

ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL

The Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of East Tennessee

The Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 & 10:30 AM Sunday, December 14, 2025

Service items listed in red can be found in the red Book of Common Prayer. Hymns, listed in blue, can be found in the blue Hymnal.

The Word of God

8:00 AM

The Opening Sentence *(Stand at the bell)*

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

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.

Amen.

Hymn 58: O come, O come Emmanuel (v. 1 & 2)

The Collect for Purity

The Summary of the Law

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The Collect of the Day

Dancing God, you exult over us with joy; as we celebrate what has past renew us by your love that we may face the future with hope and joy; through our Savior Jesus Christ, who is alive with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Reading

Isaiah 61: 10–11

The Psalm

Psalms 34: 1–9

The Gospel

Luke 1: 39–56

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Jerry Askew

The Nicene Creed

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The Prayers of the People – Form VI

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The Peace

The Offertory Sentence & Offertory

The Doxology: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
(Hymn 380, v. 3)

The Great Thanksgiving

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Proper Preface

For when Christ humbled himself to come among us, he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world.

The Sanctus

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The Lord's Prayer

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The Communion of the People

Post Communion Prayer

page 339

Hymn 66: Come, thou long-expected Jesus (v. 1 & 2)

Postlude: Fuga on the Magnificat

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

10:30 AM

The Opening Sentence *(Stand at the bell)*

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

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.

Amen

Hymn 56: O come, O come, Emmanuel (v. 1, 2, 7, & 8)

The Collect for Purity

Opening Canticle: Gloria in excelsis

(S 280 Powell)

The Collect of the Day

Dancing God, you exult over us with joy; as we celebrate what has past renew us by your love that we may face the future with hope and joy; through our Savior Jesus Christ, who is alive with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Reading

Isaiah 61: 10–11

The Psalm

Psalms 34: 1–9

Sequence Hymn 265: The angel Gabriel

The Gospel

Luke 1: 39–56

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Jerry Askew

The Nicene Creed

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The Prayers of the People – Form VI

page 392

The Peace

Holy Communion

The Offertory Sentence

The Offertory Anthem

Hugo Distler (1908–1942)

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming

The Doxology: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
(Hymn 380, v. 3)

The Great Thanksgiving

page 361

Eucharistic Prayer A

Proper Preface

For when Christ humbled himself to come among us, he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world.

10:30 AM Holy Communion *continued*

The Sanctus: Holy, holy, holy Lord (S 129 Powell)
The Lord's Prayer

The Communion Anthem Edward Elgar (1857–1934)
Ave Maria

Communion Hymns:

258: *Virgin-born, we bow before thee*
268: *Ye who claim the faith of Jesus*

The Post Communion Prayer page 365

Hymn 66: *Come, thou long-expected Jesus*

Postlude: Fuga on the Magnificat
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

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Altar Flowers

The flowers in the Church and Chapel are given to the glory of God and in honor of the baptism of Audrey Quinn Gammeltoft, daughter of Kasper and Elizabeth Gammeltoft by her grandparents Buck and Bridgett Thompson.

And in honor of Jim Haslam's 95th Birthday
by Dee & Jimmy Haslam, Ann & Steve Bailey,
and Bill & Crissy Haslam

And in loving memory of our parents, Bill and Anne Smith
and Reverend John and Laura Trundle
by Bob and Linda Smith.

Lay Ministries

8:00 AM
Usher John Melnick
Lay Reader / Chalice Bearer Vickie Gleissner
Acolyte Steve Bailey

10:30 AM
Ushers Bob Bowman, Steve Brewington,
Roy Brown, Chris Cameron, & Tim O'Connor
Greeters Brooke Swart, David & Jessica Wilds
Lay Reader / Chalice Bearer Tom Sharp
Lector / Chalice Bearer Diana Samples
Chalice Bearer Anne Sprouse
Crucifer Lloyd Terry
Acolytes Caelan McElrath, Graeme McElrath,
Lilah Laverdure, & Henry McElrath

