

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025 ✕ 10 am

Welcome to St. Bede's Episcopal Church

St. Bede's is a sacred place where God and the human pilgrimage meet. It is a welcoming community, characteristic of the God we serve as followers of Christ—welcoming and affirming people of every race, age, sexuality, culture, ethnicity, gender identity, education, economic circumstances, family configuration, and ability. We believe Jesus the Christ to be the incarnation of God's love—the God who is reconciling and offering hospitality to the whole world.

Holy Eucharist

The Liturgy of the Word

Voluntary *Llanglofan*

Welcome

Processional Hymn Rejoice! rejoice, believers (*Llanglofan*)

Hymnal 68

Opening Acclamation

One Blessed are you, holy and living One.

Many You come to your people and set them free.

Collect for Purity (*said together*)

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden: 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 *Missa Conditor alme siderum*

Enriching our Music 2 (Boles)

Children ages 3–5th grade may move at this time to a special gathering for children's formation.

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff in G major (one sharp). It consists of five staves of music. The first staff is marked 'Cantor' and 'All' and contains the lyrics 'Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.' and 'Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.' The second staff is marked 'Cantor' and contains the lyrics 'Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.' and 'Chri - ste e - le - i - son.' The third staff is marked 'All' and contains the lyrics 'Chri - ste e - le - i - son.' and 'Chri - ste e - le - i - son.' The fourth staff contains the lyrics 'Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.' and 'Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.' The fifth staff contains the lyrics 'Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.' and ends with a double bar line.

Cantor All
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Cantor
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

All
Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Collect of the Day

Book of Common Prayer (1979)

One God be with you.

Many And also with you.

One Together, let us pray.

Stir up your power, O God, 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 Savior, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Lesson 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.

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

Many Thanks be to God.

Canticle 15 *Magnificat*

¹ 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.

² **From this day all generations will call me blessed: ***
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

³ He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.

⁴ **He has shown the strength of his arm, ***
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

⁵ He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.

⁶ **He has filled the hungry with good things, ***
and the rich he has sent away empty.

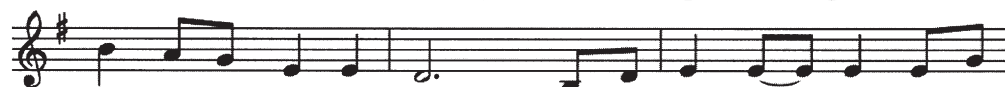
⁷ He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

⁸ **The promise he made to our fathers, ***
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Sequence Hymn My soul cries out (*Star of County Down*)



My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
Though I am small, my God, my all, you
From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant from his throne.
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

REFRAIN



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the



fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the



dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Gospel Matthew 11:2–11

One The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Many Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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.”

One The Gospel of the Lord.

Many Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon Dr. Catherine Meeks

A period of silence follows the sermon.

The Nicene Creed *(said by all)*

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and 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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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

from *Intercessions for the Christian People*

The Deacon bids the prayers.

God calls us to love one another. As a sign of that love, let us lift up our prayer to God for the needs of all people throughout the world, saying: O God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Intercessor

We pray for the peace of the world, that our instruments of war may be transformed into instruments of peace, and the nations shall cease to learn war any more. O God in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the Church, that we may become more and more a means of grace and peace in the world. O God in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all people of good will who seek to cast off the works of darkness, that we may be enlightened through our service of others in the name of Christ. O God in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are in need, that we may be alert to the presence of Christ in them and ready to reach out in love. O God in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are assembled here today, that we may be clothed with the love of Christ Jesus and go forth from this place to be Christ in the world. O God in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who have asked for our prayers that we may faithfully wait upon God with confidence in that love which sustains us in every moment of our lives. O God in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Let us welcome into this space our own prayers of celebration and hope ...

Let us welcome in prayers for healing and wholeness ...

Let us welcome in prayers for the Church and for the World ...

Let us welcome in prayers for those who have died and for those who mourn ...

The one presiding adds a concluding collect

Confession & Absolution

The deacon bids the confession

Let us confess our sins to God.

A period of silence is kept

All pray together

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

One 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

Please gently exchange the peace, perhaps with a wave or bow, as a courtesy to others.

One The peace of Christ be always with you.

Many And also with you.

The Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Anthem

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain. O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength; be not afraid. Say unto the cities of Judah: "Behold your God!" O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

alto: Claudia Fedarko

words: Isaiah 11:9; 60:1

music: George Frideric Handel (1685–1759)

Presentation Hymn On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry (*Winchester New*)

Hymnal 76

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B from *The Book of Common Prayer* (1979), alt.

One God be with you.

Many And also with you.

One Lift up your hearts.

Many We lift them to the Lord.

One Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Many It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The one presiding continues

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 Christ 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 *Missa Conditor alme siderum*

Enriching Our Music 2 (Boles)

The musical score is written for two parts: Cantor and All. It is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of po - wer and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - - san - na in the high - est. Ho-san - na in the high - est."

Cantor *All*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of po - wer and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

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

Setting: Frank W. Boles © 2002 Frank W. Boles based on *Conditor alme siderum*.
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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 Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from Blessed Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, 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 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 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”**

All pray together

We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory.

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior 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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, 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 Blessed Mary, Blessed Julian, Blessed Bede, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.



1. ta - ble. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the guest is on the way.
2. flour-ish. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the rose is on the way.
3. cho - sen. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the bird is on the way.
4. geth - er. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the star is on the way.
5. com - ing. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the Lord is on the way.

Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965). Music: *Besançon Carol*, harm. John L. Hooker (b. 1944).

Announcements

Post-Communion Prayer

All pray together

Merciful God,
may this Eucharist free us from our sins,
fill us with unending joy,
and prepare us for the birth of our Savior.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,
the one who was, and is, and is to come. Amen.

Blessing

The one presiding pronounces God's blessing.

Processional Hymn Hail to the Lord's anointed (*Woodbird*)

Hymnal 616

Dismissal

One Our worship has concluded and now our service begins.
Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Many **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary *Woodbird*

St. Bede's Prayer List

In our St. Bede's community, prayer has recently been requested for:

Larry Channell	Raz Schreiber
Jim Helms	Suzanne Shapiro
Carlin Lutz	Doug Weaver
Rebecca Pope and family	

Prayer has been requested on a more long-term basis for:

Helen Loeb	David Boyd	Aree Bancroft
Margie Klein	Debhani Hernandez	Nancy Waring
Michele Heller	Al and Regina Studwell	Frances Bowen
Lynn Williams	Sarah Jane and Jim Ohl	Ann Foote
Jim Handsfield	Mary Rodriguez	Sue Ellen Lampros
Barbie Olsen	Helen Abraham	
Dixie Snider	Cameron Maddox	

Prayer has also been requested for these in our wider community:

Laura DeMars, *friend of Toni Graney*
Issy Weaver, *mother of Doug Weaver*
Anne Parker, *sister of Robin Schreiber*
James Smythe, *great-nephew of Molly Graves*
Larry Sullivan, *friend of Joan Greer*
John Borden, *friend of Joan Greer*
Kayt Hoch, *daughter-in-law of Martha and David West*
Bill Edgar, *father of Beth Cannon*
Reagan Koski, *friend of Beth Cannon*
Carol Guthrie, *sister of Ann Foote*
Andy Matia, *friend of Ann Foote*
Mary Robert, *sister of Martha Robert*
Wright Coleman, *son of Jennie Couture*
Fay Key, *friend of the St. Bede's community*
Eleanor Pearlman, *granddaughter of Gwen Heaton*
Anne Jones, *sister of Claiborne Jones*

We pray for those who have died:

Fred Pope, *brother of Rebecca Pope*
"Honey" Philomena Cesaro, *friend of Connie Coralli*
Linda Byrne, *mother of Alexis Carter*
Teresa Powell Spires, *mother of Drew Spires, grandmother of James, Caroline, & Savannah Spires*

We give thanks for those serving our country in the military:

Josh Bowers
Jonathan

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays this week

12/16 John Sawyer
12/17 Arely Chavez

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via Apple Pay & Google Pay.*

St. Bede's Staff

The Very Rev'd S. Chadwick Vaughn, *Rector*
The Rev'd Lynnsay A. Buehler, *Priest Associate*
 & *Director, The Julian of Norwich Center*
The Rev'd Raymond Walker III, *Priest Associate*
The Rev'd E. Claiborne Jones, *Priest Associate*
The Rev'd Iñaki Guevara, *Deacon*
John J. Whitt, *Organist & Choirmaster*
Beth Cannon, *Director of Youth*
 & *Family Ministries*
Molly Graves, *Director of Children*
 & *Family Ministries*
Laura Pittman, *Parish Administrator*
Ellen Hopkins, *Bookkeeper*
Jerry Simmons, *Sexton*

St. Bede's Vestry

Connie Coralli, *Senior Warden*
Jim Handsfield, *Junior Warden*
Gwen Heaton, *Junior Warden*
Shane Hunziker
Paul Martin
Miriam Needham
Barb Pettitt
Martha Robert
Loretta Vail
Jelani Valdez

Nigel Poland, *Treasurer*
George Shingler, *Chancellor*
Cathe Echterhoff, *Clerk*



We invite and welcome *all* to worship, serve, and grow together
as we engage the story of the living Christ.

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