



TRINITY

EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL
A house of prayer for all people

The Second Sunday of Advent
December 7, 2025, 8 a.m.

Welcome: *Whether you are a first-time visitor or a long-time member, we are honored to worship with you today. If you are searching for a church home, we would love to tell you more about this congregation and to learn more about you. Fill out a visitor card found in the back of the pew in front of you, drop it in the offering plate, and we'll be in conversation with you this week. Above all, please know that this is your Cathedral, and all are welcome.*

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

All stand as the ministers enter the Cathedral.

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

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

Celebrant Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Celebrant Lord, have mercy upon us.

People **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Merciful God, who didst send thy 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 liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

ISAIAH 11:1-10

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
People

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;
That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
Blessed be the LORD God, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!
And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen.

THE SECOND READING

ROMANS 15:4-13

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.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL

MATTHEW 3:1-12

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

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 baptize 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 baptize 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.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

Said by all, standing

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

Deacon Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Additional petitions and thanksgivings may be included here.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Deacon Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence may be kept.

Deacon and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Minister may then say one or more of the following sentences, first saying

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.

Matthew 11:28

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1:15*

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world. *1 John 2:1-2.*

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Then all may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Use the QR code to make a plate offering.



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER II

BCP 340

All stand.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God...

...Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

THE SANCTUS

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world...

...By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

Celebrant And now as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
People **have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
People **have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
People **grant us thy peace.**

Celebrant and People

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Celebrant 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.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

To receive the Bread and Wine of Holy Communion, please come forward and kneel or stand at the Altar rail. Gluten-free Bread is available upon request. If you prefer not to drink the Wine, please know that receiving only Bread is a "full Communion." If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of the Bread and Wine, come forward to the rail and cross your arms over your chest. If, for whatever reason, you prefer to receive the Bread and Wine in your pew, let your usher know.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING

May the Sun 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 Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

LITURGICAL LEADERS

Celebrant

The Rev. Danny Schieffler, *Interim Vicar*

Preacher

The Pegg

Deacon

The Rev. Dr. Susan Loy Lyon

Lector and Lay Eucharistic Minister

Judy Barger

✧ ALTAR GIFTS ✧

TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF
THEIR PARENTS, BETTY AND WALTER HUSSMAN, SR., AND MARY AND FRED A. KENDRICK;
AND IN GRATEFUL THANKSGIVING FOR
THEIR CHILDREN AND FAMILY
BY BEN AND WALTER HUSSMAN

TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN GRATEFUL THANKSGIVING FOR
FRANCES PALMER AND LESLIE ELLIS FLANAGAN
BY THEIR PARENTS MEREDITH AND FRANK FLANAGAN

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We'd love to connect with you about how to make this church your home. To do so, please fill out one of the pew cards in front of you and drop it in the offertory plate.

Please join us for coffee and continental breakfast after the service in Morrison Hall.

This week at and around the Cathedral

Today	4 p.m., Spoken Holy Eucharist, Rite II 7:30 p.m., Advent Lessons and Carols	5:30 p.m., Community Dinner 5:30 p.m., Eucharist w/Healing Prayers
Monday	7 a.m., Breakfast Bible Study 8:30 a.m., Morning Prayer	6:00 p.m., Koinonia Eucharist 6:30 p.m., Book Club
Tuesday	8:30 a.m., Morning Prayer 7 p.m., Choir Rehearsal	6:30 p.m., Labyrinth Walk 7:30 p.m., Choral Compline
Wednesday	8:30 a.m., Morning Prayer 12:15 p.m., Bach Organ Recital 5 p.m., Trinity Ringing Society 5 p.m., St. Cecilia Singers	Thursday 8:30 p.m., Morning Prayer 7 p.m., Cathedral Choir Rehearsal

UPCOMING EVENTS

Three Choir Advent Lessons and Carols Sunday, *Tonight at 7:30 p.m.*

There will be no choral evensong tonight. Instead, the Trinity Choir will join the choirs of the Cathedral of St. Andrew and St. Luke's, North Little Rock for a service of Advent Lessons and Carols. This service will take place at the Cathedral of St. Andrew.

Christmas Memorials

Each year, the Cathedral is decorated for Christmas in honor and in memory of loved ones. Memorials are listed in the orders of service for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. To make a memorial donation,

click [here](#) (Jack, include the right link), and then send your memorial to Missy McCain (missy@trinitylittlerock.org) by Sunday, December 21.

Nominations for Vestry

The Nominations Committee of the Vestry invites nominations for parishioners to stand for election to a three-year term on the Vestry, beginning February 2026. **To nominate someone for the Vestry, or to self-nominate, contact Grady McCoy (gradylmccoy@gmail.com) by Tuesday, December 9.** The slate of those standing for election will be announced in early January. Voting will take place on Sunday,

January 18, when additional nominations for Vestry will also be taken “from the floor.”

A parishioner eligible to serve as a Vestry member must be “a confirmed communicant of the Parish in good standing of not less than 18 years of age, a frequent attendant upon the services of the Parish for the six months next preceding the election and a regular contributor and pledger of record, or a member of a family unit which is a regular contributor and pledger of record for the support of the Parish” (*Canon 25.6*).

