



Barocci, Federigo, 1528-1612 . The Nativity, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=47418> [retrieved December 15, 2025].

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2025 • 10:00 a.m. Rite II

St. Michael's Welcomes You!

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev. Ralph Osborne,
Priest-in-Charge

The Rev. Jim Swarthout,
Assistant Rector

The Rev. Tim Murray, *Deacon*

Carter Brett, *Parish Administrator*

Sara Torbeck, *Director of Music*

Jerry Egger, *Organist*

Kay Lewis, *Junior & Senior High
Youth Ministry*

Kim Curtis, *Sunday School
Director*

Carol Hebert, *Bookkeeper*

VESTRY

Liz Gabis, *Senior Warden*

Bob Hoyler, *Junior Warden*

2026

Sam Adams-Lanham

Wes Kimes

Lynn Mayberry

2027

Paul Carrubba

Craig Anderson

Jeff Tolle

2028

Pat Okonek

Cathy Koehlinger

BJ Seagrist

John Davis, *Treasurer*

Craig Anderson, *Clerk*



Whether you are visiting with us for the first time today or if St. Michael's is your home, we welcome you and are glad you are joining us for worship. Wherever you might be in your spiritual journey, we invite you to continue to explore a deeper relationship with God and a stronger spiritual life.

Sunday Worship and Education Schedule

8:00 a.m. **Holy Eucharist, Rite I**

9:00 a.m. **St. Michael's Jr. (LIFT) | Sturtz House** (*summer hours vary*)

10:00 a.m. **Holy Eucharist, Rite II**

10:00 a.m. **Sunday School | Visit** stmichaelsbarrington.org

6:30 p.m. **St. Michael's Sr. High (LIFT) | Sturtz House** (*as scheduled*)

Things to Remember

- When it is time for Holy Communion, walk up to the altar and stand or kneel at the altar rail.
- A digital version of this bulletin is available by visiting our website at www.stmichaelsbarrington.org/blog.

We also live-stream all services to Facebook and the parish website. This provides a way for everyone to worship with us, even if they are not comfortable returning in person. If you come up for communion, you will likely be seen in our online video by those worshipping at home.

Please visit our website at www.stmichaelsbarrington.org for more information and announcements.

Contact Information

The Reverend Ralph Osborne,
rosborne@stmichaelsbarrington.org

The Reverend Deacon Tim Murray
tmurray@stmichaelsbarrington.org

Carter Brett, Parish Administrator
cbrett@stmichaelsbarrington.org

Kim Curtis, Sunday School
kcurtis@stmichaelsbarrington.org

Sara Torbeck, Choir Director
storbeck@stmichaelsbarrington.org

Liz Gabis, Senior Warden
wardens@stmichaelsbarrington.org

The Holy Eucharist

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 21, 2025 | 10:00 a.m. | Rite II

PRELUDE | Jerry Egger, organ

The bell will ring three times, inviting the congregation to stand.

The Word of God

Please stand as able.

OPENING HYMN | 56 O Come, O come Emmanuel, *Veni, Veni, Emmanuel*

Celebrant: Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

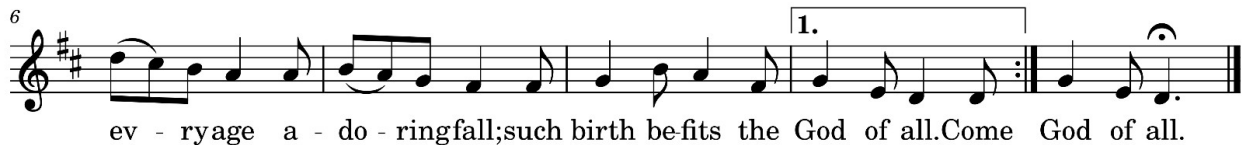
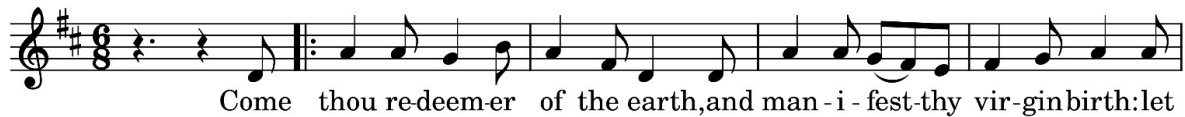
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Advent Candle Blessing

