

Advent Week 2



St. Michael's Cathedral

Service

for

The Second Sunday of Advent ~Year A

Sunday, December 7, 2025

7:00 A.M. & 9:00 A.M.

"To be a guiding light of Christ's grace, justice, freedom and love"

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

The Diocese of Barbados

Diocesan Bishop

The Rt. Rev'd Michael B. St. John. 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.; MSc.

Organist/Choirmaster

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

Organist

Mr. Eric Cobham, B.Sc., BMus

Administrative Assistant

Ms. Armel M. Marshall

Verger

Mrs. Chloe Grant

Assistant Verger

Mr. Ezra P. Mayers

The Second Sunday of Advent: YEAR A

7:00 A.M. ~ HOLY EUCHARIST

President and Preacher: The Very Rev'd Dr. Jeffrey D. Gibson

9:00 A.M. ~ Sung Eucharist: Canons in 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

Lay Eucharistic Minister: Dr. Sherlock Bradshaw

ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE PREPARATION

Organ Prelude

9:00 A.M. ~ Lighting of the Advent Wreath

ADVENT 2 — PEACE

The Leader reads a sentence:

As the lighting comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will the coming of the Son of Man.

(Matthew 24:27)

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 Jesus has come, humble and dependent, the babe in the manger. He will come again, glorious and resplendent for all humanity to see. Grant us in our daily living, so to know Him that on that day we may rejoice to see Him, Christ our King.

All: Amen.

The Opening **Hymn ~ 45**

Ye servants of the Lord,
each in his office wait,
observant of his heavenly word,
and watchful at his gate.

Let all your lamps be bright,
and trim the golden flame;
gird up your loins as in his sight,
for awful is his name.

Watch! 'Tis your Lord's command,
and while we speak, he's near;
mark the first signal of his hand,
and ready all appear.

O happy servant he,
in such a posture found!
He shall his Lord with rapture see,
and be with honour crowned.

Christ shall the banquet spread
with his own royal hand,
and raise that faithful servant's head
amid the angelic band.

Words: Philip Doddridge (1702-1751)

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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ALL:

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.

THE KYRIES

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Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The Collect: ***“The Second Sunday of Advent”***

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PRESIDENT: The Lord be with you.

ALL: **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10

Lectors: 7:00 A.M. ~ Mr. Paul Blackman

9:00 A.M. ~ Mr. Leighton Waterman

A reading from the Word of God written in the Book of Isaiah, the eleventh chapter, beginning at the first verse.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;

but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the
wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together; and the lion
shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the
adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of
the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to
the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his
dwelling shall be glorious.

LECTOR: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 *Deus, iudicium*

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- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;

- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, * and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; * he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, * from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field,* like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; * there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- 18 Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel, * who alone does wondrous deeds!
- 19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! * and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now: and shall be forever. *Amen.*

(Please remain seated)

Second Lesson: Romans 15:4-13

Lectors: 7:00 A.M. ~ Ms. Marlene Barrow

9:00 A.M. ~ Dr. Sherlock Bradshaw

A reading from the Word of God written in Paul's Letter to the Romans, the fifteenth chapter, beginning at fourth verse.

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the
Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name";

and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";
and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him";
and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

LECTOR: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual **Hymn** ~ 37

Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,
and manifest thy virgin-birth:
let every age adoring fall;
such birth befits the God of all.

Begotten of no human will,
but of the Spirit, thou art still
the Word of God, in flesh arrayed,
the Saviour, now to us displayed.

From God the Father he proceeds,
to God the Father back he speeds;
runs out his course to death and hell,
returns on God's high throne to dwell.

O equal to thy Father, thou!
Gird on thy fleshly mantle now,
the weakness of our mortal state
with deathless might invigorate.

Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,
and darkness glow with new-born light,
no more shall night extinguish day,

where love's bright beams their power display.

O Jesu, virgin-born, to thee
eternal praise and glory be,
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Spirit, evermore. Amen.

*Words: Ambrose of Milan (339-397), from Veni redemptor gentium, Latin;
translation: John Mason Neale (1818-1866)*

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

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

GOSPELLER: The Lord be with you.

ALL: **And also with you**

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the third chapter, beginning at the first verse.

ALL: Glory to Christ Our Saviour.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out

to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptise you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

GOSPELLER: The Gospel of Christ.

ALL: Praise to Christ our Lord.

The Sermon:

7:00 A.M. ~ The Very Rev'd Dr. Jeffrey D. Gibson

9:00 A.M. ~ The Rev'd Canon Peter H. O. W. Haynes

The Nicene Creed

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We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is seen or 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,
one in 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 was born of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered, died and was buried.
On the third day He rose again
in fulfilment of 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.
With the Father and the Son He is worshipped 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.**

(Please sit or kneel as able)

**Intercessors: 7:00 A.M. ~ Prof. Anne St. John, GCM
9:00 A.M. ~ Mr. Victor Small**

Lord, we pray for your Church, that we would open our eyes to your light in our world and open our hearts to be eager for your coming Kingdom.

