



FIRST SUNDAY
OF
Advent
Year A

Sunday, November 30, 2025
9:00 A.M.
Choral Matins with Communion

“To be a guiding light of Christ’s grace, justice, freedom and love”.

**The Cathedral Church of Saint Michael and
All Angels**

Diocese of Barbados

Diocesan Bishop

The Rt. Rev'd Michael B. St. J. Maxwell, M.A.

Dean

The Very Rev'd Dr. Jeffrey D. Gibson

Assistant Curate

The Rev'd Re-Shan A. White, B.A.

Hon. Assistant Curate

The Rev'd Richard O. Alleyne, B.A., M.Sc.

Organist/Choirmaster

Mr. John F. Bryan, B.Sc., BMus.

Organist

Mr. Eric Cobham, B.Sc., BMus.

Administrative Assistant

Ms. Armel M. Marshall

Vergers

Mrs. Chloe Grant

Assistant Vergers

Mr. Ezra P. Mayers

**Choral Matins with the Administration of
Communion**

Officiant and Preacher:

The Rev'd Re-Shan A. White, B.A.

Organ Prelude:

*All stand as the Cathedral Choir & Clergy enter the
Cathedral*

ADVENT 1 — HOPE

The Leader reads a sentence:

The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand.
(Mark 1:15)

*He/She then lights the appropriate number of candles in
silence*

Leader: Our Lord says, 'surely I come quickly.'

Response: Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

After a short pause the Leader says:

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Response: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Leader:

We bless you, Eternal Father, giver of all good things; for
in the coming of your Son into the World. Your kingdom

has begun, and at His second coming in glory it will be complete. Grant us true repentance and a living faith in this good news, that on that day we may be found acceptable servants of Christ our King.

All: Amen.

Opening Hymn ~ 41

Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding;
‘Christ is nigh’, it seems to say;
‘Cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day!’

Wakened by the solemn warning,
let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her Sun, all ill dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.

Lo, the Lamb, so long expected,
comes with pardon down from heaven;
let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
one and all to be forgiven;

That when next he comes with glory,
and the world is wrapped in fear,
with his mercy he may shield us,
and with words of love draw near.

Honour, glory, might, and blessing
to the Father and the Son,
with the everlasting Spirit,
while eternal ages run.

*Words: anonymous, from Vox clara ecce inronat, 6th century, Latin;
translation: Edward Caswall (1814-1878)*

Versicles and Responses

V. O Lord open thou our lips.

R. And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

V. O God make speed to save us.

R. O Lord make haste to help us.

V. Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and to the Holy
Ghost;

**R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall
be: world without end. Amen.**

V. Praise ye the Lord.

R. The Lord's Name be praised.

Venite, exultemus

O come, let us sing unto the Lord;

let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving
and shew ourselves glad in him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are all the corners of the earth,
and the strength of the hills is his also.
The sea is his, and he made it,
and his hands prepared the dry land.

O come, let us worship and fall down,
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is the Lord our God,
and we are the people of his pasture
and the sheep of his hand.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world
without end. *Amen*

All sit

Psalm 122

1 I was glad when they said unto me:

We will go in to the house of the Lord.

2 Our feet shall stand in thy gates: O Jerusalem.

3 Jerusalem is built as a city: that is at unity in itself.

4 For thither the tribes go up, even the tribes of the Lord:
to testify unto Israel, to give thanks unto the Name of the
Lord.

5 For there is the seat of judgement: even the seat of the house of David.

6 O pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.

7 Peace be with in thy walls: and plenteousness within thy palaces.

8 For my brethren and companions' sakes: I will wish thee prosperity.

9 Yea, because of the house of the Lord our God: I will seek to do thee good.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:

and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be:

world without end. *Amen*

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Lector: Mrs. Margaret Fraser-Morrison

Here beginneth the first verse of the second Chapter of the Book of the prophet Isaiah.

The word that Isaiah, son of Amoz, saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house

shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;

all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD!

READER: Here endeth the first lesson.

All stand

Benedicite, omnia opera

1. O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord;
praise him and magnify him for ever.
2. O ye angels of the Lord, bless ye the Lord;
praise him and magnify him for ever.