It is not ourselves that we proclaim; we proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your servants, for Jesus' sake. For the same God who said, "Out of darkness let light shine," has caused his light to shine within us, to give the light of revelation—the revelation of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. (*2 Corinthians 4:5-6*)

Anthem at Lighting of the Advent Wreath: A Processional for Advent, Rachel Arons

1x unison, 2x as a round starting with St. Michael icon side.



OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

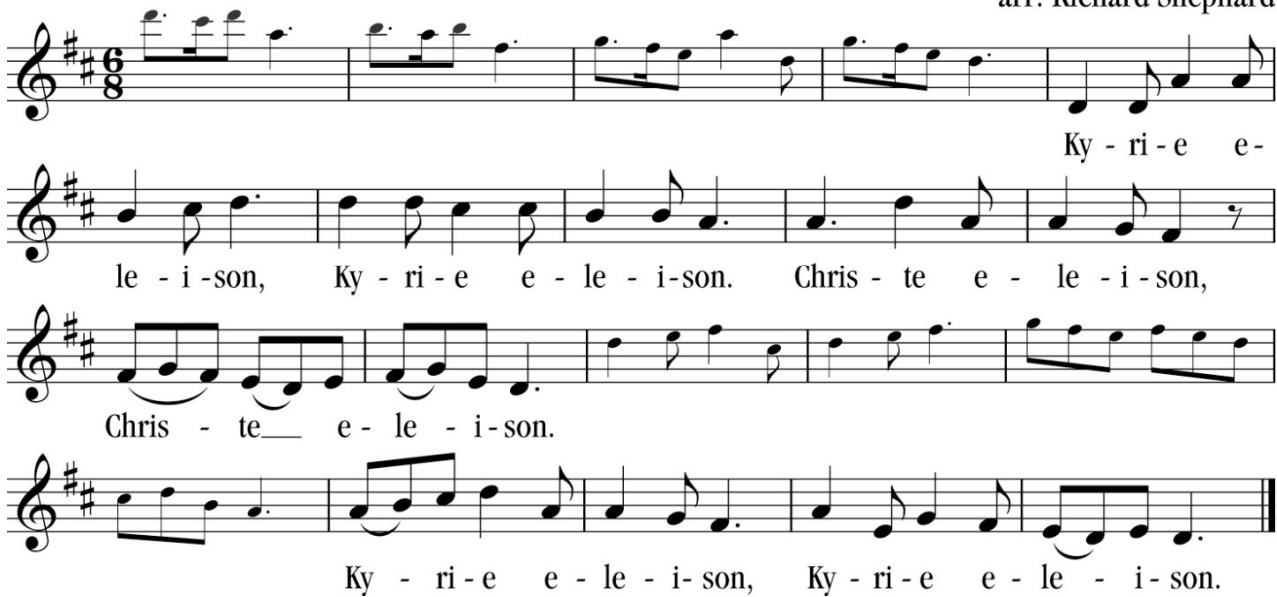
People: **And blessed be God's reign, now and forever. Amen.**

COLLECT OF PURITY | BCP, p. 355

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

St. James Advent Service
arr. Richard Shepherd



Musical score for Kyrie Eleison, arranged by Richard Shepherd. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (D major) and a 6/8 time signature. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son, Chris - te e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Celebrant continues:

