

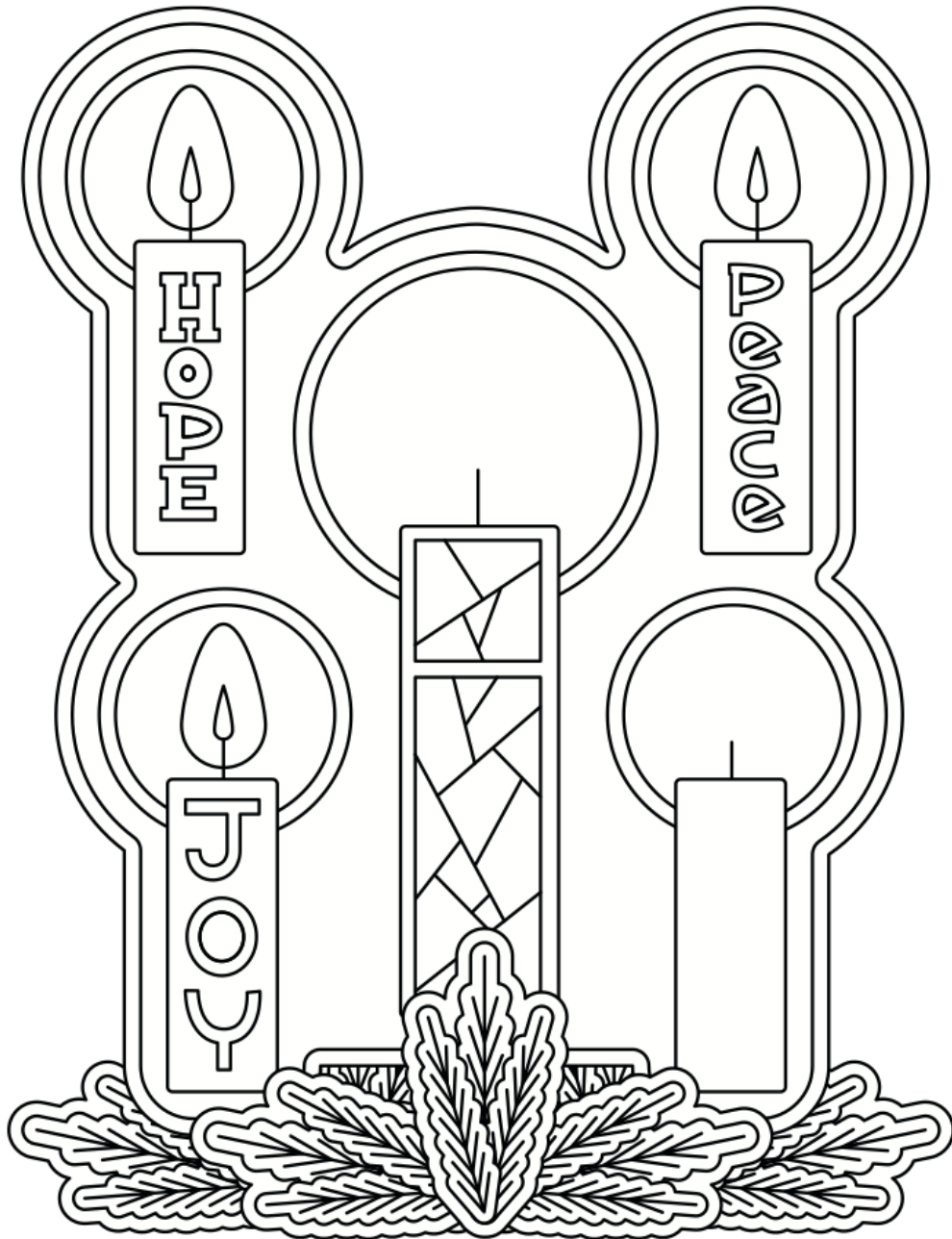


ST. CATHERINE'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
COLOR THE CANDLES

We mark each week of Advent by lighting a candle. Color the number of Advent candles that were lit today.

**Third
of Advent**

Sunday



December 15, 2024

Welcome to St. Catherine's

We are glad that you have joined us for worship. If you are visiting with us, we invite you to fill out a visitor card, which can be found on the back of the chair in front of you. Completed cards may be given to a greeter or placed in the collection plate.

“BCP” before a page number refers to the Book of Common Prayer in the pew racks. “H” before a page number refers to the blue hymnal. Both are in the pew.

You are very welcome to receive Holy Communion if you have been baptized in any Christian Church. Those who wish not to receive Holy Communion may come to the altar rail, fold their arms across their chests, and receive a blessing from the priest.

Serving Today

The Rev. Kelley Hudlow, *Celebrant and Preacher*

The Rev. Clyde Pearce, *Deacon*

Michelle Caiola, *Vestry Person of the Day*

Scott Reimer, *LEM/ Crucifer*
Sophia Reimer & Leila Phillips,
Torchbearers
Brent McLarty, *Lector*
Michelle Nivens. *Intercessor*

Jane Keeton, *Greeter*
Michelle Caiola & Lynne
Dominguez, *Counters*
Wanda Wheeler, *Altar Guild*
Bill Traylor, *Technology*

PRELUDE

ENTRANCE HYMN *Please stand as able.*

H 59

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

The Word of God

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 355

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP 355

THE KYRIE *S 86*

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

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 357

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.*

The Lessons *Please be seated.*

FIRST READING

A Reading from the prophet Zephaniah.