It's Warm & Fuzzy Time

Next Sunday, December 14, is the final collection day for Warm Fuzzys. Please bring your gifts to Morrison Hall or the back of the Cathedral.

The biggest need is for coats, jackets, fleece pullovers and sweaters for children of all ages- don't forget larger sizes for teens. Newly purchased items are preferred, or very gently used. Financial gifts are welcome if you're not a shopper! Please mail to the Cathedral or place in the Offering, noting: Warm & Fuzzy Gift.

Along with your Warm & Fuzzy gifts this year, please also consider adding cans of food, cereal or any non-perishable food items to the Warm & Fuzzy Tree to help those who struggle for basics during this Christmas season.

Our gifts will be distributed to the families of Dorcas House, El Zócalo Resource Center and Little Rock School District.

As always, thank you so much for your generous support of this annual Trinity Outreach program!

SAGE-ing Group Meeting

Tuesday Dec. 9 at 1p.m. - Baker Parlor

Dr. Ann Hedge-Carruthers, clinical psychologist, Seminary of the Southwest graduate and Trinity member will speak on Identifying Our Spiritual Needs, and ways to enhance our spiritual practices. Tea and Treats served.

Book Club: *Migrant God: A Christian Vision for Immigrant Justice* by Isaac Samuel Villegas

*Wednesdays at 6:30 pm, December 10, and 17
Baker Parlor in Keller House*

In many ways, Advent is a season of migrants: of the Holy Family making their way to Bethlehem, of God the Son making His way to earth. This Advent, the Cathedral's Book Club will read Isaac Samuel Villegas' *Migrant God: A Christian Vision for Immigrant Justice*, an accessible and rich book that takes readers to the front lines of immigrant justice where Christians are putting hope into action.

The book is available for purchase online or for order at booksellers of your choice. To sign up or to learn more, contact the Rev. Thomas Alexander (thomas@trinitylittlerock.org).

Advent at Trinity

Prepare for Christ's birth with us this Advent at Trinity Cathedral, starting November 30.

SUNDAYS IN ADVENT

Formation for all ages will start in Morrison Hall at 9:15 a.m. for Advent wreath prayers before programming begins.

December 14 Intergenerational Service Project with Matthew 25 Committee

We will be assembling Manna Bags. People are invited to bring a case of bottled water or box of gallon sized zip-lock bags. The contents of the bags are provided.

December 21 Intergenerational Christmas Carol Sing-a-Long

WEDNESDAYS IN ADVENT

5:30 p.m. Healing Eucharist (Chapel)

5:30 p.m. Community Dinner (Morrison)

6 p.m. Koinonia Eucharist (Cathedral)

6:30 p.m. Book Club (Keller House), reading *Migrant God* by Isaac Villegas

7:30 p.m. Choral Compline (Cathedral)

YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

EKC/EYC Schedule in the upcoming weeks:

4:00 EKC (4th & 5th)

5:00 EYC (6th-12th)

Convocational Youth Friendsgiving!

Sunday, November 23

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral (310 W 17th St)

EKC: 4:00 - 5:30

EYC Friendsgiving: 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Join us for a Friendsgiving Potluck, Thanksgiving games, and fellowship with other youth from around the Central AR Convocation! Trinity will provide the entree, plan to bring a favorite side dish or dessert to share! Bring your friends to celebrate the season! Drop off and pick up at gym doors off of Spring St.

EKC/EYC Advent Event

Sunday, November 30

St. Margaret's/AR House of Prayer

4 - 6 p.m.

For the first Sunday in Advent, we're gathering at the AR House of Prayer/St. Margaret's to begin this liturgical season with reflection and community. This will be in lieu of EKC/EYC that day, so make plans to join us as a family! We'll have some time for prayer, advent activities, food, and fellowship!

St. Nick Visits

St. Nick will be joining us on Wednesday, December 3 at Koinonia Eucharist, and during the Children's Liturgy during the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, December 7. Come hear the story of St. Nicholas and his generosity this Advent season!

Parish Retreat at Camp Mitchell

Friday, January 16 – Sunday, January 18, 2026

All are invited to join us for our Parish Retreat at Camp Mitchell, the Diocese of Arkansas' camp and conference center, over Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend. Parish Retreat is a chance for Trinity to get away together at one of Arkansas' most beautiful locations. The weekend will begin with dinner on Friday evening and end with worship on Sunday morning. Throughout the weekend, there will be spiritual formation opportunities for all ages, led by the Rev. Thomas Alexander and Emma Mitchell, as well as many opportunities to rest, relax, and recharge in fellowship with one another.

Registration fee for 1 adult: \$150

Registration fee for 1 adult without lodging: \$125

Registration fee for 1 child (toddler to 18 years old): \$100

Registration includes 5 meals in Camp Mitchell's Keller Dining Hall: Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, Saturday lunch, Saturday dinner, and Sunday breakfast. Please complete your registration and pay all fees by Friday, January 2, 2026. Register online by scanning the QR code.

All fees can be paid by check (made out to Trinity Episcopal Cathedral with "Parish Retreat" in the memo line) or online by scanning the QR code.

To learn more, contact the Rev. Thomas Alexander (thomas@trinitylittlerock.org).



Register



Pay Online