ST. THOMAS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

It is the custom in the Episcopal Church to present ourselves to our Lord in silence before the service begins. Please silence your cell phones. In your pew, the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) is the red book.

The First Sunday of Advent
November 30, 2025 8:00 and 10:30 AM

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Prelude

The Lighting of the first Advent candle

at 8:00 by the Krasts Family
at 10:30 by the Wilson Family

The first blue candle is lit by a family member

Reader: Today we light the first candle of Advent, the Prophecy Candle. This candle's light reminds us that Jesus is the Light of the world. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Celebrant: Holy God and Father, we thank you for bringing us to this season of Advent. May the season help us prepare for both the celebration of the coming of Jesus at Christmas, as well as His coming again in glory at the end of the ages. All this we ask in the name of He who comes to save us from darkness, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Hymn in Procession
O Come, O come Emmanuel **Hymn 56 vs 1&2**

Opening Acclamation **BCP 355**
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.**

Holy God *Trisagion* *recited three times at 8:00* **BCP 356**
sung at 10:30 **Hymn S-102**

The Collect of the Day **BCP 357**

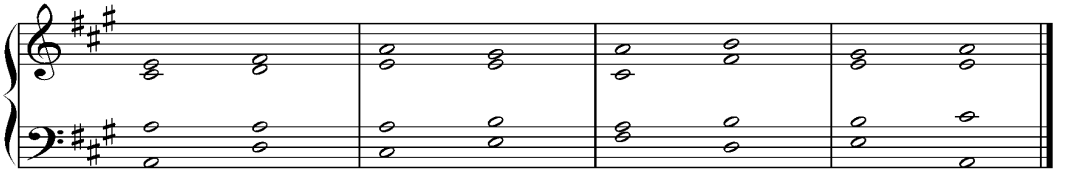
Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

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 for ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading **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.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 122 *said in unison at 8:00; sung together at 10:30*

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 Je`rusalem.
3 Jerusalem is built as a `city *
that is at unity with it`self;
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 Je`rusalem: *
"May they prosper who `love you.
7 Peace be within your `walls *
and quietness within your `towers.
8 For my brethren and com`panions' sake, *
I pray for your pros`perity.
9 Because of the house of the LORD our `God, *
I will seek to do you `good."

The Second Reading **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.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn *10:30 only*

Once he came in blessing **Hymn 53**

The Gospel **Matthew 24:36-44**

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

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

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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Children's Moment *10:30 only* **Hymn 405**

Children may come forward to the step in front of the altar as we sing the refrain & verse 1 of "All Things Bright and Beautiful"

The Sermon **The Rev. Jeannie Randall**

The Nicene Creed **BCP 358**

Prayers of the People for Advent *see page 7 for those prayed for today*

*When the intercessor says, "Let us pray to the Lord" please respond with "***Lord, have mercy***."*

The intercessor concludes the prayers with In the communion with Blessed Mary, Thomas, and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

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

The Confession of Sin **BCP 360**

The Peace

Welcome and Announcements

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Anthem

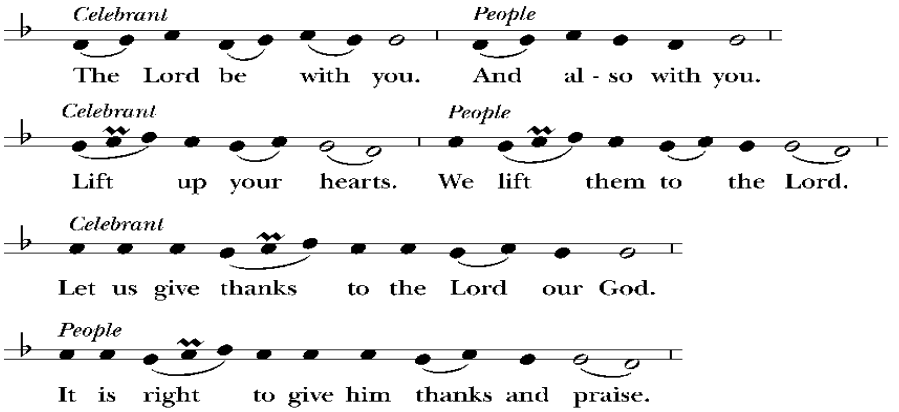
Zion Hört die Wechter Signen **J.S. Bach**

venmo
@StThomasHsv

Financial offerings are not mandatory; they are an investment in our ministries. If you would like to give a one-time offering digitally, you are welcome to use the QR code here. Many who give to the ministries of St. Thomas choose to set up a recurring gift (a "pledge"). To pledge, email our office at finance@stthomashuntsville.org.

