



CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT
IN THE CITY OF BIRMINGHAM

FIVE O'CLOCK
JANUARY 15, 2023
The Second Sunday after the Epiphany
Evening Prayer

Welcome to the Five O’Clock Service at the Advent.

No matter what brought you today, even if you don’t feel like you belong, we’re so glad you’re here. You’re exactly where you need to be. We pray that as our voices join together in word and song through this service, you might hear and receive God’s grace, through the freeing power of the gospel of Jesus Christ, by the work of the Holy Spirit.

Evening Prayer

This service is a modern expression of traditional Anglican worship. The focus is on hearing God’s Word and responding in both sung and said prayer. We hold services of Evening Prayer on first and third Sundays. All other Sundays we celebrate Holy Communion.

PRELUDE MUSIC

DURING THE PRELUDE, FEEL FREE TO SOCIALIZE AND GREET EACH OTHER.

THE PEOPLE STAND.

SONG

How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
What more can he say than to you he hath said,
To you, who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed,
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call you to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
And sanctify to you your deepest distress.

When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be your supply;
The flame shall not hurt you; I only design
Your dross to consume, and your gold to refine.

The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake.

Words: John Rippon, 1787 Music: Joseph Funk, 1832 Public Domain

OPENING SENTENCES

For from the rising of the sun to its setting my name will be great among the nations, and in every place incense will be offered to my name, and a pure offering. For my name will be great among the nations, says the Lord of hosts.

-Malachi 1:11

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive God's holy word, to pray for the needs of the world, and to seek the forgiveness of our sins, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may give ourselves to the service of God.

PHOS HILARON

O joyful light,
from the pure glory of the eternal heavenly Father,
O holy, blessed Jesus Christ.

As we come to the setting of the sun
and see the evening light,
we give thanks and praise to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit of God.

Worthy are you at all times
to be sung with holy voices,
O Son of God, O giver of life,
and to be glorified through all creation.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Jesus says, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand." So let us turn away from our sin and turn to Christ, kneeling in silence and confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

THE PEOPLE KNEEL OR SIT, AND A PERIOD OF SILENCE IS KEPT.

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have wandered and strayed from your ways
like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires
of our own hearts.
We have offended against your holy laws.
We have left undone those things
that we ought to have done;
and we have done those things
that we ought not to have done;
and there is no health in us.
But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us sinners.
Spare those who confess their faults.
Restore those who are penitent,
according to your promises declared to mankind
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may live a disciplined, righteous and godly life,
to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.**

THE DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desires not the death of a sinner, pardons and absolves you through Jesus Christ our Lord. There is therefore now no condemnation. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed your transgressions from you, to remember your sins no more. **Amen.**

INVITATION AND RESPONSE

THE PEOPLE STAND.

O Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Praise the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

SONG

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*On Christ the Solid Rock I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil. *Chorus*

His oath, his covenant, his blood
Support me in the 'whelming flood.
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay. *Chorus*

When he shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in him be found;
Dressed in his righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne. *Chorus*

Public Domain Words: Edward Mote, 1834; Music: William B. Bradbury, 1863 Tune: SOLID ROCK

THE PEOPLE SIT.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ISAIAH.

Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The Lord called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name.² He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away.³ And he said to me, “You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.”⁴ But I said, “I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my right is with the Lord, and my recompense with my God.”⁵ And now the Lord says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him; and that Israel might be gathered to him— for I am honored in the eyes of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—⁶ he says: “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”⁷ Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation, the servant of rulers: “Kings shall see and arise; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves; because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.” (49:1-7)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 40:1-12

READ RESPONSIVELY, BY HALF-VERSE.

- 1 I waited patiently upon the Lord; *
he stooped to me and heard my cry.
 - 2 He lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the mire and clay; *
he set my feet upon a high cliff and made my footing sure.
 - 3 He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; *
many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the Lord.
 - 4 Happy are they who trust in the Lord! *
they do not resort to evil spirits or turn to false gods.
 - 5 Great things are they that you have done, O Lord my God!
how great your wonders and your plans for us! *
there is none who can be compared with you.
 - 6 Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! *
but they are more than I can count.
 - 7 In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure *
(you have given me ears to hear you);
 - 8 Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required, *
and so I said, "Behold, I come.
 - 9 In the roll of the book it is written concerning me: *
'I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep in my heart.'
 - 10 I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation; *
behold, I did not restrain my lips; and that, O Lord, you know.
 - 11 Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart;
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; *
I have not concealed your love and faithfulness from the great congregation.
 - 12 You are the Lord; do not withhold your compassion from me; *
let your love and your faithfulness keep me safe for ever.
- Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. JOHN.

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.’ ³¹I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.” ³²And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ ³⁴And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.” ³⁵The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!” ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?” ³⁹He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. ⁴¹He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ). ⁴²He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon the son of John. You shall be called Cephas” (which means Peter). (1:29-42)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE SERMON

Cameron Cole

ALL SERMON AND CLASS AUDIO RECORDINGS ARE AVAILABLE AT AUDIO.ADVENTBIRMINGHAM.ORG.

