



# CALVARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

~ where everyone is welcome ~

## 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024

### SUNDAY NIGHT ALIVE

## *HOPE*

*I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope.  
Psalm 130:5*

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

##### Introduction: Week One

Advent is a time of joyful expectation of the coming of the Lord. It is a time of conversion and renewal, a time of watching and waiting, a time of new beginnings, a time to experience the power of God. It is above all else a time of hope, peace, and joy. One of the most beautiful symbols of the Advent season is the Advent wreath.

The Advent wreath carries with it many rich symbols. The circle represents eternity. A circle has no beginning and no end, just as God's love and forgiveness have no beginning and no end. The evergreen symbolizes life, hope, and growth, because it is always green. The candles symbolize the light that the Gospel has brought into the world. With this light we should look into ourselves and recognize our need for the coming of Christ. At this time we will have the lighting of the first candle.

##### Reading for Week One

The first candle we light will help us to remember that we always need to watch for Christ's coming. Just as the people waited for the first coming of Christ, we also wait for his second coming. In Mark 13:32-37 it says:

“But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is. It is like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and commanded the door keeper to watch. Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming - in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning - lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!”

Let us Pray: Father of lights, today we begin our time of preparation for the birthday of your Son. May the light of this candle remind us that you have given hope to a people who have walked in darkness. As we look upon this candle may we remember that we are to always watch and wait for your coming again. **Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

### OPENING SONG - O come, O come Emmanuel

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel!
2. O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer  
Our spirits by Thine advent here;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadow put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel!
3. O come, thou Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heavenly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel!
4. O come, O come, thou Lord of might,  
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times didst give the law,  
in cloud, and majesty, and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel!

### WELCOME AND ACCLAMATION

BCP 355

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

*And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.*

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 (Chris Tomlin)

1. *Lord have mercy  
Christ have mercy  
Hear our cry and heal our land  
Let kindness lead us to repentance  
Bring us back again*
2. *Who is this God who pardons all our sin  
So ready to forgive  
You delight to show your mercy (Repeat)*

CHORUS:

*For your name is great and your heart is grace*

*Kyrie Eleison*

*Over all you reign you alone can save*

*Kyrie Eleison*

*Lord have mercy Christ have mercy on us now*

## THE COLLECT

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Together, 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 LESSONS

### A READING FROM THE PROPHET JEREMIAH

Jeremiah 33:14-16

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."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### THE PSALM

Psalm 25:1-9

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.

Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

Show me your ways, O Lord, \*  
and teach me your paths.

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.

Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, \*  
for they are from everlasting.

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.

Gracious and upright is the Lord; \*  
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

He guides the humble in doing right \*  
and teaches his way to the lowly.

All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness \*  
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

**A READING FROM ST. PAUL'S FIRST LETTER TO THE THESSALONIANS**

**1 Thessalonians 3:9-13**

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.

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

**SEQUENCE SONG - Be Unto Your Name**

***We are a moment. You are forever.  
Lord of the ages, God before time.  
We are a vapor, you are eternal.  
Love everlasting, reigning on high.***

***We are the broken. You are the healer.  
Jesus Redeemer, mighty to save.  
You are the love song we'll sing forever.  
Bowing before you, blessing your name.***

**REFRAIN:**

***Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty  
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain.  
Highest praises, honor, and glory  
Be unto your name,  
Be unto your name.***

**THE GOSPEL**

**Luke 21:25-36**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke  
***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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**SERMON** - Fr. Ralph

**SERMON RESPONSE** - Cannons

*It's falling from the clouds  
A strange and lovely sound  
I hear it in the thunder and rain  
It's ringing in the skies  
Like cannons in the night  
The music of the universe plays*

**CHORUS:**  
*We're singing You are holy great and mighty  
The moon and the stars declare who You are  
I'm so unworthy but still You love me  
Forever my heart will sing of how great You are*

*Beautiful and free  
The song of galaxies  
Reaching far beyond the milky way  
Let's join in with the sound  
Come on let's sing it out as  
The music of the universe plays (Chorus)*

*All glory honor power is Yours amen  
All glory honor power is Yours amen  
All glory honor power is Yours  
Forever amen (Chorus)*

**THE NICENE CREED** (standing)

BCP 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

As we keep awake for the coming of the Lord, let us offer prayers to God who prepares a light for our path.

For the coming of Jesus Christ in power and glory.

***Come, O Lord, and save us.***

For the coming of Wisdom to teach and guide us.

***Come, O Lord, and save us.***

For the coming of Emmanuel, the hope of all people.

***Come, O Lord, and save us.***

For the peace of the world, and for our unity in Christ.

***Hear us, Lord.***

For the church throughout the world and the faithful in every place.

***Hear us, Lord.***

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Andy, Jeff, Kai, and Héctor, our Bishops; Ralph, our Priest; Nancy, our Deacon, and for all the holy people of God.

