

First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025

Whoever you are and wherever you are on your journey of faith, welcome to Advent Episcopal Church. Our worship service follows the Book of Common Prayer and includes Holy Communion in which all may receive the bread and wine of Christ's Body and Blood. Hymn numbers preceded by the letter "H" are found in the blue Hymnal 1982. The hymn numbers preceded by the letter "L" are found in the red and black hymnal Lift Every Voice and Sing II. Thank you for joining us for worship today!

Acknowledging the people of the land, the Hohokam and other indigenous people as the original stewards of this land, we give thanks for our ancestors, our elders, and for all indigenous people who pray for unity and peace together.

Prelude

Processional Hymn Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers (insert page 8)

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

Come, Lord Jesus and lighten our darkness. By your great mercy defend us from all perils of this life until we see the light of eternity. **Amen.**

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
All **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

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.**

All **Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

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 forever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

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	The Word of the Lord.
All	Thanks be to God

Psalm 122 *(8am spoken, 10am sung)*

- ¹ 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 Jerusalem.
- ³ Jerusalem is built as a city *
 that is at unity with itself;
- 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 Jerusalem: *
 "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 The Word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God**

Gospel Hymn L 70

Deacon The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

Gospel Matthew 24: 36-44

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."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

Sermon The Rev. Dr. Gary Nicolosi

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father 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 and 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 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:
People **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader	That God may bring peace to the nations of the world and guide our leaders in the way of wisdom and righteousness, especially the President of the United States and the Governor of Arizona, let us pray to the Lord:
People	Come, Lord Jesus.
Leader	That all church leaders may be faithful in their calling to proclaim the Gospel, celebrate the sacraments and minister to all people, especially Sean our Presiding Bishop, Jennifer our Bishop, the clergy of this parish, and all church leaders, let us pray to the Lord:
People	Come, Lord Jesus.
Leader	That all First Nations in our diocese and country may live in justice, peace and prosperity, and that the rights of tribal nations will be respected and protected, let us pray to the Lord.
People	Come, Lord Jesus.
Leader	That God may comfort the brokenhearted, heal the sick and raise up all who have fallen, let us pray to the Lord:
People	Come, Lord Jesus.
Leader	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:
People	Come, Lord Jesus.
Leader	Let us commend the world, which Christ will judge, to the mercy and protection of God.
People	To you, O Lord, our God.
Celebrant	O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
People	Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Deacon	Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
All	Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, in what we have done, and in 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.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Almighty God have mercy upon 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.
<i>Celebrant</i>	The peace of the Lord be always with you.
All	And also with you.

Rededication Ceremony for Church of the Advent Chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew (10 AM only)

THE SERVICE OF THE TABLE

Please sit, stand or kneel for the Eucharistic prayer

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Music

All **Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.**
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Father, brothers are we,
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow;
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally,
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP 367

Celebrant The Lord 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 God thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant proceeds:

It is a right and a good and a joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name.

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of power and might,**
Holy, holy, holy Lord God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

S130

The Celebrant continues:

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in your 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,

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

The Celebrant continues:

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 all the saints, we may enter into 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 are yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
All 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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Priest Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

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.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All are welcome to the Lord's Table to receive the bread and wine of Christ's Body and Blood. The wine will be offered by intinction, which means that you may dip the wafer into the small cup offered by the Lay Assistant. Please do not put your fingers into the wine. If you do not wish to receive the wine, just receive the wafer and return to your seat. The Church teaches that you receive the full Christ in either the bread or wine. There is no requirement to receive both. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

Communion Music

Celebrant The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.
Communicant **Amen.**

Deacon The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.
Communicant **Amen.**

Hymn H 417

CLOSING PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.
Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with the spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn H 654 *(sung twice)*

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

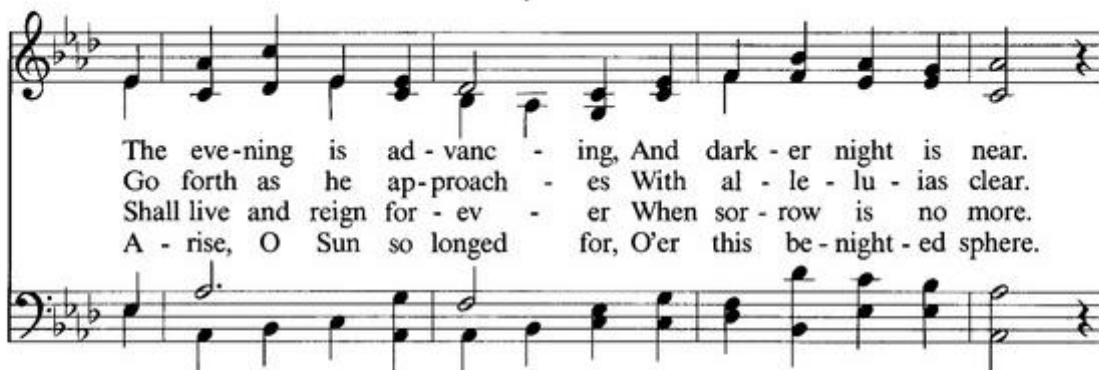
Dismissal Response: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia**

