

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF THE
RESURRECTION
STARKVILLE, MS

Third Sunday of Advent
Holy Eucharist Rite II
December 14, 2025
10:30 a.m.

WELCOME TO THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We're glad you've joined us for worship today! It's customary in the Episcopal Church to observe silence before the service to help create a prayerful environment. Before the service, speak to God in the silence of your heart. During the service, let God speak to you through Word and Sacrament, and after the service, speak with your neighbor!

All you'll need to follow the liturgy is this service booklet. The congregation plays an important role in our worship, and you're encouraged to take part as you are comfortable.

Christians from any tradition are welcome to receive communion in the Episcopal Church. If you'd like to receive, please come forward to the altar when the priest indicates. You may choose to stand or kneel at the rail. To receive the bread, simply hold out your hands, palms up, one on top of the other. To receive the wine, you can either hold on to your wafer to intinct (*carefully dip*) the bread into the cup, or you can assist a chalice bearer and take a small sip. Also, know that communion in one kind (*just the bread or wine*) is sufficient. If you wish to participate but not receive, come forward to the altar rail and simply cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing from the priest.

If you'd like to know more about our church, please call us at (662) 323-3483.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to seek Christ and to make Him known in a dynamic place of worship and to create a loving and supportive community that shares spiritual and physical help with others.

DIOCESAN INCLUSION STATEMENT

We respect the dignity of all persons, regardless of national origin, race, gender, age, or sexual orientation, and welcome and encourage them to fully participate in all areas of parish life.

Holy Eucharist Rite II

Prelude

Opening Hymn

Lo! he comes, with clouds descending

H 57

Related Scriptures: Rev 1:7. Rev 5:6. Col 1:15-20

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
2 Ev - every eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on

our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
ers, with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Celebrant

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

People

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. 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.*

Trisagion

S102

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;

the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;

the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools,
shall go astray.

No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;

they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;

everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Canticle 15

Magnificat



My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his
Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. *Amen.*

Sequence Hymn

O heavenly Word, eternal Light

H 64

Related Scriptures: Phlpns 2:13. Prov 21:12. Ps 63:1



1 O heaven - ly Word, e - ter - nal Light, be - got - ten
 2 pour light up - on us from a - bove, and fire our
 3 and when, as judge, thou draw - est nigh the se - crets
 4 O let us not, for e - vil past, be driv - en
 * 5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the



1 of the Fa - ther's might, who in these lat - ter days wast
 2 hearts with ar - dent love, that, as we hear thy truth to -
 3 of our hearts to try, to rec - om - pense each hid - den
 4 from thy face at last, but with thy saints for ev - er -
 5 Spi - rit, ev - er One, praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry



1 born for bless - ing to a world for - lorn;
 2 day, all wrong de - sires may burn a - way;
 3 sin and bid the saints their reign be - gin;
 4 more be - hold thee, love thee, and a - dore.
 5 be from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

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

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
 who will prepare your way before you.'

"Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Fr. Walton

Nicene Creed *(All stand.)*

BCP 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

Presider or deacon

As we prepare the way of the Lord, let us offer prayers to God who will lead us with joy in the light of his glory.

Deacon or other leader

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

Come, O Lord, and save us.

For Dorothy our bishop and all bishops, for Walton our priest, and for all priests and deacons and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God.

Come, O Lord, and save us.

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

Come, O Lord, and save us.

For the leaders of the nations and all in authority.

Come, O Lord, and save us.

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

Come, O Lord, and save us.

For travelers, for the sick and the suffering, for the hungry and the oppressed, and for those in prison.

Come, O Lord, and save us.

For the dying and the dead.

Come, O Lord, and save us.

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

Come, O Lord, and save us.

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

To you, O Lord.

Celebrant

O Rising Sun, brightness of light eternal, sun of justice, come and shine on those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death. Glory to you for ever.

Amen.

Confession of Sin

The Deacon or Celebrant 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

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

BCP p. 360

All stand.

Celebrant

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Solo

In the Bleak Midwinter

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.*

The Great Thanksgiving

BCP p. 361

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The first staff is for the Celebrant and the People, with the lyrics "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you." The second staff is for the Celebrant and the People, with the lyrics "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The third staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff is for the People, with the lyrics "It is right to give him thanks and praise." The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and accidentals.

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and 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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus *Holy, holy, holy Lord,*

S 130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand or kneel.

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."

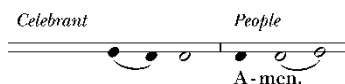
Celebrant and People

*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 forever.



Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 364

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

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.

Breaking of the Bread

BCP p. 364

A period of silence is kept.

