of God, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. *To you, O Lord.*

Celebrant

O Emmanuel, our king and lawgiver, desire of all nations and savior of all peoples, come and save us, O Lord our God. Glory to you for ever. *Amen.*

The Prayers of the People can take many different forms, but they address several areas of our lives as outlined in the Book of Common Prayer: we pray for ourselves and on behalf of others. We pray for the Universal Church, the nation and all who govern, the welfare of the world, the concerns of our community, including those who are in need or suffer, and for the departed. We are reminded in prayer that we are part of a larger fellowship, the Church—the Body of Christ.

The Confession of Sin and Absolution

Celebrant

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Please kneel as you are able. Silence may be kept.

All say together

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.

The Celebrant stands and says

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.*

The Peace

Celebrant

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Welcome and Announcements

The Choir sings

At the Offertory, Anthem

Jacob Arcadelt (1507-1568)

AVE Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum: benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus
fructus ventris tui. Sancta Maria, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus nunc et hora
mortis nostrae. Amen.

*Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the
fruit of womb. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death.
Amen.*

Please stand as you are able and sing

Presentation Hymn

Veni, veni, Emmanuel

O Come, thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheers us by thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

The Confession of Sin is an acknowledgment, as in Psalm 51: "Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight," and is followed by the Absolution, a statement of forgiveness, pronounced by the Celebrant.

An ancient Christian practice, sharing The Peace is a sign of reconciliation, love, and renewed relationships in the community. Any appropriate words of greeting may be used in the exchange of peace that follows between individuals.

We are now prepared for the miracle of the Holy Communion. The Offertory gives us a chance to offer back to God some of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, in the money we give, and spiritually in the offering of ourselves.

We recall God's acts of salvation history.

The Celebrant says the "Words of Institution" that Jesus said at the Last Supper.

At the Memorial Acclamation we remember Christ's death, resurrection, and promise to return at the end of the age.

In the Great Amen, the congregation, with a unified voice, concurs with all that the Celebrant has prayed.

We then say together The Lord's Prayer, the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray. The link between our daily bread and the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist is an ancient connection.

The People stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues

HOLY and gracious Lord: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Creator of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Lord, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God,


now and for ev- er. A- MEN.

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

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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread and a period of silence is kept.

All sing

Fraction Anthem, Agnus Dei

Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: grant us peace.

The Fraction Anthem follows and is a response to the breaking of the consecrated bread.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Music at the Communion,

Organ

Dance: Gabriel's Message

Michael Bedford (b. 1949)

Carol

Lennox Berkeley (1903-1989)

I sing of a maiden that is makëless:
King of all kingës, to her son she ches.
He came all so stillë there his mother was,
As dew in Aprillë that falleth on the grass.
He came all so stillë to his mother's bow'r,
As dew in Aprillë that falleth on the flow'r.
He came all so stillë there his mother lay,
As dew in Aprillë that falleth on the spray.
Mother and maiden was never none but she.
Well may such a lady Goddës mother be.

Anonymous, 15th century English

After Communion the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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

A Postcommunion Prayer of thanksgiving seeks God's help for Christian service. The eucharistic community is sent "into the world in peace" to love and serve God as witnesses of Christ. This prayer expresses the transition of the Christian's attention from the mystery of sacramental participation to the engagement of Christian ministry.

with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please stand or kneel, as is your custom

The Blessing

MAY Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Jesus 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.*

All sing

Hymn 438

Tell out, my soul

Woodlands

The Dismissal is given and the people respond

Thanks be to God.

Organ

Magnificat

Ned Rorem (1923-2022)

Notes on the Music

Arcadelt's *Ave Maria* is not entirely the work of one composer. This music has its roots in an original, secular chanson composed for female voices by the 16th century Jacob Arcadelt. It was arranged by the 19th century French musician, Pierre-Louis Dietsch who added the bass part. Others have had their fingers in the pie, as it were, but the result is one of the more famous settings of this Marian hymn.

The twentieth-century English composer, Lennox Berkeley wrote for nearly every musical medium and his contribution to the choral repertoire consists almost exclusively of music for the church. His 1966 setting of the medieval carol, *I sing of a maiden*, (sung this morning at the communion) derives its great beauty from its utter simplicity.

Our closing hymn, Tell out, my soul is a paraphrase of the *Magnificat*, the *Canticle of Mary* (St. Luke 1:46-44). The poet's repetition of the cry, "Tell out, my soul," creates unity throughout the interpretation of this canticle. Originally paired with the tune, *Birmingham*, found at Hymn 437, it is now more often sung to *Woodlands*.