Postlude

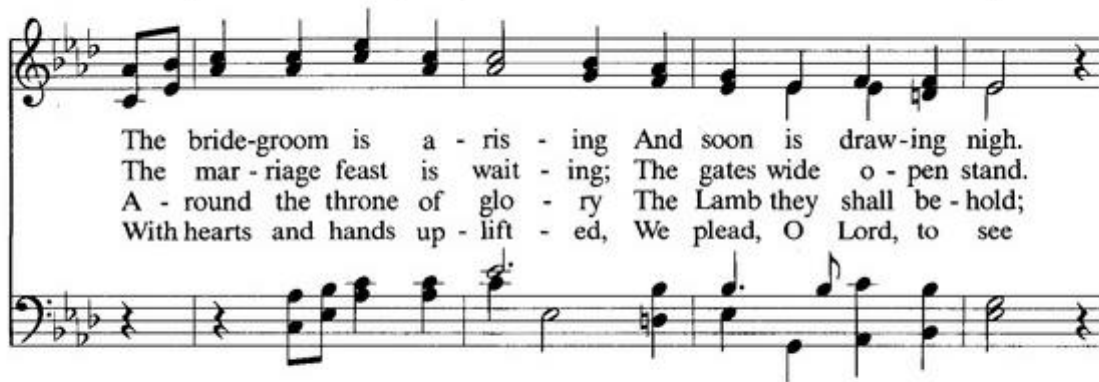
Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



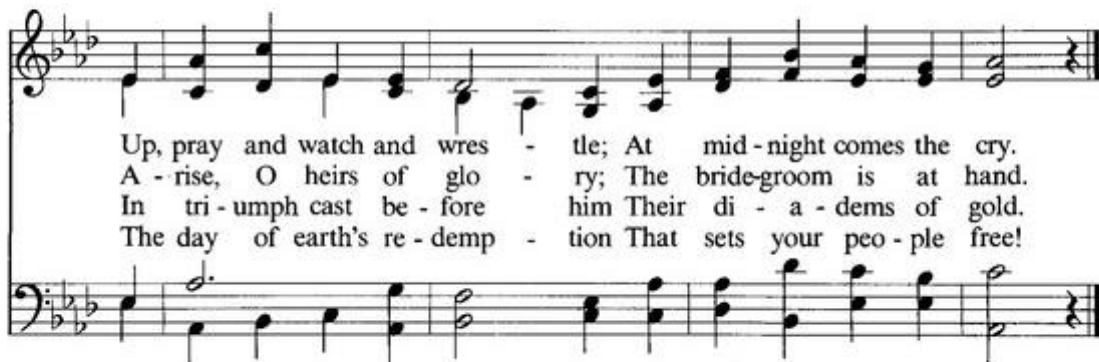
1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, And let your lights ap - pear;
 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain Pro - claim the bride - groom near;
 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience Their cross and suf - f' rings bore,
 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, And dark - er night is near.
 Go forth as he ap - proach - es With al - le - lu - ias clear.
 Shall live and reign for - ev - er When sor - row is no more.
 A - rise, O Sun so longed for, O'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing And soon is draw - ing nigh.
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; The gates wide o - pen stand.
 A - round the throne of glo - ry The Lamb they shall be - hold;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, We plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; At mid - night comes the cry.
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; The bride - groom is at hand.
 In tri - umph cast be - fore him Their di - a - dems of gold.
 The day of earth's re - demp - tion That sets your peo - ple free!

*Text: Laurentius Laurentii, 1660-1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823-1907, alt.
 Tune: Swedish folk tune*

HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG
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Come Celebrate Christmas 2025 With Advent!

December 7—Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 & 10:00 AM

Holy Eucharist

December 14—Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 & 10:00 AM

Holy Eucharist

December 21—Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM—Holy Eucharist

10:00 AM—Christmas Lessons & Carols with Eucharist

December 24—Christmas Eve

4:00 PM

Holy Eucharist with Carols

6:30 PM

Christmas Carols & Music

7:00 PM

Holy Eucharist with Choir

December 25—Christmas Day

10:00 AM *(one service)*

Holy Eucharist with Carols

December 28—First Sunday after Christmas Day

9:00 AM *(one service)*

Holy Eucharist with Carols

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