CHRIST & SAINT LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 30, 2025, 10:15 a.m.

All page numbers refer to the Book of Common Prayer. Hymns can be found in the blue Hymnal 1982. Service music, marked with an 'S', may be found in the front portion of the hymnal.

PRELUDE: Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659

Johann Sebastian Bach

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: Advent Wreath Prayers

Malcolm Archer

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, God of our ancestors:

To you be praise and glory for ever!

You called the patriarchs to live by the light of faith

And to journey in the hope of your promised fulfilment.

May we be obedient to your call and be ready and watchful to receive your Christ,

A lamp to our feet and a light to our path;

For you are the light of our salvation. Blessed be God for ever.

Please stand at the ringing of the bell.

HYMN 73: The King shall come when morning dawns

St. Stephen

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION & COLLECT FOR PURITY

p. 355

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People You come to your people and set them free.

Celebrant 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.

KYRIE ELEISON: Hymnal S86

David Hurd

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray. 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 FIRST LESSON Isaiah 2:1-5

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 Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 122 (sung by all)

Robert Knox Kennedy



- I was glad when they said to | me, *
 "Let us go to the house of the | Lord."
- 2. Now our feet are | standing * within your gates O Jelrusalem.
- (2nd part) Jerusalem is built as a | city * that is at unity with it|self;
- 4. To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the | Lord, * the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the | Lord.
- 5. For there are the thrones of | judgment, * the thrones of the house of | David.
- 6. Pray for the peace of Jelrusalem: * "May they prosper who | love you.
- 7. Peace be within your | walls * and quietness within your | towers.
- 8. For my brethren and companions' | sake, * I pray for your prosperity.
- 9. Because of the house of the Lord our | God, * I will seek to do you | good."

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 13:11-14

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People Thanks be to God.

HYMN 66: Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Stuttgart

THE GOSPEL Matthew 24:36-44

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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."

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Jared Grant

THE NICENE CREED p. 358

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

Watchful at all times, let us pray for strength to stand with confidence before our Maker and redeemer.

That God may bring in his kingdom with justice and mercy, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.

That God may establish among the nations his sceptre of righteousness, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

That we may seek Christ in the Scriptures and recognize him in the breaking of the bread, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

That God may bind up the brokenhearted, restore the sick and raise up all who have fallen, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

That the light of God's coming may dawn on all who live in darkness and the shadow of death, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

That, with all the saints in light, we may shine forth as lights for the world, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

We commend ourselves and all for whom we pray to the mercy and protection of our heavenly Father:

The priest adds concluding prayers and the following collect.

Almighty God, as your blessed Son Jesus Christ first came to seek and to save the lost; so may he come again to find in us the completion of his redeeming work; for he is now alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

p. 360

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. (please kneel)

People 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 neighbors as ourselves. 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.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE (please stand)

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come

Paul Manz

Peace be to you and grace from him who freed us from our sins,

Who loved us all and shed his blood that we might saved be.

Sing holy, holy to our Lord, the Lord, Almighty God,

Who was and is and is to come; sing holy, holy, Lord!

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein, rejoice on earth, ye saints below,

For Christ is coming, is coming soon, for Christ is coming soon!

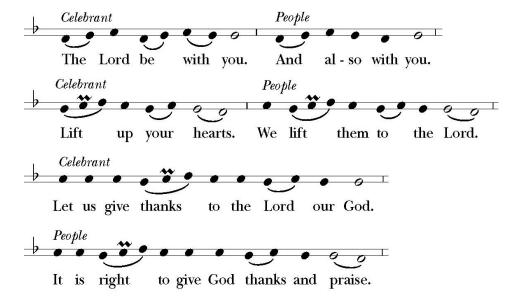
E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more;

They need no light nor lamp nor sun, for Christ will be their All!

Revelation 22, adapted by Ruth Manz

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

p. 367



It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

The Celebrant continues with the proper preface...

