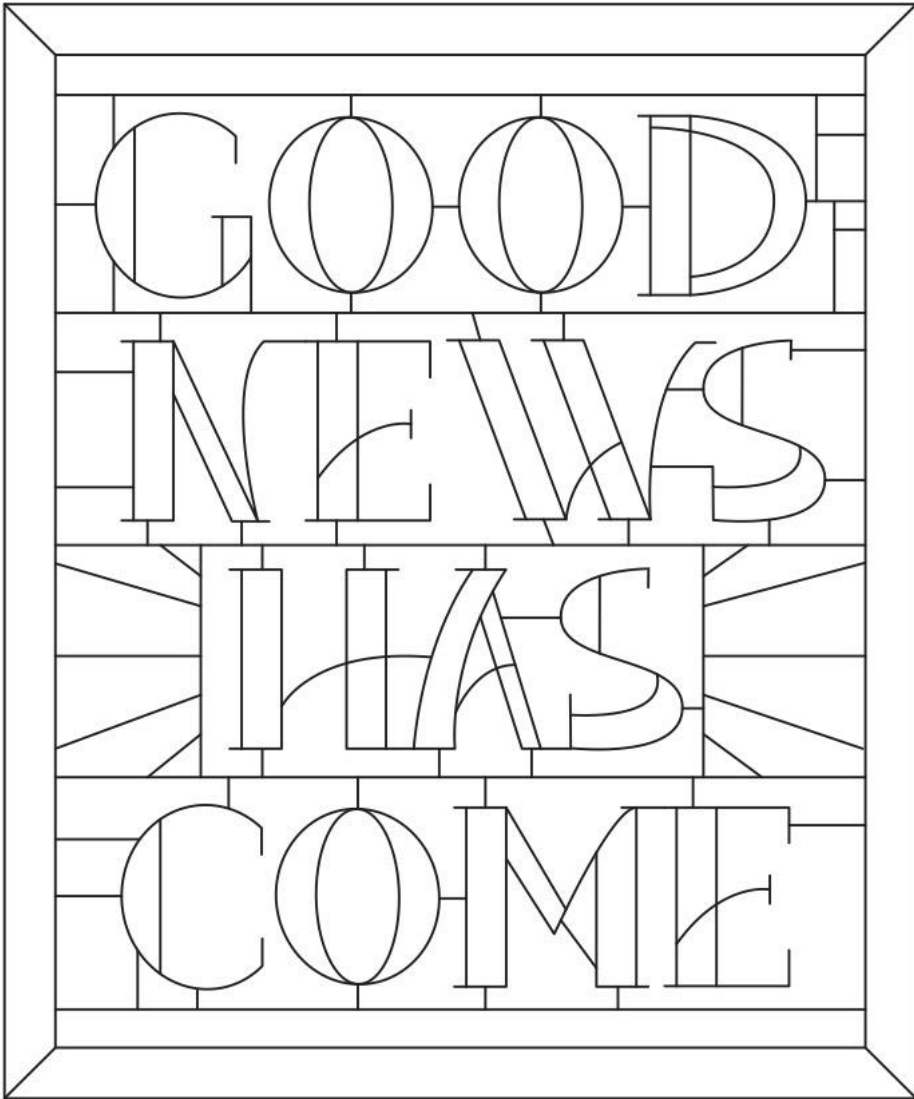


# CHRISTMAS

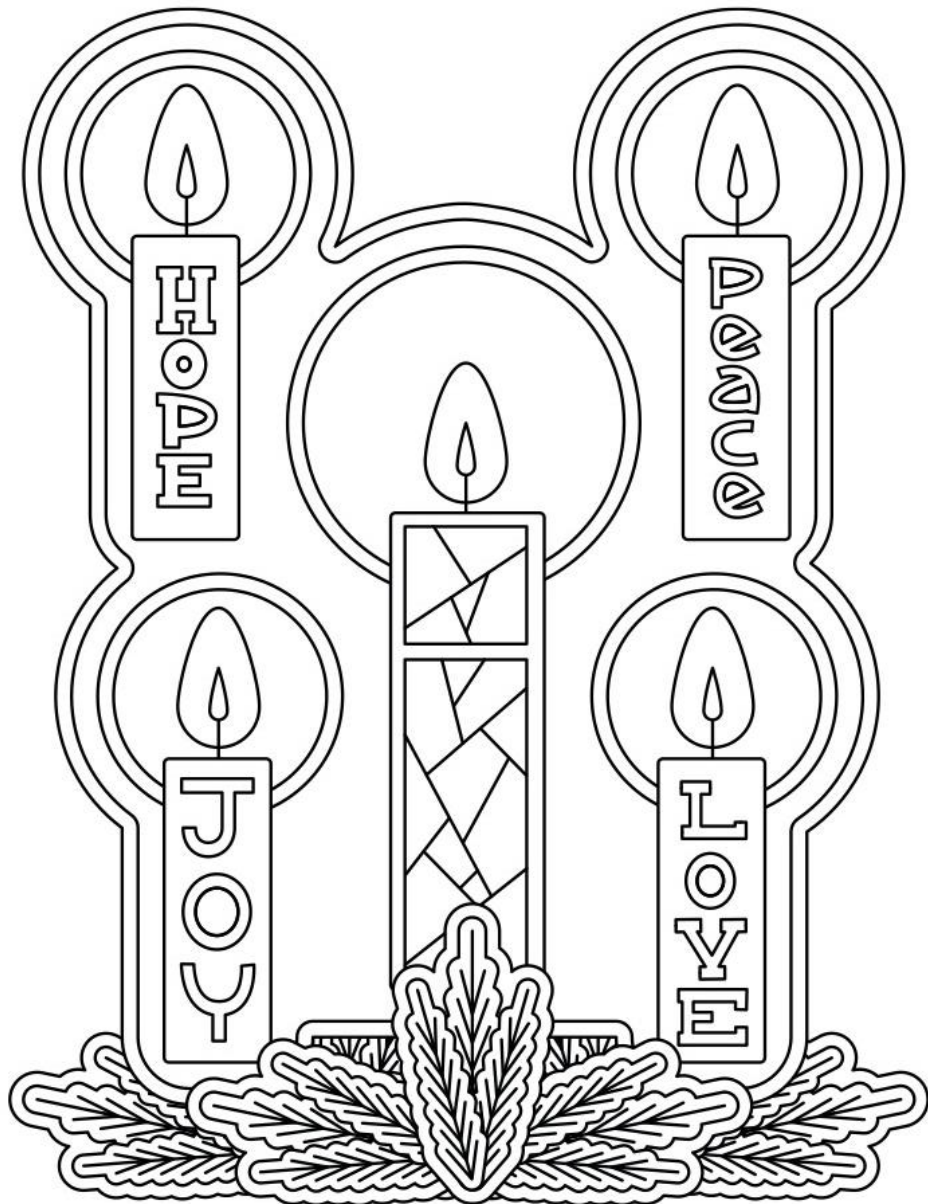
INTERACTIVE WORSHIP BULLETIN FOR ALL AGES



FROM THE  
MANGER 

# COLOR the CANDLES

We mark each week of Advent by lighting a candle. Color the Advent candles and the Christ candle.





ST. CATHERINE'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**Christmas Eve**  
**December 24, 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. “H” before a page number refers to the hymnal. Both are in the rack in front of you.

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, 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*

Scott Reimer, *LEM/Crucifer*

Sophia Reimer & Leila Phillips *Torchbearers*

Carol Dotson, *Lector*

Ann Watts, *Intercessor*

Denise Armstrong, *Greeter*

Carol Dotson, *Vestry Person of the Day*

Carol Dotson & Denise Armstrong *Counters*

Wanda Wheeler, *Altar Guild*

Donald Bruce, *Technology*