THE PEOPLE STAND.

To the cross I look
And to the cross I cling.
Of its suffering I do drink,
Of its work I do sing.
On it my Savior,
Both bruised and crushed,
Showed that God is love
And God is just.

At the cross you beckon me,
You draw me gently to my knees
And I am lost for words,
So lost in love,
I'm sweetly broken,
Wholly surrendered.

What a priceless gift,
Undeserved life
Have I been given
Through Christ crucified.
You called me out of death,
You called me into life,
I was under your wrath
Now through the cross
I'm reconciled.

In awe of the cross I must confess
How wondrous your redeeming love
And how great is your faithfulness!

Jeremy Riddle © 2005 Mercy / Vineyard Publishing (Admin. by Integrity Music) CCLI License # 1620861

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Let us declare our faith in the one true God, who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE PEOPLE SIT OR KNEEL.

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.**

SUFFRAGES

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

And grant us your salvation.

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

Let your people sing with joy.

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

For only in you can we live in safety.

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Let your way be known upon earth;

Your saving health among all nations.

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away;

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THANKSGIVING

THE GRACE

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

THE WELCOME

THE PEOPLE SIT.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

-Matthew 6:19-20

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED AS THE USHERS TAKE UP THE OFFERING. IF YOU ARE VISITING US, WE INVITE YOU TO FILL IN A WELCOME CARD AND PLACE IT IN THE BASKET AS YOUR OFFERING.

AT THE OFFERTORY

He Will Hold Me Fast

When I fear my faith will fail,
Christ will hold me fast.
When the tempter would prevail,
He will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path,
For my love is often cold:
He must hold me fast.

*He will hold me fast;
He will hold me fast.
For my Savior loves me so;
He will hold me fast.*

Those he saves are his delight;
Christ will hold me fast.
Precious in his holy sight;
He will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost;
His promises shall last.
Bought by him at such a cost,
He will hold me fast. *Chorus*

For my life he bled and died;
Christ will hold me fast.
Justice has been satisfied;
He will hold me fast.
Raised with him to endless life;
He will hold me fast.
'Til our faith is turned to sight,
When he comes at last. *Chorus*

THE DOXOLOGY

PLEASE STAND.

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

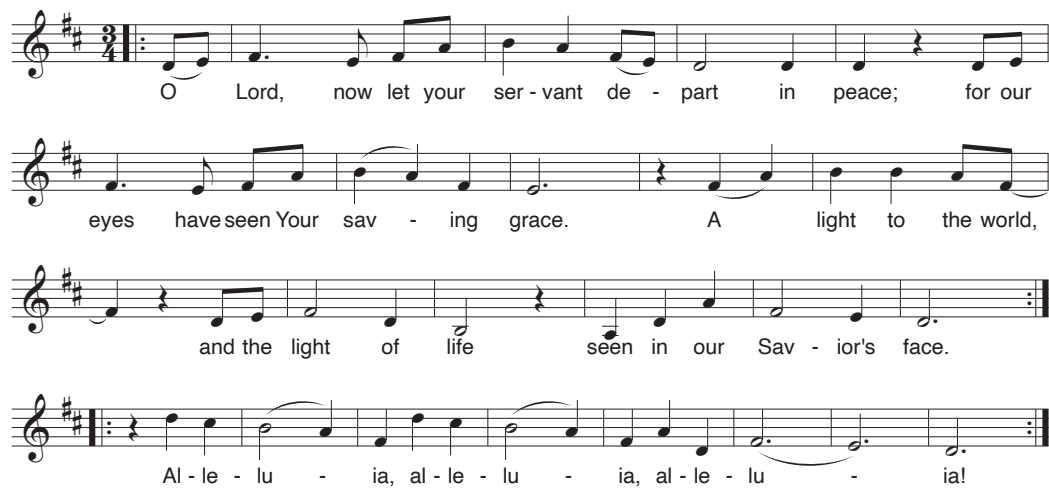
THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Let us pray.

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

NUNC DIMITTIS

O Lord, Now Let Your Servant Depart in Peace



O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in peace; for our
eyes have seen Your sav - ing grace. A light to the world,
and the light of life seen in our Sav - ior's face.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

THE PEACE

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us access to his grace. *-Romans 5:1-2*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And with thy spirit!

YOU MAY GREET EACH OTHER IN THE NAME OF THE LORD.

POSTLUDE MUSIC

FEEL FREE TO REMAIN IN THE NAVE (CHURCH WORSHIP SPACE) AND HAVE CONVERSATIONS
WHILE THE MUSIC IS PLAYING.

*Come to me,
all who labor and are heavy laden,
and I will give you rest.*

Matthew 11.28

The Church of the Advent was founded with the City of Birmingham in 1872.

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT (EPISCOPAL)
2017 SIXTH AVENUE NORTH | BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35203
205 251-2324 | ADVENTBIRMINGHAM.ORG