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:

SANCTUS: Hymnal S 124

David Hurd

The Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic Prayer.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

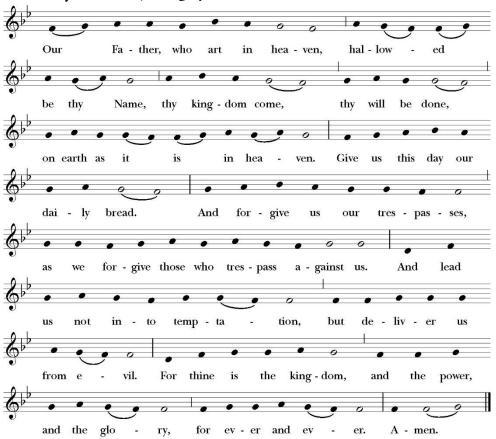
Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues...

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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. **AMEN**.

THE LORD'S PRAYER: Hymnal S119 (sung by all)



THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

FRACTION ANTHEM: Hymnal S 161

David Hurd

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Communion at Christ & St. Luke's:

- At the indication of the usher, please move to the center aisle and proceed up the altar rail. Move to the open spot filling in from the center of the rail to the wall.
- Kneel as you are able and place one hand over the other, palms up, to receive the bread.
- To sip from a chalice to receive the wine, consume the bread leaving your palms empty.
- To intinct (dip) your wafer into the wine, hold it between your thumb and forefinger.
- Once the chalices have passed, exit out the side and back down the side aisles to your pew.

Gluten free wafers are available, simply let the priest know you require one. If you prefer not to receive the bread or wine but would like a blessing, gently cross your arms across your chest.

A standing station is also available in front of the pulpit.

COMMUNION ANTHEM: Creator of the stars of night

Mode iv, arr. John Scott

Creator of the stars of night, thy people's everlasting light,

O Jesu, Savior of us all, regard thy servants when they call.

Thou, grieving at the bitter cry of all creation doomed to die,

Didst come to save a ruined race with healing gifts of heav'nly grace.

Thou camest, Bridegroom of the bride, as drew the world to evening-tide;

Proceeding from a virgin shrine, the Son of Man, yet Lord divine.

At thy great name, majestic now, all knees must bend, all hearts must bow;

And things in heaven and earth shall own, that thou art Lord and King alone.

To thee, O holy One, we pray. Our judge in that tremendous day,

Preserve us, while we dwell below, from every onslaught of the foe.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee, whose advent sets thy people free,

Whom with the Father we adore, and Spirit blest, for evermore. Amen.

-7th century Hymn, trans. J. M. Neale

COMMUNION HYMN 61: "Sleepers, wake!"

Wachet auf

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

p. 366

Celebrant Let us pray. (please stand or kneel)

People 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 Savior 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 honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE ADVENT BLESSING

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN 436: Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates

Truro

THE DISMISSAL

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: Postlude on Winchester New

Christopher Tambling

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

LITURGY & MUSIC

Advent Lessons and Carols – This evening, November 30, 5:30 p.m.

The Parish Choir presents our annual service of light to mark the season of joyful preparation. Music of Manz, Macmillan, Poston, Gibbons, and more. Childcare available. Free-will offering.

The Virginia Chorale: Sing We Nowell – Sunday, December 7, 4:00 p.m.

Welcome the holidays with the Virginia Chorale as we celebrate four beloved composers with milestone birthdays in 2025: Arvo Pärt (90), John Rutter (80), Bob Chilcott (70), and Giovanni da Palestrina (500). Tickets are \$30 and may be purchased online at vachorale.org or at the door.

FORMATION

Advent Adult Forum: Sacred Word & Sacred Image - Sundays, November 30, December 14 & 21, 9:15 a.m.

Christ & St. Luke's is now the steward of the Heritage Edition of *The Saint John's Bible*. This Advent, we will take advantage of this wonderful gift and use it to help reflect on some of the passages central to our understanding of Advent. Using the words of Scripture, and the beautiful illuminations in *The Saint John's Bible*, we'll spend some time reflecting together on this season of waiting and anticipation. This forum series will be participatory, with attendees' input being central to our study process. We'll be aided by our Christ & St. Luke's docents of *The Saint John's Bible*, who will help unlock some of the rich meaning woven into each illumination.