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!

The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make

you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE 9 *Isaiah 12:2-6*

The Canticle will be read responsively by whole verse.

Surely, it is God who saves me; * I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, * and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing * from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, * Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; * see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, * and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, * for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

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.

SECOND READING

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:4-7

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand as able. Cantor sings Alleluia; Congregation repeats Alleluia; Cantor sings verse; All repeat Alleluia.

Cantor: Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

GOSPEL: Luke 3:7-8

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

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

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with

water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Kelley Hudlow

A period of silence follows the sermon.

THE NICENE CREED *Please stand as able.*

BCP 358

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BCP 385

Our Prayers of the People are offered according to Form 2 found on page 385.
In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers either silently or aloud.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Presiding Bishop, Sean and for our own Bishops Glenda and Brian; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

**I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.
Pray that they may find and be found by him.**

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed especially Mary Lynne. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for our Companion Diocese of Honduras and their bishop Lloyd; We also pray for the Diocesan Council; the Diocesan Standing Committee; the Diocesan Department of Finance; St. Thomas, Birmingham; and St. Thomas, Huntsville.

I ask your prayers for those on our parish prayer list: Nita, Clydene, Steven, John, Heather, Dottie, Wendy, Angel, Marti, Dave, John and Tristan.

I ask your thanksgiving for all who celebrate birthdays this week especially Pat Tate. May he grow in wisdom and grace and strengthen his trust in your goodness all the days of his life.

And we pray for all who serve in the military especially John Morris and Bradley Pridgen.

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

The Celebrate adds a concluding collect.

CONCLUDING COLLECT

THE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

BCP 360

THE PEACE *The Peace is now exchanged*

BCP 360

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

BCP 377

OFFERTORY

H 67

As the offerings are brought to the altar, standing as you are able, the following is sung:

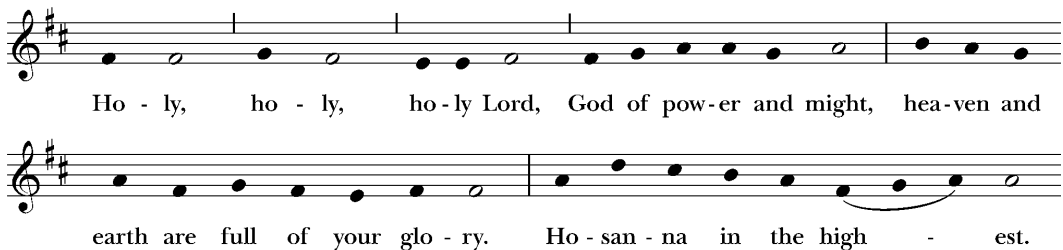
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Holy Communion

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

BCP 361

SANCTUS S 124



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 364

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BCP 364

FRACTION ANTHEM *S 161*



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:



have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

INVITATION

BCP 364

COMMUNION HYMN

H 679

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 366

BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION HYMN

H 68

POSTLUDE

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Our Mission

To seek, love, and serve God through worship, education, and service and to share the redeeming love of Christ with the world.

Our Vision

St. Catherine's, the Episcopal Church in Chelsea, is a welcoming and inclusive family called by Christ to receive and share God's love.

Clergy and Staff

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Glenda S. Curry

Bishop of Alabama

The Rt. Rev. Brian Prior

Assisting Bishop

The Rev. Clyde Pearce

Deacon

Dr. Matthew West, Ph.D., *Organist/Choirmaster*

Julie Seal

Parish Administrator

St. Catherine's Episcopal Church

Church Office—205-618-8367

642 King's Home Drive

P.O. Box 577

Chelsea, AL 35043

www.stcatherinesal.org

This QR code links the user directly to the website.



Prayers of the Community

Those on our parish prayer list: Nita, Clydene, Steven, Heather, Dorrie, Wendy, Angel, Marti, Joseph, Tracy, Cathy, Jim, Dave, Carol, John, and Tristan.

Those who serve in the military, especially John Morris and Bradley Pridgen,

For those that celebrate birthdays this week, especially Pat Tate.

Announcements

Dec. 15, 11:45 am – Vestry Meeting

Dec. 22 – Greening of the Church following the service.

Dec. 24, 4:30 pm – Christmas Eve Service.

Children and Youth are invited to join the choir for our Christmas Eve service. Rehearsals are at 9:30 am in the choir room on December 15, and 22.

Join us after the service in the parish hall for coffee hour and conversation hosted by Kim and Bill Traylor.

Altar flowers sponsored by Kim and Bill Traylor.

DOODLE DRAW

A big way we live out the joy of Christmas is by sharing what we have. With a partner, create a drawing together of what the joy of sharing looks like!

- Player 1 starts by making a small drawing of one way you share with others.
- Player 2 continues by adding to the drawing in their own style.
- Keep taking turns—each player gets 20-30 seconds to draw something related.
- Try to build upon what the previous player drew and make it flow together. Keep going until you are both satisfied with the final result.

After worship, talk together about the picture you've created of sharing and how that illustrates joy!



