

St. Aidan's Episcopal Church

To know Jesus Christ and make Him known

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2026
8:15 a.m.

Welcome to St. Aidan's! Whether you are a visitor or long-time worshiper, we're glad you decided to join us today. Our service follows this bulletin and the red **Book of Common Prayer (BCP)**; hymns are in the blue **Hymnal 1982** and the black and red **Lift Every Voice & Sing (LEVAS)**.

(Children's bulletins and crayons are available in the back of the nave.)

† THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE I †

THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude: *We Gather Together* Johann Kremser/arr. Frances Callahan

Processional: Hymn #556 *"Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart" (vs. 1-3)*

Opening Acclamation **BCP 323**

Collect for Purity BCP 323

Gloria (*Spoken by all*) BCP 324

The Collect of the Day **BCP 184**

O God, whose blessed Son was manifested that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant us, we beseech thee, that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that, when he shall appear again with power and great glory, we may be made like unto him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where with thee, O Father, and thee, O Holy Ghost, he liveth and reigneth ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

The Old Testament **Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25**

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

"Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the Lord!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

Psalm 78:1-7 *Attendite, populo* (*Spoken by all, responsively by full verse*)

*1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.

3 That which we have heard and known,
*and what our forefathers have told us, *
we will not hide from their children.

4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, *
and the wonderful works he has done.

5 He gave his decrees to Jacob
*and established a law for Israel, *
which he commanded them to teach their children;

6 That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet unborn; *
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;

*7 So that they might put their trust in God, *
and not forget the deeds of God,
but keep his commandments;

The Epistle **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Sequence: Hymn #68 *"Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers" (v. 1-2; Gsp.; v. 3)*

† The Holy Gospel † **Matthew 25:1-13**

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The Sermon The Rev. W. Reginald Simmons

The Nicene Creed BCP 326

The Prayers of the People (Form III) **BCP 387**

Confession of Sin and Absolution **BCP 330**

The Peace BCP 362

THE HOLY COMMUNION

All baptized people are welcome to receive Communion.
If you do not wish to receive Communion, we invite you to come forward,
with your arms crossed over your chest, to receive a blessing.

The Offertory: *"Keep Your Lamps"* Andre Thomas

Presentation: Hymn #380 "*From all that dwell below the skies" (vs. 3)*

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 Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer II	**BCP 340**
Sursum Corda (*Spoken by all)*	BCP 340
Sanctus (*Spoken by all)*	BCP 341
The Great Amen *(Spoken by all)*	BCP 343
The Lord's Prayer *(children and teenagers are invited to join us the altar)*	BCP 336
The Breaking of the Bread	BCP 337
Fraction Anthem (*Spoken by all)*	BCP 337
The Prayer of Humble Access	BCP 337

Communion Music:

"Laudate Dominum" W.A. Mozart
Leslie Hamilton Thomas, Soprano

Hymn #620 *"Jerusalem, My Happy Home"*

The Post Communion Prayer	BCP 339
The Blessing	BCP 339
The Retiring Processional: Hymn #61 *"Sleepers, Wake!"*	
The Dismissal	BCP 340
Postlude: *Toccata on Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart*	Albert Travis

† CHRISTIAN FORMATION †

Children's Chapel every Sunday at 11:00 a.m.
Children will join the Congregation during The Peace.

The Gift of Years
Sundays, 9:45 - 10:45 a.m. (Burtenshaw Hall Library)
Led by Anita Hilbun, Mibs Zelley, and Tom Reynolds

Heroes & Heroines of Faith
Ordinary People Called to Do Extraordinary Things
Sundays, 9:45 - 10:45 a.m. (Burtenshaw Hall Lower Level)
Led by Jo Woodard and Kay Towner Stallé

A Study of the Lectionary
Tuesdays, 9:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. (Burtenshaw Hall Library)

Bible Study
Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. (Burtenshaw Hall Library)

☼ **BREAKFAST & FELLOWSHIP** ☼
Sundays, 9:15 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. (Burtenshaw Hall)
Join us for the Best Sunday Breakfast in town!

‡ Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Service ‡
Tuesday, November 17, 7:00 p.m.
Please join us as St. Aidan's hosts this annual event, with participation from ten other congregations of various denominations and faiths. A light reception will follow the service.

† Advent Lessons & Carols Service †
Sunday, November 29, one service at 10:00 a.m.

♫ **Christmas Concert – Handel's Messiah** ♫
Sunday, December 6, at 6:00 p.m.

Confession & Spiritual Direction
Wednesdays, 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. or by appointment.

Pastoral Care
If you have any Pastoral Care concerns, please let us know using the cards in the Narthex or contact Father Reggie (*fr.reginald@staidans.org*).

† Pet Memorials in The St. Francis Garden †
If you have lost a beloved animal companion, either recently or some time ago, and would like to hold a memorial in The St. Francis Garden, please contact Hazel Gerber (*hazelgerber@earthlink.net*).

We pray blessings on those with birthdays this week, including:
John Mann, Richard Schmidt, Tons Dokubo, Dee Mills, Sophie Brison, Tom Horner, Claire Thorne, Chris O'Brien, and Bobbe Frank

We pray blessings on those with anniversaries this week, including:
Andrea & Theo Manos and Dr. Ruth Clemens & David Hunt

♥ THE ALTAR FLOWERS ARE GIVEN THIS WEEK BY♥
Andrea & Theo Manos in Celebration of their 40th Wedding Anniversary!

♥ THE TABERNACLE LIGHT IS GIVEN THIS WEEK BY♥
Kristin Eastabrooks in Thanksgiving for Trey and the beautiful music he and the choir provide!

† Jesus, the Christ, Head of the Church †
The Right Rev. Robert C. Wright, Bishop of Atlanta
The Rev. W. Reginald Simmons, Rector
Thomas G. Reynolds IV, Lay Worship Leader
Trey Clegg, Director of Music
Anita Hilbun, Parish Administrator & Director of Communications
Dr. Norma Raybon, Choral Director
Glenda Gray, Director of Choristers
Leanne Klimavicius, Director of St. Aidan's Preschool

Vestry
Curtis Brison, Senior Warden (2028)
Mary Kathryn Nix, Junior Warden (2026)
Emil Hoffman, Asst. Junior Warden (2026)
Markus Glassl, Treasurer
Gail Norris, Asst. Treasurer
Linda Leigh Brock (2028)
Kathy Bump (2028)
Allison Fisher (2026)
Janice Howard (2026)
Andrea Uchegbu (2029)
Laura Van Riper (2029)
Jay Wyper (2029)

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