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING | Isaiah 7:10-16

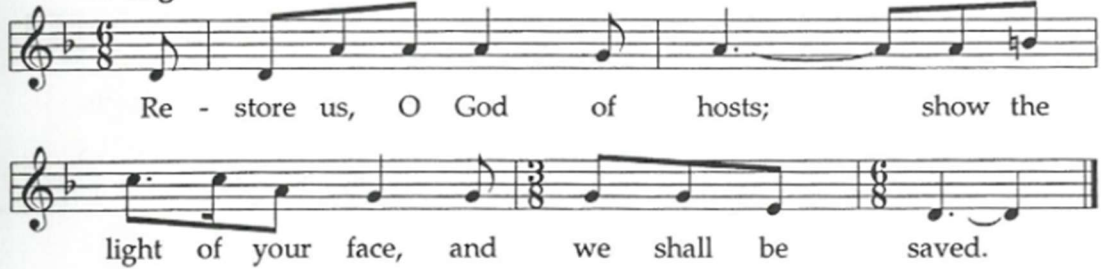
Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18 | *Qui regis Israel*

Antiphon (Ps. 80:3) Kevin Hackett
With great breadth



Re - store us, O God of hosts; show the
light of your face, and we shall be saved.

Copyright © 1988 Celebration. All rights reserved.

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

²In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us. **Antiphon**

⁴O LORD God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?

⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

⁶You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn. **Antiphon**

¹⁶Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

¹⁷And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name. **Antiphon**

THE SECOND READING | Romans 1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN | 261 By the creator, Joseph was appointed, *Caelitum Joseph*

THE GOSPEL | Matthew 1:18-25

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

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

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON | Father Jim Swarthout

Please stand and say together in unison.

THE NICENE CREED | Expanded Language

**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 became truly human.
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.
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.**

Prayers of the People, Form IV, BCP, p. 388

Deacon or other Leader

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We pray for Sarah, Archbishop-elect of Canterbury; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Paula, our Bishop; Joseph, Archbishop of Upper Nile Province and Simon, Bishop of the Diocese of Renk, South Sudan; our clergy: Ralph, Jim, Betsy, Tim and Judy.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good, especially Donald our president, J.B. our governor, and all those in authority around the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries: Paul Carrubba, Joel Deichmann, Kay Richards, Jayne Kane, Erin Taylor, and Ellen and Ric Lindeen.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them to the joy of your salvation, especially Lisa, Dave, Elizabeth, Alexandra, and Victoria, Kimberlie, Matt and family, Ellery, Mary and Bob, Heather, Carol, Helena, Kara and Oliver, Sara, Steve, Kristen, Bob, Jesophine, Kathy, Denise, Doug, Sally, Mary, Ben, John, Teresa, Dolores and family, Mark, Kitty, Olivia and family, Liam and family, Nancy, Caden, Dave, Brian, Barb and Steve, and Patty, and for all whom you alone know.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Remembering especially Nancy Waring, Eleanor Conlon, and Nancy Wolters.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION | BCP 360

Deacon or Celebrant

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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.**

The priest stands and says:

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

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

All may greet one another with the Peace of Christ.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS *Please be seated.*

The Holy Communion

THE OFFERTORY

Thank you for your gifts in support of the church's mission and ministries.

Offerings may also be made online by scanning the QR code.



MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY | Advent Lullaby, Carol A. Muehlig

DOXOLOGY | Advent Doxology, *Irby*, arr. R.G. Huff



Praise to God, the One who made us. Praise to Christ, God's on - ly Son.
the new* - born



Praise the Spir - it, ev - er with us. Praise the God - head, Three in One.



Clear a path! Pre-pare the way! Ad - vent leads to Christ - mas Day!

Text © 2022 WorshipRx
Permission Granted for Use in Worship

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Prayer A | Expansive Language

Please stand as able.