Sunday Childcare, Children's Formation, and Children's Chapel Fall Schedule

- 9:00 a.m. *Children up to 3 years old* gather in the blue room in the Parish House at the end of the hallway before the stairs for childcare if their parents are attending adult formation or sing in the choir.
- 9:00 a.m. *Children's Formation for children 3-8 years old* gather in the meeting room (the gold room) for what was formerly known as "Sunday School." We will explore scripture and the traditions of the Episcopal church through stories, music, and art response.
- 9:00 a.m. Children's Formation for children 9-12 years old gather in Lower Lloyd for discussion of scripture, the Episcopal Church, and Christ & St. Luke's. Participants are invited to join their families for the 10:15 a.m. service. *This group will not meet on Sunday, November 30.
- 9:00 a.m. Formation for youth ages 12-16 gather in the Mezzanine office, up the parish house stairs. This is a new formation group led by Kelly Storrs.
- 10:15 a.m. *All children through 8 years old* participate in developmentally appropriate worship during Children's Chapel in their respective rooms. Older children will be brought into church to rejoin their families at the Peace. If you would like your child under 3 to join you at the Peace, please come to the Children's Room at that time to sign them out.

Advent Wreath Making - Today, November 30, immediately following the 10:15 a.m. service

Come and create an Advent wreath to help you prepare for the Christ Child during this season of waiting and preparation. Stop by coffee hour then come along and take part in this lovely Advent tradition.

Christmas Pageant - Registration open until Wednesday, December 3

Children, ages 3-18 years old, are invited to participate in the Christmas pageant that takes place at the 4:30 p.m. service on Christmas Eve. Rehearsals run through December. The December 24th rehearsal is mandatory. Please be sure you are available for at least 3 other rehearsals. Registration may be found under the announcements online. Adult helpers are also needed. Contact Kathy Hanna (kathy.hanna@christandstlukes.org) with questions.

Advent Devotionals

This Advent we will have a number of devotional resources available. One we recommend is the book *Heaven and Nature Sing* by Hannah Anderson, who will be with us on December 6-7 to lead our Advent Quiet Day and then be our guest preacher on Sunday. We have secured a few used copies of this book, which are available for free from the church (first come, first served!) or you can purchase it online. This devotional will also serve as the selection for the December Rector's Book Club on Friday, December 19, 4:00 p.m.

Women of Wisdom - Tuesday, December 9, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., the Gold Room

Women of Wisdom meets on to continue the discussion of *Rediscovering Christmas* by AJ Sherrill, from *Chapter* 7 to the end. Please join us for lively discussion and warm fellowship. You do not have to read the book to join us!

ADMINISTRATION

Safe Church Training - Thursday, December 4, 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., Lower Lloyd Hall

If you work with any ministry in the church, we highly recommend completing the Universal Safe Church Training. To attend the session, *you must register via the diocesan website diosova.org*—click on "register" in the top right corner. If you're unclear as to whether you require safe church training, please email Kathy Hanna (kathy.hanna@christandstlukes.org) with questions.

Christmas Memorial Flowers

We invite you to participate in a cherished Christ & St.Luke's tradition by dedicating Christmas Altar Flowers in memory of the departed or in thanksgiving of loved ones this Advent season, a contribution that supports our flower ministry for the year. Christmas Flower envelopes will be available in the pews today until Sunday, December 14; but we encourage you to submit your contributions online on our giving page. Be sure to select "Christmas Flowers" in the drop-down box. Your contributions of \$12.00 per person or \$20.00 per couple will be mentioned by name in our Christmas bulletin. Please note the deadline: *the last day to order flowers will be Sunday, December 14*, so we can ensure the list is prepared in time for the Christmas bulletins.

Christmas Ushers Needed

We are in need of ushers for our Advent and Christmas Services. If you are interested in being an usher for a day, please contact Judie Belka (office@christandstlukes.org) and she will add you to the schedule.

FAITH IN ACTION

Volunteer Opportunity - Worship Bag Assembly

Have you ever noticed those canvas bags many CSL children are holding on Sunday mornings? These worship bags are full of fun activities and are carefully assembled each week. If you'd like to help with worship bag preparation, please reach out to Rachel Welch (rachel.welch@christandstlukes.org). This task generally takes 30-60 minutes and can be completed at your convenience at church.