The closing organ voluntary again takes up the theme of the Magnificat in Ned Rorem's short, exuberant fantasy found among the three sets of brief organ pieces by this American composer.

- Canon Tarrant

Altar Flowers

Flowers on the altars are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for our Altar Guild, by the Very Reverend Joseph Alsay.

Coffee Hour

This morning's coffee hour is hosted by Mary Grahame Hunter.

A Blessing is a pronouncement of God's love and favor, addressed to one or more persons.

The Deacon, or the Celebrant ends by dismissing the people. The term comes from the Latin Ite, missa est, "Go, it is the sending."

Blue Christmas – Today at 4:00 p.m.

Cathedral Evensong today will be a time for us to acknowledge the “blue” feelings many people have at Christmas time. For those who have lost a loved one or who are single or estranged from family, this is a time of sharp loneliness. For others who have lost a relationship, health, a job, or had a financial setback it may be a time of pain, confusion, or fear. This is not a joyous season for everyone. At the conclusion of this service, the clergy will offer healing prayers and the laying on of hands.



The Cathedral Choir School of Metropolitan Detroit is a not-for-profit outreach program of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in cooperation with Cathedral Community Services. The Choir School provides an excellent, fundamental music education to children in the metropolitan Detroit region, and is open to all youth, regardless of religious affiliation. Choristers focus on vocal technique, musicianship, and citizenship in the context of the liturgical life of the Cathedral. The Choir School is a community that, while focused on music, is a systematic, long-term investment in young people. Children emerge from this experience with a deep love of fine arts, enhanced self-confidence, and an ability to work collaboratively.

To schedule a time to meet or to speak further with someone about the program, please contact Mr. Jeremy David Tarrant, Cathedral Organist and Choirmaster: (313) 833-7547 jtarrant@detroitcathedral.org. Visit us on the web at www.detroitcathedral.org.

Adults who wish to learn more about becoming involved with the Cathedral Choirs are encouraged to contact Mr. Jeremy David Tarrant, Organist and Choirmaster.

The Choir School is an extra-curricular, *tuition-free* opportunity for youth with an interest in music and singing.

Here are some fast facts:

- No previous musical or voice training is required or expected.
- Children need not be Episcopalian. The Choir is open to children of all faiths and backgrounds.
- Boys and Girls form the treble (soprano) section of the famed Cathedral Choir, involving consistent application of their developing musical skills, while singing the finest in choral music from all periods and in a variety of languages.
- Children gain a thorough grounding in basic musicianship, music reading, and vocal technique through the centuries-old tradition of choral singing.
- A brief, informal interview assesses a child’s readiness for the program.
- Located in the heart of Detroit’s cultural center, boys and girls emerge from the program with a deep love and appreciation of the fine arts.
- The Cathedral Choir and Choir School are affiliated with the Royal School of Church Music.
- Children showing a strong commitment to the Choir are eligible for reduced-tuition piano lessons and summer camps.
- The Choir’s debut CD recording, *Nowell Sing We*, was released in December 2014, and *Evensong for All Saints* was released in October, 2016.
- One of Detroit’s treasures, the Cathedral Choir has sung widely in the United States and Canada, and made tours of England in 2014 and 2023.

Christmas at the Cathedral

Wednesday, December 24

Christmas Eve

Sung Holy Eucharist, 4:00 p.m.

with the Schola Cantorum

Festal Candlelight Eucharist, 10:30 p.m.

with the Cathedral Choir

Thursday, December 25

Christmas Day

Sung Holy Eucharist, 11:00 a.m.

with members of the Cathedral Singers

The Cathedral Choirs are in recess from December 26 through January 4.

Sunday, December 28

The First Sunday after Christmas

Morning Prayer, 7:30 a.m.

Holy Eucharist, 8:15 a.m.

Sung Holy Eucharist with Carols, 11:00 a.m.

Thursday, January 1

The Feast of the Holy Name

Holy Eucharist in Nativity Chapel, 12:00 Noon

Sunday, January 4

The Second Sunday after Christmas

Morning Prayer, 7:30 a.m.

Holy Eucharist, 8:15 a.m.

Sung Holy Eucharist, 11:00 a.m.

Please note that Evensong is not offered on December 28 and January 4 but will resume of January 11.

Tuesday, January 6

The Feast of the Epiphany

Sung Holy Eucharist, 7:00 p.m.

with the Cathedral Singers

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