Presentation Hymn

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow **Hymn 380, vs. 3**

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer A *said at 8:00, sung at 10:30* **BCP 361**

Celebrant prays, concluding with

… who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Holy, Holy, Holy *Sanctus* *said at 8:00* **BCP 362**

sung at 10:30 **Hymn S-130**

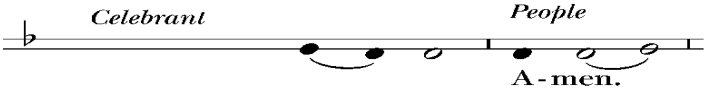
The people stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues the prayer concluding with

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues the prayer, concluding with

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.



The Lord's Prayer **BCP 364**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

Lamb of God *Agnus Dei* *said as printed below at 8:00* **BCP 407**

sung with lyrics in Hymnal at 10:30 **Hymn S-164**

Celebrant Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
People **have mercy on us;**
Celebrant Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
People **have mercy on us;**
Celebrant Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
People **Grant us peace.**

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion in The Episcopal Church. If you do not wish to receive, you are welcome to receive a blessing. Come to the altar, cross your arms over your chest, and the clergy will provide a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

Communion Hymn
Awake, O sleeper, rise from death **Hymn 547**

Postcommunion Prayer **BCP 366**

The Advent Blessing

Hymn in Procession
Rejoice! Rejoice believers **Hymn 68**

Dismissal

Postlude

The greenery adorning our church this morning is given to the Glory of God. Check your pews for envelopes inviting you to make a flower dedication for our Festival Eucharists on Christmas Eve.

Those celebrating birthdays in the week ahead: Mark Stucker, Jack Roberts, Talon Harvey, Maverick Harvey, Shirley Kittle, Mike Lyon, and Gayle Dodson.

Keep the following people in your prayers this week: Harvey and Lois Adams, Sally Barnett, Mary Bestor, Eric Cantrell, Tut Clements, Charlie Erwin, Vern Gehm, Sharon Griffin, Barbara Hauler, Charlie Heim, Larry Hill, Diane Hutson, Ann Knowles, Pam Lloyd, Dannah McCauley, Julia and Jack Mayo, Penny Nielsen, Norma Oberlies, Beverly Penaranda, Barbara Rackley, Jeremy Randall, Cathy Rice, Aneita Scott, Dan Seaman, Quinn Hattaway Short, Jean and Jack Simon, Connie Sharp, Kee Sloan, Ben Spurlock, Al Stokes, Beth Wates, Annie Wells, and Jane Williams.

Worship Team for November 30, 2025

Celebrant	The Rev. Donavan Cain	
Preacher	The Rev. Jeannie Randall	
Assisting Priest	The Rev. Katie Kirk-Costas	
Director of Music	Katherine Heim	
Organist	Sam Wright	
	8:00 Holy Eucharist	**10:30 Holy Eucharist**
Acolytes (10:30 only)	Aoife Cain, Tierney Knickelbein, Bliss Crews, Archer Morrison	
Eucharistic Ministers	Kathie Clayton, Ellen Dodson	Dan Morrison, Bob Hardison
Lectors	Kathie Clayton	Donna Clark, Laurie Fowler
Ushers	Bill Davenport	Preston McGill, Richard Thompson
Greeters	Elise & Mark Stucker	Gretchen & Thad Mauldin
	5:00 PM Holy Eucharist	
Eucharistic Ministers	John Callahan, Kristi Boyer	
Lector	Brenda Smith	
	Teams also serving this week.	
Vestry on Duty	David Hattaway, Peter Wilson	
Altar Guild	Gail Perna, Jill & Doug Eskew, David Hattaway	
Flower Guild	Susy Thurber, Barbie Harwell	
Breakfast Team	Brett Tomlin and friends	
Refreshments	Bonnie Price	

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This QR code is for newcomers! Welcome to St. Thomas!
Use your phone to fill out a visitor card and be added to our mailing list!