INTERCESSION FORM “B”

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LEADER:

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

ALL: That we all may be one.

LEADER:

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

ALL: That your Name may be glorified by all people.

LEADER:

We pray for all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons;

ALL: That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

LEADER:

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

ALL: That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

LEADER:

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

ALL: That our works may find favour in your sight.

LEADER:

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

ALL: That they may be delivered from their distress.

LEADER:

Give to the departed eternal rest.

ALL: Let light perpetual shine upon them.

LEADER:

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy.

ALL: May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

LEADER: Let us pray for our needs and those of others.

Silence may be kept and special intentions offered.

ALL:

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords to your will; and the good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ACT OF PENITENCE

Page 123

DEACON:

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:8, 9)

A period of silence shall be kept.

DEACON:

Let us therefore confess our sins.

Form B

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ALL:

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 neighbours as ourselves; we have not loved ourselves as we ought. 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 ABSOLUTION

Page 124

PRESIDENT:

Almighty God, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

PRESIDENT:

The Kingdom of God is Justice, peace, and joy, inspired by the Holy Spirit.

ALL:

They who thus serve Christ are acceptable to God and approved by others.

PRESIDENT:

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

ALL: **And also with you.**

HYMN OF FELLOWSHIP: “Let there be peace on earth”

(During the singing of this hymn worshippers, are encouraged, as inspired, to share tangible expressions such as a hand shake, etc.)



Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me
Let there be peace on earth
The peace that was meant to be
With God our Creator
Children all are we
Let us walk with each other
In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me
Let this be the moment now
With every step I take
Let this be my solemn vow

To take each moment
And live each moment
In peace eternally
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.

Words: Jill Jackson; Melody: Sy Miller (1945)



THE MINISTRY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Offertory **Hymn ~ 251**

Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free,
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.

He comes with succour speedy
to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
were precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth:
before him on the mountains
shall peace, the herald, go;
and righteousness in fountains
from hill to valley flow.

Kings shall bow down before him,
and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore him,
his praise all people sing:
to him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.

O'er every foe victorious,
he on his throne shall rest;
from age to age more glorious,
all-blessing and all-blest:
the tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand for ever,
his changeless name of love.

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854)

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER “B”

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PRESIDENT AND PEOPLE:

**Father, we offer you these gifts which you have given us:
this bread, this wine, this money. With them we offer**

ourselves, our lives, and our work, to become through your Holy Spirit a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice. As this bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ, so may we and all your people become channels of your love; through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Page 126

PRESIDENT: The Lord be with you.

ALL: **And also with you.**

PRESIDENT: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

PRESIDENT: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

PRESIDENT:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Father almighty, everlasting God:

PROPER PREFACE ~ “Advent”

Page 127

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in Him of eternal life; that when He shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold His appearing. *(Go to page 131)*

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

ALL:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might;
heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is He who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING “E”

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PRESIDENT:

Sovereign Lord and Father,
To you be glory and praise for ever.
In your boundless wisdom
you brought creation into being; In your great love
you fashioned us in your image;
In your tender compassion
you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour,
to share our human nature;
In the power of the Holy Spirit,
He overcame the power of sin and death
and brought your people to new birth
as first fruits of your new creation.

On the night that He was betrayed
He took bread,
and when He had given thanks to you,

He broke it and gave it to his disciples
and said: "Take this, and eat it:
This is my Body which is given for you,
Do this for the remembrance of me."
And 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."

PRESIDENT:

Therefore, Father, according to the command
of your dearly beloved Son

ALL:

We remember His death
We proclaim His resurrection
We await His coming in glory.

PRESIDENT:

And we offer you, Father,
our sacrifice of thanks and praise.
Send your Holy Spirit on these gifts of
bread and wine that they may become
the Body and Blood of your Son,
Jesus, our Lord and Redeemer.
As we partake of this holy food of new
and unending life, may your Holy Spirit

establish us as a royal priesthood
with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Ambrose
and all your sons and daughters who share
in your eternal inheritance;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
With Him and in Him and through Him,
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father Almighty,
with all who stand before you
in earth and heaven,
in songs of everlasting praise:

ALL:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Page 144

PRESIDENT:

As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

ALL:

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your Name;

your kingdom come;

your will be done

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread,

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD “C”

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PRESIDENT:

This is the true bread which comes from heaven

ALL:

Whoever eats this bread will live forever.