## PRELUDE

ENTRANCE HYMN *Please stand.*

H 83

## The Word of God

### OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 355

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

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

### THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP 355

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.

## THE GLORIA

### Glory Be To God On High

*Gloria [paraphrase]*

*The St. James Christmas Service*

**Joyously**



Glo - ry be to God on high,  
Je - sus Christ, we now de - clare  
Prai - ses to the Ho - ly One,



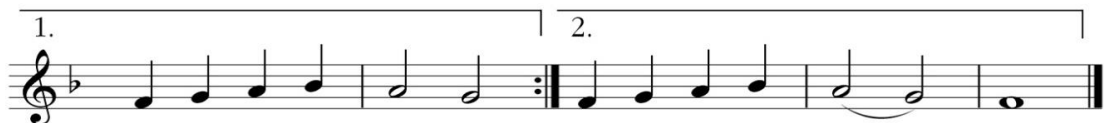
To all peo - ple, peace on earth, An - gels, shep - herds  
Lamb of God and Lord of Love. Grant us mer - cy,  
Prai - ses sing in high - est heav'n; To the Fath - er



draw - ing nigh, Join to ce - le - brate His birth.  
 hear our prayer, Give us grace from heav'en a - bove.  
 and the Son and the Ho - ly Spi - rit giv'n.