Recognition by The Elizabeth River Project

We are thrilled to celebrate that Christ & St. Luke's has been recognized by the Elizabeth River Project as a *Sustained Distinguished Performance River Star Business*, driven by three major new efforts: Our revitalized garden, stormwater improvements, and our new composting program. The stormwater efforts include permeable pavers, rain gardens, and "Grasspave" installation to filter runoff and mitigate flooding. We revitalized the Lychgate Garden using predominantly native species and registered our Community Garden as a Monarch Butterfly Waystation. Now we've successfully implemented a composting program through Tidewater Composting (sign up online today!), and obtained a series of environmental resolutions passed by the vestry. This achievement recognizes our dedicated efforts to advance environmental stewardship. Congratulations to our Caring for Creation ministry and thanks to all involved in securing this important recognition!

FELLOWSHIP

Free Art Tour - Sunday, December 7, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m., The Chrysler Museum of Art

CSL Art Guild member and Chrysler Museum docent, Natalie Henry, will be leading a guided art tour. Come learn about "Art History 101: Late 20th Century Art." There is no cost to you and no need to RSVP (what a gift!), simply meet Natalie by the museum front desk on Sunday, December 7, 2:00 p.m.

Caroling and Cocoa, Sunday, December 14, 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Dress in holiday garb and we will regale the neighborhood with Christmas carols. After caroling, we will have hot cocoa and cookies (feel free to bring your favorite Christmas cookies!) and fellowship in the Main Reception area.

WE INVITE YOUR PRAYERS

If you would like to be added to the Prayer List, please contact a member of clergy or BJ Taylor, Facilitator for Pastoral and Congregational Care (taylorasc@aol.com).

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Anglican Church of Australia.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Christ Church, Eastville; Johns Memorial, Farmville; St. James', Emporia.

All those facing illness, surgery, injury or adversity, especially: Elaine Harding, Nancy Hoffman, Elmer Morales-Torres, Warren Richard, Autumn Vandehei, and Mike Vecerkauskas, Sr. We pray for all who are deployed, especially Michael Ortiz. We pray for the people of Ukraine. We pray also for a sustaining of peace in the Holy Land.

Those who ask for our continuing prayers: Carter Bernert, David Black, David Durica, Marilyn Gindroz, Valerie Harrington, Gary Hecht, Frank Kirchner, Wayne Lundie, Ceil McCoid, Mary Helen McCoy, Arthur Menoche, Leon Parham, Allen Shaffer, William Swan, Jake Tobin, and Marie Ward.

Our loved ones needing continuing prayers: Mary Baldridge, Ron Baldridge, Ryker Bellamy, Marian Butler-Shaw, Brittany Clark, Ellen Coffman, Joseph Graif, Heather Hayes, Calvin Horsley, Dean Kershaw, James Kilavey, Henley Lanphere, Wesley Lupo, Lesney Miller, Shawn Morlock, Leslie Pugh, Mavis Stapleford, Christine Szeligowski, Auris Torres, and Carl Welch.

This week's Birthdays: Dec. 1 - 7

Emma Avery, Topher Booth, Charlie Davey, Mitchell Frizzell, Violet Hastings-Acosta, Raymond Landon, William Miller, Ginny Minor-Hale, Xavior Nolen, Sharon Powell, Glenis Shaffer, Patricia Strauss, and Maria Welch.

This week's Anniversaries: Dec. 1 – 7 Brian & Robin Lee.



560 West Olney Road Norfolk, Virginia 23507 (757) 627-5665 info@christandstlukes.org

WORSHIP SERVICES AND FORMATION

Sunday, 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I (Chapel) Sunday, 9:15 a.m. Adult Forum & Children's Formation Sunday, 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II (Church) Thursday, 7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II (Chapel)

The Reverend Noah Van Niel, Rector
The Reverend Jared Grant, Associate Rector
The Reverend Vince Connery, Assisting Priest
Kevin Kwan, Organist & Director of Music
Marjorie Setnicky, Associate Organist
Kathy Hanna, Director of Family, Youth and Children's Ministry
Judie Belka, Director of Parish Operations
Matthew Davis, Communications Director
Stephen Ipock, Facilities Manager
Michelle Sturges, Business Administrator
Rachel Welch, Administrative Assistant
Will Lee, Media Specialist
David Roberts, Sexton for Security

If this is your first time, welcome! Scan this QR code for our digital guest information or visit christandstlukes.org/guests.

To make a one-time gift online, or a pledge to Christ and St. Luke's, please visit: **christandstlukes.org/give** or text to give by texting "GIVECSL" to 73256.

Hearing assistance devices are available in the back of the Church.

