



CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT
IN THE CITY OF BIRMINGHAM

FIVE O'CLOCK
SEPTEMBER 17, 2023
The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
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

Come, People of the Risen King

Come, people of the risen King,
Who delight to bring him praise.
Come, all and tune your hearts to sing
To the Morning Star of grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth
We will lift our eyes to him,
Where steady arms of mercy reach
To gather children in.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice, O church of Christ, rejoice!*

Come, those whose joy is morning sun
And those weeping through the night.
Come, those who tell of battles won,
And those struggling in the fight.
For his perfect love will never change,
And his mercies never cease,
But follow us through all our days
With the certain hope of peace. *Refrain*

Come, young and old from every land,
Men and women of the faith.
Come, those with full or empty hands,
Find the riches of his grace.
Over all the world, his people sing,
Shore to shore we hear them call
The truth that cries through every age:
'Our God is all in all'. *Refrain*

OPENING SENTENCES

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

-Philippians 1:2

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.

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?
Omniscient, all-knowing, he counts not their sum;
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,
Our sins, they are many, his mercy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?
What Father, so tender, is calling us home!
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor;
Our sins, they are many, his mercy is more.

What riches of kindness he lavished on us;
His blood was the payment, his life was the cost;
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford;
Our sins, they are many, his mercy is more.

*Praise the Lord, his mercy is more.
Stronger than darkness, new every morn;
Our sins, they are many, his mercy is more.*

What heaven so certain, what promise secure!
In Jesus, our present and future are sure.
Forgiveness will hold, as it held us before;
Our sins, they are many, his mercy is more.

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THE PEOPLE SIT.

PSALM 103:1-13

READ RESPONSIVELY, BY HALF-VERSE.

- 1 Bless the Lord, O my soul, *
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.
- 2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, *
and forget not all his benefits.
- 3 He forgives all your sins *
and heals all your infirmities;
- 4 He redeems your life from the grave *
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;
- 5 He satisfies you with good things, *
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- 6 The Lord executes righteousness *
and judgment for all who are oppressed.
- 7 He made his ways known to Moses *
and his works to the children of Israel.
- 8 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- 10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- 12 As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.
- 13 As a father cares for his children, *
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.

**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 EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL TO THE ROMANS.

As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand. ⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. ¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹for it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." ¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God. (14:1-12)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE PEOPLE STAND.

*Surely, it is God who saves me;
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
And he will be my Savior.*

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing
From the springs of salvation,
And on that day you shall say,
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name.

Make his deeds known among the peoples,
See that they remember that his Name is exalted
Sing the praises of the Lord,
For he has done great things,
And this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion,
Ring out your joy,
For the great one in the midst of you
Is the Holy One of Israel. *Refrain*

Words: Book of Common Prayer (Isaiah 12:2-6) Music: Jack Noble White ©1976 Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp.

THE PEOPLE SIT.

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW.

Peter came up and said to Jesus, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?”²² Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.²³ Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants.²⁴ When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents.²⁵ And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made.²⁶ So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’²⁷ And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt.²⁸ But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’²⁹ So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’³⁰ He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt.³¹ When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place.³² Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.³³ And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’³⁴ And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt.³⁵ So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.” (18:21-35)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE PEOPLE STAND.

Grace that flows like a river,
Washing over me.
Fount of heaven, love of Christ,
Overflow in me.

*Thank you Jesus,
You set me free.
Christ my Savior,
You rescued me.*

Take this life delivered,
A vessel of your love
Wholly now devoted
To see your kingdom come. *Refrain*

You've given me life,
You've opened my eyes,
I love you Lord, I love you Lord.
You've entered my heart,
You've set me apart,
I love you Lord, I love you Lord. *Refrain*

Hannah Hobbs | Matt Crocker © 2013 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) CCLI #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.