***Hear us, Lord.***

For the leaders of the nations and all in authority.

***Hear us, Lord.***

For justice, peace, and freedom among peoples of the earth.

***Hear us, Lord.***

For travelers, for the sick and the suffering, for the hungry and the oppressed, for those in prison, and for those we name now, either silently or aloud.

***Hear us, Lord.***

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially \_\_\_\_\_.

*(You may offer prayers either silently or aloud)*

In your mercy.

**Hear us, Lord.**

For those who rest in Christ, especially \_\_\_\_\_. In your mercy.

**Hear us, Lord.**

For our deliverance from all afflictions, strife, and need.

**Come, O Lord, and save us.**

Joining our voices with the blessed Virgin Mary and with all the saints and angels of God, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

**To you, O Lord our God.**

*Celebrant adds a concluding Collect*

### **CONFESSION OF SIN**

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.***

### **ABSOLUTION**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all our 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**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

***And also with you.***

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### THE OFFERTORY - Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

1. *Come, thou fount of every blessing,  
tune my heart to sing thy grace!  
Streams of mercy never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.*
2. *Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,  
mount of thy unchanging love.*
3. *Here I raise my Ebenezer;  
here by thy help I've come.  
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.*
4. *Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
Wandering from the fold of God.  
He to rescue me from danger,  
interposed his precious blood.*
5. *O to grace how great a debtor  
daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter,  
bind my wandering heart to thee;*
6. *Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it.  
Prone to leave the God I love.  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
seal it for thy courts above.*

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B, BCP 367

The Lord be with you.

***And also with you.***

Lift up your hearts.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***It is right to give him thanks and praise.***

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. [*Proper Preface is added*]

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:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord***

***God of power, of power and might***

***Heaven and earth are full of your glory (repeat)***

***Hosanna in the highest,***

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord (repeat)***

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

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 your saints, we may enter 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 is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. Amen.

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

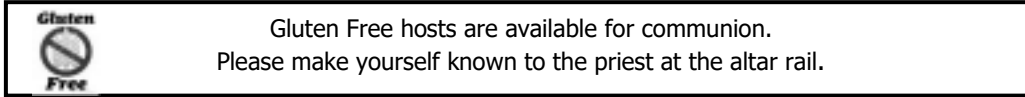
***Our Father in Heaven  
Hallowed be Your name  
Your kingdom come, Your will be done  
On earth as in Heaven  
Give us today our daily bread  
Forgive us our sins  
As we forgive those who sin against us  
Save us from the time of trial  
And deliver us from evil  
For the kingdom, and the power,  
And the glory are Yours now,  
And forever. Amen.***

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

These are 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.



*If you have a special prayer need, step into the side chapel after you receive communion, and a member of the Prayer Team will pray with you.*

## COMMUNION INSTRUMENTAL

### THE DOXOLOGY

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;***

***Praise him, all creatures here below;***

***Praise him above ye heavenly host:***

***Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.***

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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 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

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.** *(these words may differ from time to time)*

CLOSING SONG - Blessed Assurance

1. *Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
Born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.*

2. *Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight  
Angels descending bring from above,  
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.*

**CHORUS:**

*This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.*

THE DISMISSAL

Alleluia, Alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. (these words may differ from time to time)  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by  
the family of Roger Hardee in memory of Roger Hardee  
and Karl Schleicher in thanksgiving for Carol's recovery

**Please Sign Up To Donate Altar Flowers**

Enhance Our Worship + Thank God + Remember A Loved One

The notebook to sign up for flower offerings for **DECEMBER** is in the Parish Hall.  
Please stop by and sign up or contact the church office. The cost is \$50, to be paid in advance.

Flower offerings for 2025 will be done **online** at [calvaryrichmond.org](http://calvaryrichmond.org) under  
**GIVING/ALTAR FLOWERS** or use the QR code found inside of the announcement insert

**Calvary Worship Service Times**

8:00 AM Sunday – Traditional Service

10:30 AM Sunday – Contemporary Service

5:00 PM Sunday – Sunday Night Alive Informal Service

**Calvary Staff**

*The Rev. Ralph B. Morgan, Rector*

*The Rev. Nancy Wilkes, Deacon*

*John Brun, Parish Administrator*

*Anne Scarborough, Newcomer Coordinator*

*William Soller, Communications/Children's Minister*

*Suzette Hillis, Administrative Assistant*

*Kathy Haley, Finance Administrator*

*Sterling Overshown, Organist/Choir Director*

*Will Mason, POGS Worship Coordinator*

*Ross Elkins, SNL Worship Leader*

*Jose Portillo, Campus Operations*

**IF YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY AND NEED TO SPEAK TO SOMEONE, PLEASE CONTACT:**

The Rev. Nancy Wilkes

or

The Rev. Ralph Morgan

713-818-6323

281-797-5246

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**CALVARY STEWARDSHIP CORNER:**

2024 Pledged: \$555,925

2024 Given: \$494,198