3. O ye heavens, bless ye the Lord;
O ye waters that be above the firmament bless ye the Lord;
4. O all ye powers of the Lord, bless ye the Lord;
praise him and magnify him for ever.
5. O ye sun and moon, bless ye the Lord;
O ye stars of heaven, bless ye the Lord;
6. O ye showers and dew, bless ye the Lord;
praise him and magnify him for ever.
7. O ye winds of God, bless ye the Lord;
O ye fire and heat, bless ye the Lord;
8. O ye winter and summer, bless ye the Lord,
praise him and magnify him for ever.
9. O ye dews and frosts, bless ye the Lord;
O ye frost and cold, bless ye the Lord;
10. O ye ice and snow, bless he the Lord;
praise him and magnify him for ever.
11. O ye nights and days, bless ye the Lord;
O ye light and darkness, bless ye the Lord;
12. O ye lightnings and clouds, bless ye the Lord;
praise him and magnify him for ever.
13. O let the earth bless the Lord;
O ye mountains and hills, bless ye the Lord;

14. O all ye green things upon the earth, bless ye the Lord;
praise him and magnify him for ever.

15. O ye wells, bless ye the Lord;
O ye seas and floods, bless ye the Lord;

16. O ye whales and all that move in the waters, bless ye the Lord;
praise him and magnify him for ever.

17. O all ye fowls of the air, bless ye the Lord;
O all ye beast and cattle, bless ye the Lord;

18. O ye children of men, bless ye the Lord;
praise him and magnify him for ever.

19. O ye people of God, bless ye the Lord;
O ye priests of the Lord, bless ye the Lord;

20. O ye servants of the Lord, bless ye the Lord;
praise him and magnify him for ever.

21. O ye spirits and souls of the righteous, bless ye the Lord;
O ye holy and humble men of heart, bless ye the Lord.

22 Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit;
praise him and magnify him for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:
and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen

All sit

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Matthew 24:36-44

Lector: Mrs. Sharron Lucas-Blackman

Here beginneth the thirty-sixth verse of the twenty-fourth Chapter of the Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to the disciples, “But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

READER: Here endeth the second lesson.

All stand

Jubilate Deo

O Be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands;
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God;
it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving
and into his courts with praise;
be thankful unto him and speak good of his Name.

For the Lord is gracious;
his mercy is everlasting;
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world
without end. *Amen*

The Apostles' Creed,

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.

He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father
Almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick
and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Responses after The Creed

V. The Lord be with you
R. And with thy spirit

All kneel OR sit

V. Let us pray
**R. Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL:

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 them that trespass against
us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Responses after the Lord's Prayer

V. O Lord shew thy mercy upon us.

R. And grant us thy salvation.

V. O Lord save this Nation.

R. And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

V. Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

R. And make thy chosen people joyful.

V. O Lord, save thy people

R. And bless thine inheritance.

V. Give peace in our time, O Lord.

**R. Because there is none that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.**

V. O God make clean our hearts within us.

R. And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collect ~ “*The First Sunday of Advent*”

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when He shall come again in His glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through Him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Second Collect, for Peace

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom: Defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries, through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Third Collect, for Grace

O Lord, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who has safely brought us to the beginning of this day; Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance, to do always that is righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

V. Let us bless the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God

V. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the
Mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen

(Please sit)

The Anthem ~ *“Whence is that goodly fragrance
flowing?” (D. Sanger)*

(Please stand)

Hymn ~ 46

Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him
robed in dreadful majesty;
those who set at naught and sold him
pierced and nailed him to the tree,
deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing,
shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion
still his dazzling body bears,
cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshippers:
with what rapture, with what rapture, with what
rapture
gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, amen, let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory;
claim the kingdom for thine own:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

Words: John Cennick (1718-1755), and Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

The Sermon: The Rev'd Re-Shan A. White

(Please stand)

The Offertory Hymn ~ 234

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home:

Beneath the shadow of thy throne
thy saints have dwelt secure;

sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all its sons away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home!

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

DEACON: The Church of Christ, of which we are members, has taken this bread and wine and given thanks according to the Lord's command. We now share together in the communion of His Body and Blood.

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

We do not presume to come to this your table, most merciful Lord trusting in our own righteousness, but only in your boundless mercy. We are not even worthy to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the Lord ever the same, ever merciful. Grant therefore, Lord of grace and love, that we may so eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and drink His blood, that with bodies and souls made clean from every stain of sin we may evermore dwell in Him, and He in us. Amen.

The Minister may say the following invitation

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on Him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

PEOPLE: Our souls will feast and be satisfied, and we will sing glad songs of praise to Him.

The Sacrament is administered with the following or other words:

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. Amen

Communion Motet ~ “Ave Maria” (G. Caccini)

Communion Hymns ~ 590 & 591

Hosanna to the living Lord!
Hosanna to the Incarnate Word,

to Christ, Creator, Saviour, King,
let earth, let heaven hosanna sing,
 hosanna in the highest!