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

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Anthem

arr. Poston

Communion Hymn

Watchman, tell us of the night

H 640

Related Scriptures: Mt 2:1-2. Mt 2:9-11. Jn 12:44-46

1 Watch-man, tell us of the night, what its signs of prom - ise
 2 Watch-man, tell us of the night; high - er yet that star a -
 3 Watch-man, tell us of the night, for the morn - ing seems to

are. Trav - eler, o'er yon moun-tain's height, see that glo - ry -
 scends. Trav - eler, bless - ed - ness and light, peace and truth its
 dawn. Trav - eler, dark - ness takes its flight, doubt and ter - ror

beam - ing star. Watch-man, does its beau - teous ray
 course por - tends. Watch-man, will its beams a - lone
 are with - drawn. Watch-man, let thy wan - derings cease;

aught of joy or hope fore - tell? Trav-eler, yes; it
 gild the spot that gave them birth? Trav-eler, a - ges
 hie thee to thy qui - et home. Trav-eler, lo! the

brings the day, prom - ised day of Is - ra - el.
 are its own; see, it bursts o'er all the earth.
 Prince of Peace, lo! the Son of God is come!

Two groups may sing antiphonally, alternating by sentences.

Postcommunion Prayer

BCP p. 365

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.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding

H 59

Related Scriptures: Luke 21:25-28. Ro 13:12. Ro 8:24-25

Descant

The musical score is written for three parts: Soprano, Alto/Tenor, and Bass. It is in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The score consists of two systems. The first system contains five lines of lyrics, and the second system contains five lines. The lyrics are as follows:

2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age let us rise;
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,
1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age let us rise;
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, comes with par - don down from heaven;
4 so when next he comes with glo - ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.
1 "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness, O ye child - ren of the day."
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
3 let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for - given;
4 may he with his mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

Dismissal

BCP p. 366

Leader Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Liam Lamb, Vicki Coleman, Christine McBee, Rosemary Shaner, Peyton Passons, Nav Ashford, Jane Perry, Clayton Butler, Barbi Hughes, David Evans, Jamie Inmon, Loren Zimmerman, David Callahan, Taze Fulford IV, Debbie Sieger,, Mary Lee Beal, Maurin Grady, Bill Cooke, The Shramenkos

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 12	Parents Night Out
December 24	Christmas Eve w/Pageant (5:00) Christmas Candlelight Eucharist (9:30)
January 6	Burning of the Greens
January 7	Instructed Eucharist
January 25	Annual Meeting Sunday (<i>morning</i>) Canterbury Bishop's Visit (6:00)

THIS WEEK AT ECR

Sunday, December 14

9:15 am Sunday School All Ages
10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II*
5:00 pm EYC

Tuesday, December 16

6:00 pm Casserole Kitchen

Wednesday, December 17

5:30 pm Healing Service
6:00 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, December 18

7:00 am Bible Study (*Johnson Hall*)
10:30 am Centering Prayer (*Centering Prayer Room*)
6:00 pm Casserole Kitchen

Saturday, December 20

11:00 am Casserole Kitchen

Sunday, December 21

8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:15 am Sunday School All Ages
10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II*
5:00 pm EYC

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2 Pierce Fulford	21 John Parker Davis
3 Liam Lamb	21 Cameron McMillen
5 Christine Williams	23 Connor Thompson
7 Robert McMillen	24 Janice Grady
7 Sherrie VanLandingham	26 Curt Alford
10 Bonnie Renfroe	26 Jack Allen
11 Margot Waide	26 Olena Shramenko
13 Jack Hollister	27 Tracey Millsaps
16 Dolton McAlpin	27 Brian Pieralisi
19 Robin Pugh	28 Lauren Marconi
20 Jude Dunn	30 Dylan Miller

MINISTERS AT TODAY'S SERVICE

Celebrant	The Very Rev. Walton Jones
Bell Ringer	Ryan Walker
Greeter	Jane Anna Waide
Lector	Gena Dye
LEM Readings	Whit Waide
LEM Prayers	Cliff Long
Oblation Bearer	Harriet Laird
Ushers	Laura Bryan
	John Michael VanHorn
Acolytes	Joseph Thompson, Dudley Phelps, Colin Smith Elanor Giesen
Verger	Kelli Phelps
Vestry on Duty	B rad Dye
Altar Guild	Marsha Williams, Ginger Jones
Flower Guild	Marc De Venney, Hellen Polk, Robert Long, Lee Gibson



319 University Dr., ecrstarkville.com
(662) 323-3483, resurrectionstarkville@gmail.com
Parish Office Hours: Weekdays 9:00-3:00

CLERGY AND STAFF

The Very Rev. Walton W. Jones, *Rector*
Cindy Hughes, *Parish Administrator; Bookkeeper*
Callie Ellis, *Choir Director*
Teresa Kennard & Miss Megan Aucoin, *Nursery Staff*
Morgan Bevon & Anne Marie Sullivan, *EYC Leaders*
Sarah Walker, *Interim Lay Chaplain*

MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY

George Dunn, <i>Senior Warden</i>	Jeffrey Duckworth, <i>Junior Warden</i>
Holly Potts	Brad Dye
Hellen Polk	Tracey Millsaps
Joey Thompson	Meredith Shapley