

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PAUL

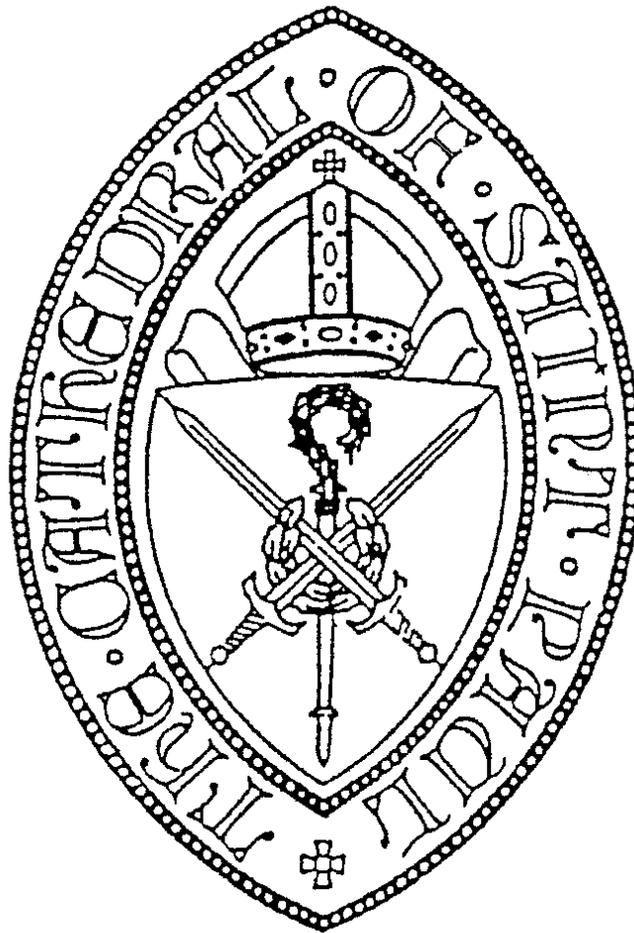
Detroit, Michigan

The Very Reverend Joseph Caldwell Alsay
Dean-Elect

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

January 4, 2026

The Second Sunday after Christmas
Morning Prayer in Nativity Chapel, 7:30 a.m.
Holy Eucharist, 8:15 a.m.
Sung Holy Eucharist, 11:00 a.m.



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.

MORNING PRAYER

7:30 A.M. IN NATIVITY CHAPEL

Announcements

Opening Sentences and The Confession of Sin
The Invitatory and Psalter
 Venite
 Psalms 66, 67

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The First Lesson

Wisdom 7:3-14

WHEN I was born, I began to breathe the common air and fell upon the kindred earth; my first sound was a cry, as is true of all. I was nursed with care in swaddling cloths. For no king has had a different beginning of existence; there is for all one entrance into life and one way out. Therefore I prayed, and understanding was given me; I called on God, and the spirit of wisdom came to me. I preferred her to scepters and thrones, and I accounted wealth as nothing in comparison with her. Neither did I liken to her any priceless gem, because all gold is but a little sand in her sight, and silver will be accounted as clay before her. I loved her more than health and beauty, and I chose to have her rather than light because her radiance never ceases. All good things came to me along with her, and in her hands uncounted wealth. I rejoiced in them all because wisdom leads them, but I did not know that she was their mother. I learned without guile, and I impart without grudging; I do not hide her wealth, for it is an unfailling treasure for mortals; those who get it obtain friendship with God, commended for the gifts that come from instruction.

A Canticle is read after each lesson, as directed by the Officiant.

The Second Lesson

Saint John 6:41-47

THEN the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven?'" Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life."

A Canticle is read after each lesson, as directed by the Officiant.

The Apostles' Creed and The Prayers

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The Collect of the Day

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Other Collects and Intercessions

 The General Thanksgiving
or The Prayer of St. Chrysostom

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Page 102

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Please silence all electronic devices.

This 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 Cathedral Choirs are in their Christmas recess this morning. Choral services will resume on Tuesday, January 6.

THE ENTRANCE RITE

Organ

Prelude sur l'Introit de l'Epiphanie

Maurice Duruflé
(1902-1986)

At the bell, please stand as you are able. At 11:00 all sing

Processional Hymn 127 Earth has many a noble city

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.*

At 8:15 a.m. all sing

Hymn 295

Sing praise to our Creator

Christus, der ist mein Leben

At 11:00 a.m. all sing

Gloria in excelsis

Mass in F, Robert Powell (1932-2025)

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on
earth. 2. Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we
wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we 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

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. 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 worship.

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.

The Collect of the Day

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

Collects are prayers that "collect" all of the themes of the day into one place. There are collects of each Sunday of the church year, as well as for other occasions.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE WORD OF GOD

The congregation is seated.

The Lesson

Jeremiah 31:7-14

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.

THUS says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The psalm is read by all at 8:15. At 11:00, all sing the refrain as indicated.