O Saviour, with protecting care
abide in this thy house of prayer,
where we thy parting promise claim,
 assembled in thy sacred name.
 Hosanna in the highest!

But, chiefest, in our cleansèd breast,
Eternal, bid thy Spirit rest;
and make our secret soul to be
a temple pure and worthy thee.
 Hosanna in the highest!

To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,
be honour, praise, and glory given
by all on earth and all in heaven.
 Hosanna in the highest!

Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826), 1811

Hymn ~ 591

How glorious is the life above,
which in this ordinance we taste;
 that fullness of celestial love,
that joy which shall for ever last.

That heavenly life in Christ concealed
these earthen vessels could not bear;

the part which now we find revealed
no tongue of angels can declare.

The light of life eternal darts
into our souls a dazzling ray;
a drop of heaven o'erflows our hearts,
and deluges the house of clay.

Sure pledge of ecstasies unknown
shall this divine Communion be;
the ray shall rise into a sun,
the drop shall swell into a sea.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Notices and Announcements

The Closing Prayers

(All kneel OR sit)

The following post-communion prayers is then said:

Let us pray.

Gracious Father, we give you praise and thanks for this Holy Communion of the Body and Blood of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, the pledge of our redemption; and we pray that it may bring us forgiveness of our sins, strength in our weakness, and everlasting salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Thanksgiving for National Life For the Nation

Almighty God, giver of all good things: We thank you for the natural majesty and beauty of this land. They restore us, though we often destroy them.

PEOPLE: Heal us.

We thank you for the great resources of this nation. They make us rich, though we often exploit them.

PEOPLE: Forgive us.

We thank you for the men and women who have made this country strong. They are models for us, though we often fall short of them.

PEOPLE: Inspire us.

We thank you for the torch of liberty which has been lit in this land. It has drawn people from every nation, though we have often hidden from its light.

ALL: Enlighten us.

We thank you for the faith we have inherited in all its rich variety. It sustains our life, though we have been faithless again and again.

ALL: Renew us.

Help us, O Lord, to finish the good work here begun. Strengthen our efforts to blot out ignorance and prejudice, and to abolish poverty and crime. And hasten the day when all our people, with many voices in one united chorus, will glorify your holy Name.

ALL: Amen.

The Dismissal

DEACON:

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

DEACON: The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE: And also with you.

DEACON: Let us bless the Lord

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn ~ 742

I vow to thee, my country,
all earthly things above,
entire and whole and perfect,
the service of my love:
the love that asks no question,
the love that stands the test,
that lays upon the altar

the dearest and the best;
the love that never falters,
the love that pays the price,
the love that makes undaunted
the final sacrifice.

And there's another country,
I've heard of long ago,
most dear to them that love her,
most great to them that know;
we may not count her armies,
we may not see her King;
her fortress is a faithful heart,
her pride is suffering;
and soul by soul and silently
her shining bounds increase,
and her ways are ways of gentleness
and all her paths are peace.

Words: Cecil Spring-Rice (1859-1918)

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

In plenty and in time of need,
When this fair land was young,
Our brave forefathers sowed the seed
From which our pride has sprung:
A pride that makes no wanton boast
Of what it has withstood;
That binds our hearts from coast to coast.

The pride of nationhood.

Chorus

We loyal sons and daughters all
Do hereby make it known:
These fields and hills beyond recall
Are now our very own.
We write our names on history's page
With expectations great;
Strict guardians of our heritage
Firm craftsmen of our fate.

The Lord has been the people's guide
For past three hundred years.
With Him still on the people's side
We have no doubts or fears.
Upward and onward we shall go,
Inspired, exulting, free,
And greater will our nation grow
In strength and unity.

Words by Mr. Irving Burgie, (1924-2019)
Music by Mr. C. Van Roland Edwards

Organ Postlude

All remain standing, as able, as the Cathedral Choir & Clergy depart.

CATHEDRAL NEWS

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: The ministry, mission and maintenance of the Cathedral is supported primarily by its members' contributions weekly and monthly. However, contributions are appreciated from anyone. An invitation is extended to all visitors and well-wishers to support the financial needs of this sacred place. Please donate to St. Michael's Cathedral, Bridgetown, St. Michael.