O God, forasmuch as without thee we are not able to please thee, mercifully grant that thy Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the same Spirit liveth and reigneth, 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

A WORD ON STEWARDSHIP

Beeland Nielsen

THE SERMON

Canon Young

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

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

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

Every Breath

Fill my lungs with the wind of your spirit,
Breath to breath, I'm dependent on you.
Faithful God, you are calling me closer.
When morning dawns and evening fades
I need your grace.

*Let every breath I breathe
Pour out in praise toward the King.
Jesus, forever true,
My every breath will worship you.*

Tame my fears as I lean on your spirit,
Trusting all of my heart unto you.
Let your passion burn like a fire in my soul.
When morning dawns and evening fades
I'll seek your face. *Refrain*

How great is the one who breathes life into dry bones,
Heaven exhales and my soul is revived.
How great is the one whose hope lines the horizon
Just when it feels like the end, there's new life.
How great is the one who brushed death off our shoulders,
Victory came when he took back the night.
The heart of our savior deserving all praises,
My hallelujah will echo through time. *Refrain*

Words and Music by Hannah Hobbs and Ben Tan CCLI Song #7134999 ©2019 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia CCLI #1660861

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.**

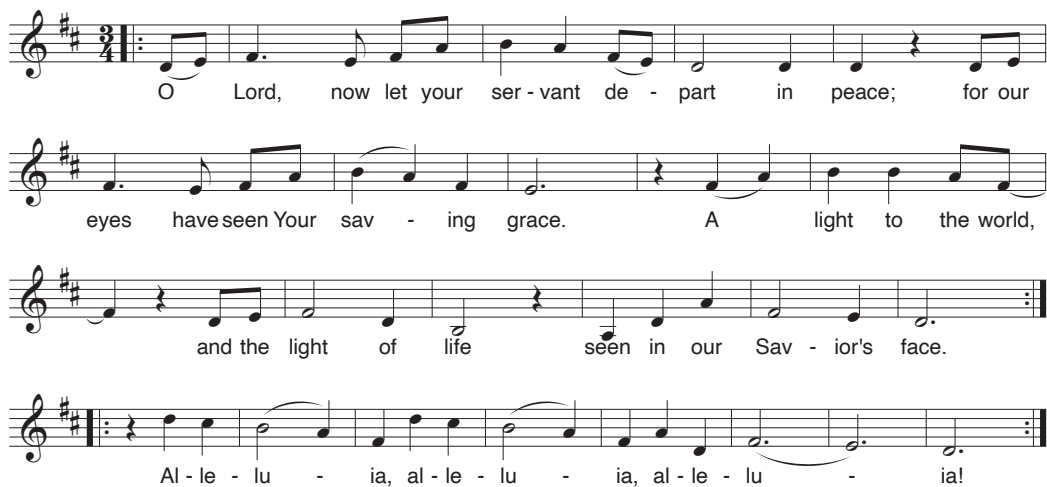
THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

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

CLERGY

For email addresses and phone numbers, please see our staff listing at AdventBirmingham.org.

The Very Rev. R. Craig Smalley	<i>Dean and Rector</i>
The Rev. Canon Thomas P. Murray	<i>Vice Dean</i>
The Rev. Canon James “Jay” W. Gardner, III	<i>Canon Pastor</i>
The Rev. Canon Adam A. Young	<i>Canon Missioner</i>

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Ann Bailey White	Meg Wilson	Forsyth White	

CONTACT

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT
2017 SIXTH AVENUE NORTH BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35203
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Tara Davis	<i>Director of Children's and Nursery Ministries</i>
Will Fagan	<i>Boys Youth Director</i>
Leslie Housman	<i>Director of Women's Ministries</i>
Mallory Johnson	<i>Assistant in Worship</i>
Charles Kennedy	<i>Associate Director of Music and Organist</i>
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Dorothy White	<i>Assistant Administrator</i>
Eldon Brummett, Drew Foster, Chris Hines, Juan Mazuca, Gary Talley, Kevin Talley	<i>Sexton Staff</i>

*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)
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