

**THE FIRST SUNDAY
AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY
DECEMBER 28, 2025 • 10:30 A.M.**



THE HOLY EUCHARIST

RITE II

THE WORD OF GOD

VOLUNTARY

Prelude on 'Coventry Carol'

W. S. Lloyd Webber

HYMN 93

"Angels, from the realms of glory"

Regent Square

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The Book of Common Prayer, page 355

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

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

COLLECT FOR PURITY

355

Presider 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.

People **Amen.**

Hymn 96

"Angels we have heard on high"

Gloria

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

213

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

A moment of silence is observed.

Presider Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Reader A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹ For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. ² The nations shall see your vindication, and all the

kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. ³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

A moment of silence follows the reading.

PSALM 147:13-21 (*All sing. Congregation remains seated.*)

Richmond

- 1 **Worship the LORD, Jerusalem,
Praise God, O Israel;
For he has made your gates secure
And blessed your children well.**
- 2 **Upon your borders he makes peace,
The fields yield finest flour;
He sends out his command on earth,
His word speeds forth with power.**
- 3 **Who can withstand his freezing cold,
Hoarfrost and hail and snow?
Yet when he sends his word and wind
They melt and waters flow.**
- 4 **He gives to Jacob, Israel,
His law, his word that frees;
To other nations he has not
Revealed his just decrees.**

THE SECOND LESSON

Galatians 3:23-25, 4:4-7

Reader A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Galatians.

²³ Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴ Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ⁴ But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶ And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷ So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

A moment of silence follows the reading.

THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 1:1-18

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

CAROL SING

THE NICENE CREED

358

Presider and People

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and 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,
of one 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 became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with 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 and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader Let us bring to the Lord our hopes and cares this Christmastide.

Leader For God's people throughout the world, that we might do our part to give glory to God and to bring peace to the earth.

The People may add their own prayers either silently or aloud.

Presider God of Wonder,

People **Hear our prayers.**

Leader For those gathered here, that we might take the Good News of the living God into the world, not only with our lips, but in our lives.

The People may add their own prayers either silently or aloud.

Presider God of Joy,

People **Hear our prayers.**

Leader For all who are in darkness, and for all those in any need or trouble, that the light of the newborn Christ might fill their hearts and bring them hope.

The People may add their own prayers either silently or aloud.

Presider God of Hope,

People **Hear our prayers.**

Leader For the sick and the dying and those who care for them, that God might bless them with the gift of peace.

The People may add their own prayers either silently or aloud.

Presider God of Peace,

People **Hear our prayers.**

Presider Confident in God's love, we place our needs before the newborn Christ, whose manger is the human heart and whose glory is any person alive to his presence.

People **Amen.**

THE PEACE

360

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

361

Anthem

O Saviour Sweet

J. S. Bach

O Saviour sweet, O Saviour kind, thy Father's will has all thy mind, from Heaven thou hast vouchsafed to come, with men, as man, to make thy home, O Saviour sweet, O Saviour kind. O Saviour sweet, O Saviour kind, the way to please thee we would find, whatever we have, it comes of thee, O let us ever near thee be, O Saviour sweet, O Saviour kind. O Saviour sweet, O Saviour kind, who came to earth the lost to find, who died to save us on the tree, our hearts are filled with love to thee, O Saviour sweet, O Saviour kind.

text: J. Troutbeck &

Helen Dickinson

HYMN 112 (vs. 4)

"In the bleak midwinter"

Cranham

What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

If I were a wise man, I would do my part;

Yet what I can I give him, give my heart.

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

HYMNAL S-129

Sanctus

**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.

Presider We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Presider and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Presider And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People **AMEN.**

Presider And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Presider and People

**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.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

364

After the Presider breaks the consecrated Bread, a moment of silence is observed.

Hymn 324 (vs. 2)

Picardy

Presider and People

**King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture,
in the Body and the Blood
he will give to all the faithful
his own self for heavenly food.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

364

Presider 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.

ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

364

Please follow the directions of the usher to the communion rail. After receiving the bread, communicants may receive the wine either by sipping from the chalice or by intinction (i.e. carefully dipping the wafer into the wine). Gluten free wafers are available. For a blessing instead of communion, please cross your arms over your chest as an indication to the priest.

HYMN 98

"Unto us a boy is born!"

Puer nobis nascitur

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.

A moment of silence is observed.

Presider and People

God of abundance,

you have fed us

with the bread of life and cup of salvation;

you have united us

with Christ and one another;

and you have made us one

with all your people in heaven and on earth.

Now send us forth

in the power of your Spirit,

that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world

and continue for ever

in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

BLESSING

HYMN 100

"Joy to the world!"

Antioch

DISMISSAL

366

Presider Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

God Rest You Merry

Wilbur Held

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SERVERS

Acolytes Andrew Hedgepeth and Julianne Wilson;
Altar Guild Kim Daughtridg and Larry Duffee;
Audiovideo Engineer Ron Sowers; **Eucharistic Minister** Ashley Moss;
Flower Guild Pam and Bob Larimer;
Greeters Kenneth and Deborah Burnette; **Intercessor** Paula Stiles;
Musicians The Good Shepherd Choir; Lawrence Goering, organist;
Presider The Rev. Becky Michelfelder;
Readers Lance Daughtridg and Mary Palmer;
Vestry Counters Jack Miller and John Tobias

VESTRY

Class of 2026
Brenning Daughtridge
Emily Dwight
Britt Myers

Class of 2027
Kenneth Burnette
Barbara Hicks
Jack Miller
John Tobias

Class of 2028
Corey Folta
Heather Seale

Senior Warden Kenneth Burnette
Clerk Gayle Edwards

Junior Warden Emily Dwight
Treasurer Jack Miller

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For pastoral emergencies, please call and leave a message
on Becky's mobile phone: 570-259-0671

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**CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
AND DAY SCHOOL**
231 N. Church St., Rocky Mount, NC 27804

www.goodshepherdrmt.org (252) 442-1134

Sunday Services

8:00 a.m. (Holy Eucharist, Rite I)

10:30 a.m. (Holy Eucharist, Contemporary language – livestreamed at *goodshepherdlive.org*)

Wednesday Service

12:00 p.m. (Holy Eucharist)