Friends and well-wishers may write to stmichaelcathedral@caribsurf.com or call 1 246-427-0790 for more details. Meantime, donations can be made through online payments to St. Michael's Cathedral, CIBC First Caribbean International Bank, Bridgetown Branch, Account # 2719302; Transit # 09606.

1. BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS - CATHEDRAL REVITALIZATION 2024 and BEYOND: Mission – Ministry -Maintenance - Money.

- I. This campaign aims to revitalize the Cathedral's heritage; to strengthen congregational vitality; and to build the Church for tomorrow. All are invited to get involved and to recommend the programme to others, especially persons who were nurtured in this sacred place.
- II. Further to a recent meeting of the Parochial Church Council, members are asked to consider the following projects in pursuance of our goals. They are as follows:

- 1) Streaming Equipment Foundational Setup - \$35,000.00
- 2) Repairs to the Southern Balcony - \$59,400.00
- 3) Repairs to the Chapter Room - \$12,750.00
- 4) Purchase of a Photocopier - \$18,346.45 (acquired)
- 5) Ceiling Light fittings for the Southern Balcony – (\$2,000.00)

Thanks to all who have made donations towards the window appeal. Members would be pleased to know that work on the five windows has been completed.



FLOWERS: As usual, there will be no floral arrangements during the Advent season; however, members are encouraged to make donations for the supply of flowers for Christmas. Contributions may be made in celebration of a personal event, in commemoration of a departed loved one, or any other occasion in the life of a family. Thanks for your consideration.



BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE: On Sunday, December 14, 2025, the Cathedral will host a Blue Christmas Service at **5:00 P.M.** Anyone who experienced a bereavement during the year and for whom this would be the first Christmas without their loved ones, is invited to attend. The service is designed to offer comfort and hope at Christmas time; and to affirm the presence of God as revealed in Christ, in the midst of grief.



THEME FOR THE WEEK

“The call of the Lord is fundamentally a call to newness of life.”



Congratulations to all those persons celebrating birthdays this week November 30 to December 6, 2025

30 Mr. J’Andre Austin

Ms. Faye A. Tudor

1 Mrs. Chloe Grant

2 Ms. Yvonne V. Blenman

3 Ms. Ella K. Russell

Mr. Stephen L. White

4 Mr. Victor E. Gittens

4 Ms. Muriel I. Oxley

Ms. Maureen Ward

Mr. Glynnil M. Warner

5 Ms. Orene L. Clarke

*Ms. Jennifer Edwards
Mrs. Sheila Garnes
6 Ms. Joanne R. Griffith*



May God bless and strengthen you.



Happy Anniversary!

*November 30, 2019 Mr. Darwin & Mrs. Marie Clarke
December 2, 2023 Mr. Ashton & Mrs. Margaret Austin*



SICK: Please remember the sick or injured of our Parish and wider community, especially Daphne Browne, Margaret Browne, Colleen Byer, Darwin Clarke, Heather Coward-Downes, Winfield Downes, Alice P. Hall, Martin Haynes, Beverley Hinds, Jonathan Holder, Marcia Hoyte, Selina Jones, Judy King, Helena Lyte, Marlene Moore, Marcia Oxley, Gloria Regis, Sylvester (Blues) Sargeant, Sheila Sealy, Claudette Sealy, Eleanor Small, Phyllis Springer, Winifred Trotman, The Rt. Rev'd Dr. Sir Wilfred Wood, Basil Worrell, and Ernesta Yarde.





BEREAVEMENT: We extend sincere condolences to the family of the late Mrs. Sheila McCollin, formerly of Bird Hill, Haggatt Hall, St. Michael and member of the Cathedral. She was the wife of the late James McCollin and the mother of Patrick, Deborah, Margo, Lydia and Mark. We pray for her family and friends.

May they know the blessedness of those who mourn.



CATHEDRAL MINISTRIES

Today, Sunday, November 30, 2025

The First Sunday of Advent: Year A

7:00 A.M. ~ Morning Prayer with Communion

9:00 A.M. ~ Choral Matins with Communion



Wednesday, December 3, 2025

10:00 A.M. ~ A Public Service of Healing



Sunday, December 7, 2025

The Second Sunday of Advent: Year A

7:00 A.M. ~ Holy Eucharist

9:00 A.M. ~ Sung Eucharist: Canons of the Cathedral Series continues: The President and Preacher: The Rev'd Canon Peter. H. O. W. Haynes, Rector of St.

Peter Parish Church and of the Stall of St. Ambrose.

6:00 P.M. ~ An Advent Procession with Carols
An offering will be taken.