Psalm 84:1-8

Quam dilecta!

Refrain

How dear to me is your dwell - ing, O

LORD of hosts!

HOW dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! * My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

2 The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; * by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. *Refrain*

3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! * they will always be praising you.

4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! * whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way. *Refrain*

5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, * for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

6 They will climb from height to height, * and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion. *Refrain*

7 Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; * hearken, O God of Jacob.

8 Behold our defender, O God; * and look upon the face of your Anointed. *Refrain*

The Epistle

Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a

BLESSED be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

Sung by Jesus and Jewish worshipers, 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.

The Sequence Hymn is often chosen to comment on the Epistle reading immediately prior, or the Gospel lesson that follows.

Gospel means "good news." This reading comes from one of the four Gospels – Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John – recounting the life, work, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Sermon often presents a central theme from the readings as it relates to our daily living.

The word "creed" comes from the Latin "credo" for "I believe." The Nicene Creed reflects what Christians believe regarding the relationship of the Holy Trinity.

The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able. All sing

Sequence Hymn 124 What star is this, with beams so bright

Puer nobis

The Gospel

Saint Matthew 2:1-12

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People Glory to you Lord, Christ.

IN the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Gospel of the Lord Savior.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Very Reverend Joseph C. Alsay

Please stand as you are able. All say together

The Nicene Creed

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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
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 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 celebrate with joy the birth of Jesus, let us offer prayers to God who gathers us into a holy family.

Intercessor

By the birth of the timeless Son of God in the womb of the Virgin Mary.

People Glory and praise to you, O living God.

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.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For all who put their trust in the incarnate Son of God.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For the leaders of the nations and all in authority, and for peace and justice.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For travelers, for the sick and the suffering, for the hungry and the oppressed, for those in prison, and for the dying and the dead.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

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

God of all families and peoples, accept the prayers we offer in this joyful season. As we welcome this mystery of your love, may we delight in our joy as children and heirs of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *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 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.

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

The Confession of Sin and Absolution

Celebrant

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.*

Please stand as you are able.

The Peace

Celebrant

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Congregation is seated.

Welcome and Announcements

At 8:15 a.m. all sing

Offertory Hymn 119

As with gladness men of old

Dix

At 11:00 a.m.

At the Offertory, Solo

Traditional Spiritual, arr. Mark Hayes (b. 1953)

BEHOLD that star up yonder.
It is the star of Bethlehem!
There was no room found in the inn.
For Him who was born free from sin.
The wise men came from the East.
To worship Him, the Prince of Peace
A song broke forth upon the night.
From angel hosts all robed in white.
"Glory to God, world without end.
"Peace on the earth, good will to men."

Dean Moore II, baritone

Please stand as you are able and sing

Presentation Hymn 119, vss. 1 and 4

Dix

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

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 the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, 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 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Lord:

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord 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 to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, 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 Mary, the God bearer, Paul, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Organ Noël (from *Esquisses byzantines*) Henri Mulet (1878-1967)

After Communion the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

ALMIGHTY and everliving God,
We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Please stand or kneel as is your custom for

The Blessing

All 11:00 a.m. all sing

Processional Hymn 117

Brightest and best

Morning Star

The Dismissal is given and the people respond

Thanks be to God.

Organ There's a star in the east Anthony Giamanco (b. 1958)

A Postcommunion Prayer of thanksgiving after communion 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.

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."*

Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour following the 11:00 service hosted today by Florence Williams and Sandy Stilwell.

The Feast of the Epiphany

Sung Holy Eucharist will be offered **Tuesday, January 6 at 7:00 p.m.** for the Epiphany. The Cathedral Singers will offer music of Herbert Howells and the service will include traditional hymns of this great feast of the church year. Dean Alay will celebrate and preach the service.

Faith-filled Foodies!

It has been said that the best way to experience the richness of a culture, is through its food. Every Sunday, we have an opportunity to gather around the Lord's table and partake in the sumptuous feast that he has prepared. We do so in the context of an ever growing multi-cultural and ethnically diverse congregation. Epiphanytide is a time when we bask in the light and lift up the message of Christ being revealed and shared among all nations. During this season at the 11:00 service, we will have an opportunity to partake in bread and wine from the seven continents. On Tuesday, the Feast of the Epiphany, we celebrate Australia and will have Outback bread and Yellow Tail Chardonnay wine. Come enjoy and experience the diversity of cultures, which is a gift from God. Taste and see that the Lord is good.



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.

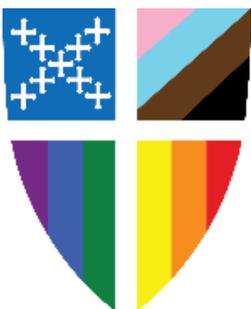
Adults who wish to learn more about becoming involved with the Cathedral Choirs are encouraged to contact Mr. Jeremy David Tarrant, Organist and Choirmaster.

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.

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