Thurifer Samer Shatara
Verger Stu Sprouse
Safety David Kuendig
Broadcast Team Caleb Bales, Mike Bensey, Nick Cassell,
Jim Foust, Christibeth Paul, & Whitney Ross
Altar Guild Anne Wilson & Team
Flower Guild Kathy Lasater & Team

Announcements

more information available at www.stjohnscathedral.org

Today at the Cathedral

9:20 AM Donuts & Discussions – Middle / High School – 2nd Floor
9:20 AM Nursery & Childcare Opens – 2nd Floor
9:30 AM Lectionary Bible Study – Rm 9, Bottom Floor
9:30 AM Newcomer's Class – Haslam Room, Bottom Floor
10:30 AM S.K.i.P. Children's Church – 5 yrs. old & up – 2nd Floor
11:30 AM Cookies and Coffee – Ross Hall

Supporting our Mission Partners this Holiday

Christmas: Green Magnet Academy

Accepting Donations through Sunday, December 14th

We have been asked to provide Christmas support for our neighborhood mission partner Green Magnet Academy. This support goes directly to students and families. To donate scan the QR code below or visit www.sjcknox.org.

A Festival of Christmas Lessons & Carols

with Choir & Brass

Sunday, December 21st | 10:30 AM

Holy Eucharist at 8:00 AM only on Sunday 12.21

A Visit with St. Nicholas

Sunday, December 21st | 11:30 AM | Ross Hall

Christmas Eve Services

Wednesday, December 24th, 2025

2:00 PM Choir & Organ
4:30 PM Choir & Orchestra
with Messiah prelude
7:00 PM* Choir & Orchestra
with Messiah prelude
10:45 PM* Choir & String Quartet

Nursery & S.K.i.P. offered at 2:00 PM, 4:30 PM, and 7:00 PM.

* Streamed LIVE on YouTube & Knoxville Community Media

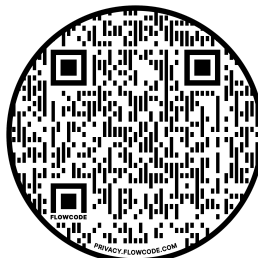
Christmas Day

Thursday, December 25th, 2025

10:00 AM Organ & Violin

Cathedral Offices Closed

Thursday, December 25th & Friday, December 26th.



Scan QR Code for:

- Guest Information
- Online Giving
- Prayer Request Submission
- Weekly Cathedral Update
- And more

The Reading
Isaiah 61: 10–11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah:

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: THANKS BE TO GOD.

Offertory anthem: *Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming*
(Hugo Distler)

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
As men of old have sung.
It came, a flower bright,
Amid the cold of winter
When half-gone was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
The Rose I have in mind:
With Mary we behold it,
The virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright
She bore to men a Savior
When half-gone was the night.

This Flower, whose fragrance tender
With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor
The darkness everywhere.
True man, yet very God,
From sin and death He saves us
And lightens every load

Communion anthem: *Ave Maria*
(Edward Elgar)

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

*Hail Mary, full of grace,
The Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst women,
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
Pray for us sinners,
Now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

The Gospel
Luke 1: 39–56

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke:

People: GLORY BE TO THEE, O LORD.

People: GLORY TO YOU, LORD CHRIST.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowly state of his servant.

Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed,
for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name;
indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty.

He has come to the aid of his child Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

Psalm 34: 1–9

8:00: The Psalm is read in unison by ALL.

10:30: The Psalm is sung by the choir.

1 I will bless the LORD at all times; *
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.

2 I will glory in the LORD; *
let the humble hear and rejoice.

3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD;
let us exalt his Name together.

4 I sought the LORD, and he answered me *
and delivered me out of all my terror.

5 Look upon him and be radiant, *
and let not your faces be ashamed.

6 I called in my affliction
and the LORD heard me *
and saved me from all my troubles.

7 The angel of the LORD
encompasses those who fear him, *
and he will deliver them.

8 Taste and see that the LORD is good; *
happy are they who trust in him!

9 Fear the LORD, you that are his saints, *
for those who fear him lack nothing.