

First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021



*We welcome you to our virtual service of worship
and hope you'll share the good news proclaimed and lived here at Calvary,
Columbia, Missouri.*

Calvary Episcopal Church

123 South Ninth Street, Columbia, MO

www.calvaryonninth.org

Welcome to Calvary Episcopal Church in Columbia, MO. We're so glad you've joined us to worship during this Season after Advent.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Leader: The Gospel of John speaks of Christ as the true light coming into the world. In commemoration of that coming, we light candles for the four weeks leading to Christmas and reflect on the coming of Christ. It is significant that the church has always used that language—the coming of Christ—because it speaks to a deep truth. Christ is coming. Christ is always coming, always entering a troubled world, a wounded heart. And so we light the first candle, the candle of hope, and dare to express our longing for peace, for healing, and the well-being of all creation.

The first blue candle is lit.

Leader: O come, O come, Emmanuel.

People **Loving God, as we enter this Advent season, we open all the dark places in our lives and memories to the healing light of Christ. Show us the creative power of hope. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you that we may walk in the light of Christ.**

Leader: Take time, in the busy-ness and the stillness of this season, for quiet reflection, for the light of God's love is discernible everywhere.

People **We will let ourselves be surprised by wonder, and set aside time to offer quiet thanks.**

Reader: The good news of Advent is this: Christ is coming. Christ is always coming.

People **We will welcome Christ into our hearts.
We will let ourselves be guided by his ministry.
We will go forth from this place in hope.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Opening Acclamation:

The Celebrant says

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Collect of the Day

Officiant: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: 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.

People: Amen.

The First Reading

Lector: A reading from Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness." (33:14-16)

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Lector: The Psalm appointed for today is Psalm 25:1-9. *We will read it in unison.*

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**
- 3 Show me your ways, O Lord, *
and teach me your paths.**
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.**
- 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.**
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.**
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.**
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.**
- 9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.**

The Second Reading

Lector: A reading from the first book of Thessalonians.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints. (3:9-13)

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

Deacon or priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man." (21:25-36)

Deacon or priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Holy Conversation on the Word

An Affirmation of Faith

Celebrant: Let us declare our faith in God.

We believe in God the Son who lives in us and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit who empowers us to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.

Blessed be the ONE: Source of All Being, Incarnate Word, Holy Spirit.

Prayers of the People

Priest: With all our hearts, minds, and strength, let us be united in prayer as we say,

Leader: The world is alive with your goodness, O God. It is lush and fruitful, manifesting your abundance in the world.

People: We give you thanks and open ourselves to be fruitful.

Leader: For choosing us to be temples of your Holy Spirit, dwelling places of your compassionate, patient, ever-present, and inviting love...

People: We give you thanks and own your divinity joined to our humanity.

Leader: For the fruit of wisdom born of the seeds of pain, the fruit of compassion born of the seeds of hurt, and the fruit of faith born of the seeds of fear.

People: We give you thanks and open ourselves to receive the seeds of your redeeming love.

Leader: For eyes to see and hearts to grieve over the many reasons and ways we separate ourselves from you, do harm to one another, and disrespect ourselves.

People: We give you thanks and ask you to make us one again in you.

Leader: We lift up in prayer those on our parish prayer list and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts [_____], and all those who are sick, sorrowful or suffering.

People: We give you thanks and trust your mercy for all who need.

Leader: We remember those who have died, especially those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts [_____]. May their rest now be in peace in the paradise of God.

**People: We give you thanks as we commend them into your everlasting care.
Comfort all who mourn.**

Leader: We are alive with your goodness, O God. We are unique, uniquely gifted;
each of us being a piece of the wholeness you are.

People: We give you thanks and claim our part in your plan of salvation.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Gracious God: Grant that your people may have in them the same mind that was in
Christ Jesus, and guide us into harmony of relationship through loving-kindness
and the wise use of all that you have given; for you are drawing all things into
communion with you and with each other by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

[\(Source\)](#)

Confession of Sin: BCP, 360

The Deacon or Celebrant then says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and 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.**

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says

God our Creator brings us new life, forgives, and redeems us: Take hold of this forgiveness and live your lives in the Spirit of Christ, blessed by God.

People: Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant: *La paz de Cristo sea siempre con ustedes.*
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

The Great Thanksgiving

Enriching Our Worship (Form 2)

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 continues

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways.