Please bring a candle or torchlight



Sunday, December 14, 2025

The Third Sunday of Advent

5:00 P.M. ~ Blue Christmas Service

(Offering Healing and Hope for the Season)



Thursday, December 18, 2025

Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at 8:00 P.M.

(The Barbados Police Service Band will be present)

Tickets are available at \$30.00 each.



DEACON'S CUPBOARD: Members are reminded to support the Deacons' Cupboard ministry, through which the Cathedral is able to provide relief to persons in need of food. Towards that end, members are hereby reminded to bring non-perishable food items for the cupboard. Monetary donations would also be appreciated. Please help those in need. Sincere thanks to all.



The New Church Year:

Members are asked to note that the New Eucharistic Lectionary Year A, begins today, Sunday, November 30, 2025. Simultaneously, The Daily Office Year Two, also commences today. Please see the Book of Common Prayer (CPWI) for the Eucharistic Cycle page 669 ff. and the Daily Office page 736ff.

The Gloria in excelsis is omitted during Advent, except where its optional use is noted. In addition, as in other churches, no flowers are used in the Cathedral. The Liturgical colour is Blue; Pink will be used on the Third Sunday, in celebration of joy. An important devotion during this season is the Lighting of the Advent Wreath.



DIOCESAN PROGRAMME: The Christian Formation Commission of the Diocese has produced a document entitled, **“The Path to the Manager: A time of Anticipation and Preparation for the Birth of Jesus Christ”**. It has been designed “to inspire reflection, strengthen faith, and renew our shared commitment to walk faithfully with Christ – the Light of the World.” Its use is highly commended.



The Dean's Absence: Members are asked to note that The Dean is absent from worship today due to his attendance at the Installation of the Second President of Barbados with the accompanying Interfaith Service and Ceremonial Parade at Kensington Oval at 8:00 A.M.

Happy Independence, everyone!



The Meaning of "Advent"

The word **Advent** means "coming" or "arrival." The focus of the entire season is preparation to celebrate the birth of Jesus the Christ in his First Advent, and the anticipation of the return of Christ the King in his Second Advent. Thus, Advent is far more than simply marking a 2,000-year-old event in history. It is celebrating a truth about God, the revelation of God in Christ whereby all of creation might be reconciled to God. That is a process in which we now participate, and the consummation of which we anticipate. Scripture reading for Advent will reflect this emphasis on the Second Advent, including themes of accountability for faithfulness at His coming, judgment on sin, and the hope of eternal life.

In this double focus on past and future, Advent also symbolizes the spiritual journey of individuals and a congregation, as they affirm that Christ has come, that He is present in the world today, and that He will come again in power. That acknowledgment provides a basis for

Kingdom ethics, for holy living arising from a profound sense that we live "between the times" and are called to be faithful stewards of what is entrusted to us as God's people. So, as the church celebrates God's in-breaking into history in the Incarnation, and anticipates a future consummation to that history for which "all creation is groaning awaiting its redemption," it also confesses its own responsibility as a people commissioned to "love the Lord your God with all your heart" and to "love your neighbor as yourself." (Dennis Bratcher)



**Daily Book of Common Prayer Readings
November 30 to December 6, 2025**

Day	Morning Readings	Evening Readings
The First Sunday of Advent	Psalms 126, 147 Amos 1:1-5, 13—2:8 Luke 21:5-19	Psalms 111, 113, 113 Isaiah 1:1-9 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Monday	Psalm 34 Isaiah 49:1-6 1 Corinthians 4:1-16	Psalms 96, 100 Isaiah 55:1-5 John 1:35-42
Tuesday	Psalms 5, 6 Acts 3:1-11 Matthew 21:12-22	Psalms 10, 11 Isaiah 1:21-31 2 Peter 1:12-21
Wednesday	Psalm 119:1-24 Amos 3:12—4:5 Matthew 21:23-32	Psalms 12, 13, 14 Isaiah 2:1-11 2 Peter 3:1-10
Thursday	Psalm 18:1-20 Amos 4:6-13 Matthew 21:33-46	Psalm 18:21-50 Isaiah 2:12-22 2 Peter 3:11-18
Friday	Psalms 16, 17 Amos 5:1-17 Matthew 22:1-14	Psalm 22 Isaiah 3:8-15 Jude 1-16
Saturday	Psalms 20, 21:1-7(8-14) Amos 5:18-27 Matthew 22:15-22	Psalms 110:1-5(6-7), 116, 117 Isaiah 4:2-6 Jude 17-25 <i>Collect for 2 Advent</i>

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