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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

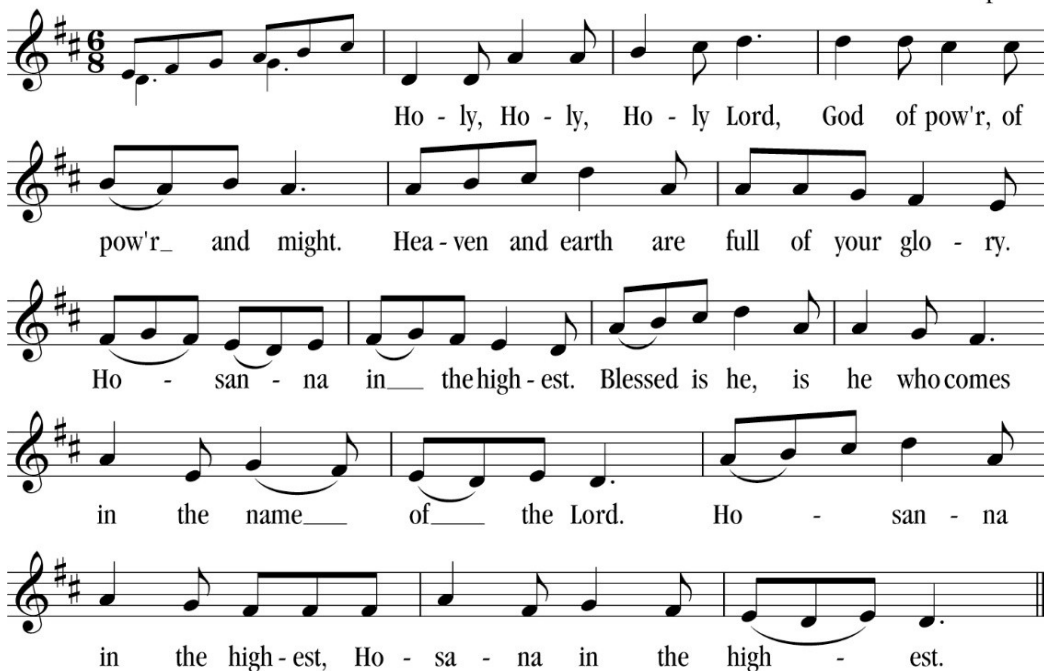
Here a proper preface is said.

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 | Holy Holy, St. James Service, Richard Shephard

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord (Sanctus)

St. James Advent Service
arr. Richard Shephard



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r, of
pow'r_ and might. Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he, is he who comes
in the name_ of_ the Lord. Ho - san - na
in the high - est, Ho - sa - na in the high - est.

The People Stand or Kneel:

Celebrant: Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior 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 Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had give 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **Amen**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Celebrant 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**