St. Thomas Episcopal Church Contact Information

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12200 Bailey Cove Road, Huntsville, Alabama 35803

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 14509 Huntsville, Alabama 35815

Week at a Glance

Sunday, Nov 30	**The first Sunday of Advent**
8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist, Nave
Following Breakfast 9:30 AM	Rector's Advent Forum, Parish Hall Children's Christian Formation, Hiers Hall Youth Christian Formation, Youth Room
10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist, Nave
3:30 PM	Treble Choir, Choir Room
5:00 PM	Holy Eucharist, Nave
6:00 PM	EYC, Youth Room
Monday, Dec 1	
8:00 PM	Compline, Facebook Online
Tuesday, Dec 2	
6:15 PM	Education for Ministry, Conference Rm
Wednesday, Dec 3	
9:30 AM	Bible Study, Conference Room
11:00 AM	Bible Study, Conference Room
6:00 PM	Bell Choir Rehearsal, Bell Room
7:00 PM	Adult Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
Thursday, Dec 4	
7:00 AM	Morning Prayer, St. Anne's Chapel
4:00 PM	Centering Prayer, Crossroads Room
Friday, Dec 5	
12:05 PM	Rosary, Nave
Saturday, Dec 6	
8:30 AM	Daughters of the King Advent Quiet Day Program at 9:00 AM in the Parish Hall

Consult the online EPISTLE for more details!

Memo from the Finance Office: Plate and pledge receipts as of 11/23/25 are listed below.

	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under)
YTD Pledge	$624,251	$686,259	($62,008)
YTD Plate	$87,517	$54,429	$33,088
YTD Total	$711,768	$740,689	($28,921)

OUR PRAYERS FOR NOVEMBER 23, 2025

We pray for the ill or distressed, especially: **Ann** (J. Allgood's sister); **Luke, Sarah** (R. Callahan's brother and sister); **Martha, Betsy** (K. Clayton's aunt and friend); **Barb** (K. Collins' friend); **Margaret** (R. Erwin's friend); **Tanya** (J. Eskew's sister-in-law); **Myra** (K. Evans & S. Kittle's family); **Cindy** (T. Ganem's sister); **Rebecca & Max** (The Geis' friends); **Gaynor** (B. Greenaway's cousin); **Buddy** (P. Heim friend); **Kristin** (D. House's relative); **John** (G. Krasts' brother); **Melissa** (T. & P. Lloyd's daughter); **Emily** (D. McCauley's niece); **Gail, Phillip** (B. J. Merchant's friends); **Terry** (B. Meyer's nephew); **Leah** (J. Munroe's daughter); **Claude** (S. Moore's brother); **Paul** (P. Nielsen's son); **David, Will** (W. Patterson's nephew and friend); **Melvin, Joan** (B. Pawluk's relatives); **Spencer, Jennifer, Stark, Minnette** (G. Perna's son, daughter-in-law,grandchildren) **Gary** (T. Perry's brother-in-law); **Laura Leigh** (B. Smith's daughter); **Alan,** (S. Smith's son); **Ann**, **Sandy** (F. Steel's mother and uncle); **Susie, Susan** (A. Steel's sister and niece); **Nathan** (B. Stokes' friend) and **Eric** (P. Vaughn's son).

We pray for those who serve in and with the United States Armed Forces, especially: **Ben** Cathcart (E. Cathcart's husband); **Benjamin** (L. Cooper's son, L. Anders' grandson); **Logan** Dodson (Dodson's grandson); **Kathryn & Juan** Muñera (M. Erker's daughter, son-in-law); **Nick** Moultrie, **Parker** Byrd, **Chris** Garcia (J. Fletcher's friends); **Grover Lee** Wilson, **Teddy** Lovejoy, **Zane** Goodnite (S. Kittle's relatives); **Drexel** Martin (C. Knickelbein's cousin); **Jack** Gentry (J. McAlister's Great-Nephew); **Jackson** Mayo (Mayo's grandson); **Julia** Flores (D. McCauley's cousin); **Jace** (Reynolds' son) **Jaden** Smith ; **Kaiyah** Smith (I. Smith's son & daughter); and **Daniel** (L. Thames' son).