But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing (say):

Celebrant and People

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

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us.

He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

People: **Amen!**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now, with humility and confidence, we pray:

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the
peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope
and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts that we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.[4]**

The Celebrant breaks the bread and says the following Invitation

Celebrant: Behold who you are

People: **May we become what we see.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**Eternal God, source of wisdom and light,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with 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.**

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.**

God's Blessing be with you, Christ's peace be with you, the Spirit's outpouring be with you, now and always. People: **Amen.** (source: Celtic)

Dismissal

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ!

People **Thanks be to God!**

Calvary's Prayer List

Click [PRAYER LIST](#) to view, download, or print the current Prayer list. New names may be added to the prayer list by emailing the [church office](#).

For Health of Body and Soul (BCP p. 460) May God, the Father bless you, God the Son heal you, God the Holy Spirit give you strength. May God the holy and undivided Trinity guard your body, save your soul, and bring you safely to his heavenly country; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen

Calvary Episcopal Church Announcements

November 28, 2021

The Christian Formation Committee would like to offer the following resources to parishioners for the 2021 Advent season. You are welcome to pick them up in the narthex area of the church or reach out to Jennifer James (tjennifer@mchsi.com) to have them mailed to you while supplies last. 1) **Youth (pre-K – Grade 5):** “How Do They Celebrate Christmas?” is a paperback daily Advent resource for children to learn about Advent traditions around the world. There is also a paper Advent calendar with age appropriate reflections on the season of Advent. 2) **Teens:** “Wait and See” 2021 paper Advent calendar provides suggested scripture readings and reflections day by day through the Advent season. 3) **Adult:** Advent 2021 paper calendar providing daily scripture recommendations as you reflect on your preparation for Christmas. We wish you and your family a peaceful Advent season!

Advent Giving Tree 2021 - This year, Calvary will be working with City of Refuge (Columbia) to assist with the Afghan refugees in mid Missouri. You can help by visiting the Advent Giving Tree in the narthex. Contributions of \$10, \$25, or \$50 toward baby, food, hygiene, or kitchen items are being accepted through our annual Advent Giving Tree. Consider “gifting” a loved one with your contribution.

The Virtual Advent Bazaar starts at noon on Thursday, December 2 and ends at noon on Saturday, December 4. Thanks to the generosity of parishioners and friends of Calvary, the “store” is well-stocked with a wide variety of goods. The connection to the “store” is on Calvary’s [website](#). The Bazaar Page will go live at noon on December 2. All purchases need to be picked up in the church parking lot

on Saturday (4th) or Sunday (5th) afternoons from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. If you have questions about the bazaar, contact LeeAnn Ball at 573-445-7255.

The Right Reverend Deon Kevin Johnson will ordain **JOSHUA DAVID HUBER** to the sacred order of deacons on Saturday, December 18, 2021 at 4:00 pm at Christ Church Cathedral. For further information on attending or viewing the service, see Calvary News.

Our 2022 Pledge Campaign is in full swing, and we hope that you have made time to help Calvary fulfill its mission of “**Serving our Community with Gratitude and Generosity.**” Our pledges make it possible for Calvary to continue, and grow, its four core ministries of Outreach, Formation, Pastoral Care and Worship. **Thanks for your continued support!**

The Vestry’s Stewardship Covenant with Calvary

Your vestry developed this Stewardship Covenant using a process of spiritual discernment and seeking divine guidance through Scripture and prayer. This covenant reflects where we feel God is leading us as a Vestry in our ministry of stewardship. We make this covenant among ourselves as a vestry and with God as we serve the parish. It is not meant to be a Stewardship Covenant for Calvary Episcopal Church parish as a whole. We pray that all members will prayerfully reflect on our invitation to you within this covenant.

WE BELIEVE that God will provide us with what we need. We have faith that God will show us how to use and share our resources with others.

WE COMMIT to reflect prayerfully as individuals and as a community to listen to what God is saying to us, trusting in divine guidance. We realize that God values us and knows our needs as individuals and as the church.

WE INVITE all to join us in trusting in the promises of God to nourish, protect, and love us, meeting all our needs. God will provide us with the resources to serve our community and all creation; we invite all to join in stewarding these resources for the well-being of our community and the world.



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