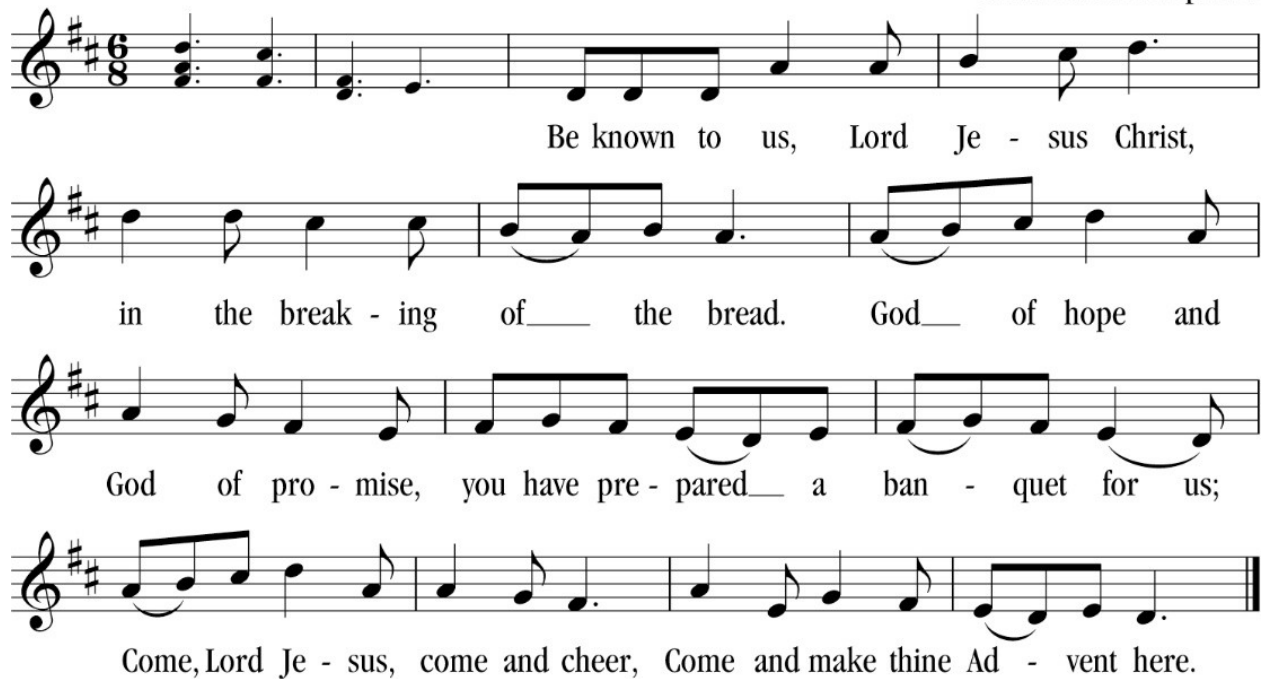
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Be Known To Us (Fraction Anthem) St. James Advent Service
arr. Richard Shephard



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus Christ,
in the break - ing of the bread. God of hope and
God of pro - mise, you have pre - pared a ban - quet for us;
Come, Lord Je - sus, come and cheer, Come and make thine Ad - vent here.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All are welcome to come forward to the altar rail for Communion or a Blessing.

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.

Please come forward to receive Communion, receiving the Bread while standing or kneeling at the altar rail. While receiving both the Bread and the Wine is tradition, receiving the Bread alone constitutes full participation in this Holy Communion, and includes all benefits of the Sacrament. (Gluten free Bread available upon request).

To also receive the Wine, you may remain at the altar rail to drink from the chalice; please do not dip or intinct the Bread into the Wine as fingers will contaminate the cup.

If you would like a blessing instead, cross your arms and the priest will bless you. If a person desires to receive the Sacrament, but, by reason of extreme sickness or physical disability [or pandemic], is unable to eat and drink the Bread and Wine, the Celebrant is to assure that person that all the benefits of Communion are received, even though the Sacrament is not received with the mouth. (BCP 457)

MUSIC AT COMMUNION | Light is kindled in the darkness, Kate Williams
(verse 1 solo, verse 2-3 congregation)

LIGHT IS KINDLED IN THE DARKNESS

David Bjorlin

MACKILLOP
Kate Williams



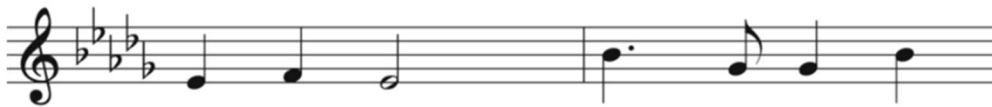
1. Light is kin - dled in the dark-ness when our
2. Though the wrong ap - pears vic - to - rious— vio - lence,
3. Raise your can - dle in the dark-ness though the



hope seems most ab - surd, bea - cons through a
prej - u - dice, and pride— hope still ris - es
wick of faith burns low. Feed the fire with



shroud - ed fu - ture, pledg - es of Christ's
from the wreck - age; joy and grief stand
grace and jus - tice and in won - der



stead - fast word: gifts of good - ness
side by side. We will feel both
watch it grow. As we gath - er



yet en - fold us— all a - round, be - neath, a -
pain and prom - ise, ter - ror's sting and love's new
flames to - geth - er, till they shine with warmth and



bove— signs of beau - ty still per - sist - ing,
birth, as we walk in light and shad - ow
light, God dis - pels the night of ha - tred,



sym - bols of God's con - stant love.
on God's blessed and bleed - ing earth.
and the blaze of love burns bright.