THE COMMUNION

The Invitation “C”

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DEACON:

Draw near and receive the Body and Blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ with faith and thanksgiving.

ALL:

We do not presume to come to this your table, most merciful Father, 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 AGNUS DEI

Page 147

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
grant us peace.**



The Administration of Communion/Spiritual Communion

The Communion Hymns ~ 615 & 618

O thou, before the world began,
ordained a sacrifice for man,
and by the Eternal Spirit made
an offering for the sinner's stead;
our everlasting priest art thou,
pleading thy death for sinners now.

Thy offering still continues new
before the righteous Father's view;
thyself the Lamb for ever slain,
thy priesthood doth unchanged remain;
thy years, O God, can never fail,
nor thy blest work within the veil.

O that our faith may never move
but stand unshaken as thy love!
Sure evidence of things unseen,
now let it pass the years between,
and view thee bleeding on the tree,
my Lord, my God, who dies for me.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), 1745

Hymn ~ 618

(Worshippers who desire a blessing for their birthday or marriage anniversary are asked to come to the altar during the singing of this hymn)

Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
the people of God from his dwelling take leave.

The supper is ended: O now be extended
the fruits of his service in all who believe.

The seed of his teaching, our hungry souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for man.

His grace shall incite us, his love shall unite us
to work for his kingdom and further his plan.

With praise and thanksgiving to God everliving,
the task of our everyday life we will face,
our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing as brothers all men of each race.

One feast that has fed us, one light that has led us,
unite us as one in his life that we share.

Then may all the living, with praise and thanksgiving,
give honour to Christ and his name that we bear.

Words: Omer Westendorf (1916-1997)

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THE POST COMMUNION "C"

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ALL:

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 Saviour 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 honour and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING ~ “*Advent*”

Page 149

Christ the Son of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always.

ALL: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE DISMISSAL

DEACON: Go in peace and serve the Lord

ALL: In the name of Christ. Amen.

The Recessional **Hymn** ~ 433

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
he is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath
are stored;

he has loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift
sword,

his truth is marching on.

Refrain:

Glory, glory, hallelujah!

Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
His truth is marching on.

I have seen him in the watchfires of a hundred circling
camps,
they have builded him an altar in the evening dews and
damps;
I can read his righteous sentence by the dim and flaring
lamps,
his day is marching on.

Refrain

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never sound
retreat,
he is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgement
seat;
O be swift, my soul, to answer him! Be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on.

Refrain:

In the beauty of the lilies, Christ was born across the sea,
with a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me;
as he died to make men holy, let us live to make all free,
while God is marching on.

Refrain

Words: Julia W. Howe (1819-1910)

**Thank you most sincerely for worshipping at the
Cathedral this morning.**

Organ Postlude

(Worshippers are invited to sit silently and listen to the voluntary; however, those who wish to leave at this point may do so quietly.)

The Second Sunday of Advent ~ Year A

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

Comments: *“From David’s line a ruler bringing justice and peace.”*

In our lesson from the Hebrew Bible **the prophet foresees a time when God will bring forth a righteous judge and a new spirit of peace in the world.** The wise and faithful judge will come from the stump of Jesse—that is, from the line of the great King David, whose father was Jesse. The Spirit of the Lord will be his as he defends the humble and slays the wicked. The new age of peace will extend even to the animal Kingdom.

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

The psalm asks that God endow the king with compassionate justice and righteousness, and that his reign may extend over all nations and throughout all generations.

Second Reading (The Epistle): Romans 15:4-13

Comments: *“Live in harmony, welcoming on another”*

In this reading **Paul points to several passages from the Hebrew scriptures to show how God’s promise that the Gentile peoples should come to praise God was being fulfilled.** The new Roman converts, whom Paul hopes soon to visit, are urged to live in harmony and to recognise the manner in which Christ’s ministry has brought these

prophecies to fruition. He is the root of Jesse, that is, the promised son of David, on whom their hope is to be set.

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

Comments: *“A voice cries: Prepare the way of the Lord”*

Our gospel lesson tells of **the ministry of John the Baptist, his message of repentance and his prophecy of the mighty one to come**. John himself is the messenger of preparation foretold by Isaiah. He baptizes with water those who confess their sins and wish to change their ways, but he chastises those who do not show the fruits of repentance. Soon comes the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and with refining fire.

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: Next 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 strength of our hope lies in our striving for peace and justice.”