COMMISSIONING OF LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS (as needed)

Celebrant: In Christ's name and on behalf of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People: **We who are many are one body, because we share one bread, one cup.**

Please kneel or stand as able.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Said by the Celebrant & 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 Christ, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

BLESSING

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN | 73 The King shall come when morning dawns, *St. Stephan*

DISMISSAL

Deacon or Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE | Jerry Egger, organ

Please Join us in the Community room following the service for a festive St. Nicholas Celebration featuring our St. Michaels Brass band! Many thanks to our musicians Brant Deichmann, Euphonium, Jackson Summerfield, trumpet, Doug Torbeck, trombone, Vinnie Parisi, tuba, and to all the helping hands bringing food and setting up coffee hour!

What's in *The Sword* this week?

(scan to sign up for the newsletter)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALENDAR AND EVENTS

- **Sunday, Dec 21** | St. Nicholas Celebration: A festive gathering with food and brass.
- **Christmas Sale at the "And All The Angels" Gift & Book Shop:** Saturday, Dec. 20th; and Sunday, Dec. 21st, 9:00 a.m. until noon. Please note that we will be CLOSED on Wednesdays, Dec. 24th & 31st; and Saturday, Dec. 27th. Thank you for your support in 2025! We enjoyed another successful year, and will be donating all profits to women's and children's charities after our volunteers meet in January.
- **Christmas Eve Services** | 3:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. Celebrate the birth of Christ with beautiful liturgies and music.
- **Christmas Day Eucharist** | 10:00 a.m.

WEEKLY EVENTS

- **Sundays 10:00 a.m.** | Children's Sunday School
- **Tuesdays 9:30-11:00 a.m.** | Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study at the Sturtz House
- **Tuesdays 7:00-8:30 p.m.** | Tuesday Evening Women's Bible Study via Zoom
- **Fridays at 6:00 a.m.** | Men's Fellowship meets in the Community Room

MONTHLY EVENTS

- **The second Friday of every month** | Prayer Shawl meets in the Library at 1:00 p.m.
- **Last Tuesday of every month** | Prayer Shawl meets in the Library at 6:30 p.m.
- **Third Wednesday of every month** | Book Club meets in the Library at 7:00 p.m.

Those for whom prayers have been requested:

Lisa, Dave, Elizabeth, Alexandra, and Victoria, Kimberlie, Matt and family, Ellery, Mary and Bob, Heather, Carol, Helena, Kara and Oliver, Sara, Steve, Kristen, Bob, Jesophine, Kathy, Denise, Doug, Sally, Mary, Ben, John, Teresa, Sarah, Dolores and family, Mark, Kitty, Olivia and family, Liam and family, Nancy, Caden, Dave, Brian, Barb and Steve, and Patty.

Birthdays

12/21 Paul Carruba
12/21 Joel Deichmann
12/22 Kay Richards
12/27 Jayne Kane
12/27 Erin Taylor

Anniversaries

12/22 Ellen and Ric Lindeen

Remembrances

12/24 Eleanor Conlon
12/25 Nancy Wolters
Nancy Waring

AT TODAY'S WORSHIP

Preaching: Father Jim Swarhout

Presiding: Father Ralph Osborne

Deacon: Tim Murray

"Permission to reprint, podcast, and / or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-704397. . All rights reserved"

Service music used with permission by St. James Music Press, license No. #22788.

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

647 Dundee Avenue • Barrington, IL 60010

stmichaelsbarrington.org

847-381-2323