Congratulations to all those persons celebrating birthdays this week December 7 to December 13, 2025

- 2 Mr. Remech Matthias**
- 7 Mrs. Shaunette Blackett**
- 8 Mr. Grantley E. Bonas**
Ms. Hyacinth Carter
Ms. Gwendolyn D. Evelyn
Mr. Martin L. Haynes
- 9 Ms. Renee M. Thomas**
- 10 Ms. Viola Cumberbatch**
- 11 Mr. LaShawn X. Austin**

Ms. Angela Y. Greene
Mrs. Anne-Marie Jennifer Small
Mr. Nicholas A. Smith
13 Mrs. Margaret D. Browne
Mrs. Yvonne D. Rayside-Reid



May God bless and strengthen you.



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 families of the following:



1. 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.

2. The late Stephanie Jordan, mother of Jan Jordan, our Car Park Attendant. The funeral and interment will take place at St. David Church, on Wednesday, December 10, 2025 at 3:00 P.M.
3. The late The Very Rev'd S. Otis Nicholls, Dean of the Cathedral Church of St. George, Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

We pray for the families, friends, and in the case of Dean Nicholls, also Bishop Leopold Friday, Clergy and people of the Diocese of the Windward Islands.

We thank God for their lives, work, and witness among us.
May the bereaved families know the blessedness of those who mourn.



CATHEDRAL MINISTRIES

Today, Sunday, December 7, 2025

The Second Sunday of Advent: Year A

7:00 A.M. ~ Holy Eucharist

9:00 A.M. ~ Sung Eucharist

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

Please bring a battery lit candle or torchlight



Wednesday, December 10, 2025

10:00 A.M. ~ Holy Eucharist



Sunday, December 14, 2025
The Third Sunday of Advent: Year A
7:00 A.M. ~ Holy Eucharist
9:00 A.M. ~ Sung Eucharist
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 in attendance)
Admission: \$30.00



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, began last 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 Manger: 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.



A NOTE OF THANKS!

Sincere thanks to our patron, Dr. The Most Honourable Kenneth George, The Rt. Rev'd Michael Maxwell and Mrs. Maxwell, and all persons who attended, contributed, supported or donated to the Blooms and Blessings Bazaar and Flea Market that was held on the Church Village Green and in the Cathedral on the 22nd and 23rd November, 2025.



**Daily Book of Common Prayer Readings
December 7 to 13, 2025**

Day	Morning Readings	Evening Readings
The Second Sunday of Advent	Psalms 148, 149, 150 Amos 6:1-14 Luke 1:57-68	Psalms 114, 115 Isaiah 5:1-7 2 Thessalonians 1:5-12
Monday	Psalm 25 Amos 7:1-9 Matthew 22:23-33	Psalms 9, 15 Isaiah 5:8-12, 18-21 Revelation 1:1-8
Tuesday	Psalms 26, 28 Amos 7:10-17 Matthew 22:34-46	Psalms 36, 39 Isaiah 5:11-17, 24-25 Revelation 1:9-16
Wednesday	Psalm 38 Amos 8:1-14 Matthew 23:1-12	Psalm 119:25-48 Isaiah 6:1-13 Revelation 1:17—2:7
Thursday	Psalm 37:1-18 Amos 9:1-10 Matthew 23:13-26	Psalm 37:19-42 Isaiah 6:1-11 Revelation 2:8-17
Friday	Psalm 31 Haggai 1:1-15 Matthew 23:27-39	Psalm 35 Isaiah 7:10-25 Revelation 2:18-29
Saturday	Psalms 30, 32 Haggai 2:1-9 Matthew 24:1-14	Psalms 42, 43 Isaiah 8:1-15 Revelation 3:1-6 <i>Collect for Advent 3</i>

Sermon Notes

Text:.....
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Topic:
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Preacher:
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Points to Ponder:
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What was God saying specifically to me during the
Sermon?
.....

OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Church Wardens:

Ms. Deidre Cox Mr. Victor Sylvester

Secretary: Ms. Donnah Russell, J.P.

Assistant Secretary: Mrs. Juno Burrows

Treasurer: Mr. David Murray

Assistant Treasurer: Ms. Harriett Clarke

Synod Representatives

Ms. Cyrilene P. Forde

Mr. Darnley King

Mr. Samuel Maxwell, J.P.

Alternative Synod Representative

Ms. Donna Inniss



LEADERS OF ORGANISATIONS AND MINISTRIES

Men's Fellowship:	Mr. John Moore
Mothers' Union:	Mrs. Margaret King-Austin
Church Army:	Captain Donnah Russell, J.P.
Woman's Auxiliary:	Vacant
Ushers Guild:	Mrs. Juno Burrows
Guild of Servers:	Mr. Jerry Alleyne
Health Ministry:	Dr. Wendy Sealy
Sunday School:	Mrs. Harriett Blackman
Flower Guild:	Mrs. Shirley Hurley
Guild of St. Raphael:	Mr. Darwin Clarke



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