Glo - - - - - ri - a



1. in ex - cel - sis De - o! 2. in ex - cel - sis De o!

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**BCP 357**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

**The Lessons** *Please be seated.*

**FIRST READING**

A Reading from the prophet Isaiah.

*Isa. 9:2-7*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness-- on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born

for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.  
*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 96

*The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse.*

1 Sing to the Lord a new song; \*  
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

**2 Sing to the Lord and bless his Name;  
proclaim the good news of his  
salvation from day to day.**

3 Declare his glory among the nations  
and his wonders among all peoples.

**4 For great is the Lord and greatly to  
be praised; he is more to be feared  
than all gods.**

5 As for all the gods of the nations, they  
are but idols; but it is the Lord who made  
the heavens.

**6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of  
his presence! Oh, the power and the  
splendor of his sanctuary!**

7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the  
peoples; ascribe to the Lord honor and  
power.

**8 Ascribe to the Lord the honor due  
his Name; bring offerings and come  
into his courts.**

9 Worship the Lord in the beauty of  
holiness; let the whole earth tremble  
before him.

**10 Tell it out among the nations:  
"The Lord is King! he has made the  
world so firm that it cannot be moved;  
he will judge the peoples with equity."**

11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the  
earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all  
that is in it; let the field be joyful and all  
that is therein.

**12 Then shall all the trees of the wood  
shout for joy before the Lord when he  
comes, when he comes to judge the  
earth.**

13 He will judge the world with  
righteousness and the peoples with his  
truth

## SECOND READING

A Reading from the Letter to the Titus.

*Titus 2:11-14*

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

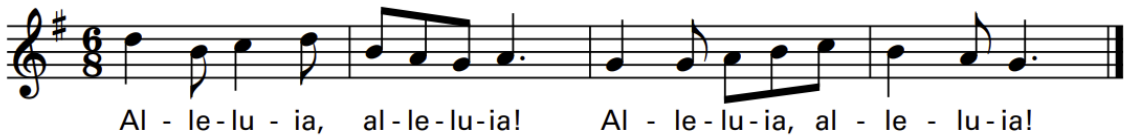
*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

***People***            **Thanks be to God.**

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

### CHRISTMAS SEASON GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Barbara Bridge  
Adapted from the *Sussex Carol*



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*Cantor:* Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord: the Lord is God and has given us light. Alleluia!

## **GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-45**

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

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

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.        *Lk. 2:1-20*

*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 NICENCE CREED** *Please stand.*

**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, Form I**

**BCP 383**

*Intercessor* With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For our Bishops, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For this city, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air, or through outer space, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

In the communion of saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God. ***To thee, O Lord our God.***

*Celebrant* Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

**THE PEACE**      *The Peace is now exchanged*

**BCP 360**

*Celebrant*      The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*          And also with you.

**WELCOME & OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR OFFERTORY

*I Wonder As I Wander* by John Jacob Niles

*Ding Dong! Merrily on High* by Charles Wood

*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, PRAYER D

BCP 372

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **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.**

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

# SANCTUS

## Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

*Sanctus*

*The St. James Christmas Service*

Gently [in One]

The musical score is written for a single voice part in treble clef, 3/4 time, and B-flat major. It begins with a 4-measure rest. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and\_ might, \_\_\_\_\_ heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he, 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 score consists of six staves of music with lyrics underneath.

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise You and we bless you.

*Celebrant and people*

**We praise you, we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

*The celebrant continues*

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood Of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with St. Catherine and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them And give you glory through your son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and Glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.  
**AMEN.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**BCP 364**

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

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed by 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.**

## **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

**BCP 364**

# FRACTION ANTHEM

## O Lamb Of God

*Fraction Anthem*

*The St. James Christmas Service*

Gently [In One]

O Lamb of God, O Ho - ly  
Child, who takes the sin of the world a - way; Have  
mer - cy on us, lamb so mild, the babe, the  
son of Ma - ry. This, this is your bo - dy  
giv'n, Your pre - cious blood, the gift of heav'n.  
Take, eat, for we are one in the babe, the  
son of Ma - ry.

## INVITATION

*Celebrant*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

**BCP 364**

## COMMUNION HYMN

H 79

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 366

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

## BLESSING

*As candles are lit, the choir and congregation sing the Post Communion Hymn*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN

H 111

## DISMISSAL

BCP 366

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People*

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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ST. CATHERINE'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**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

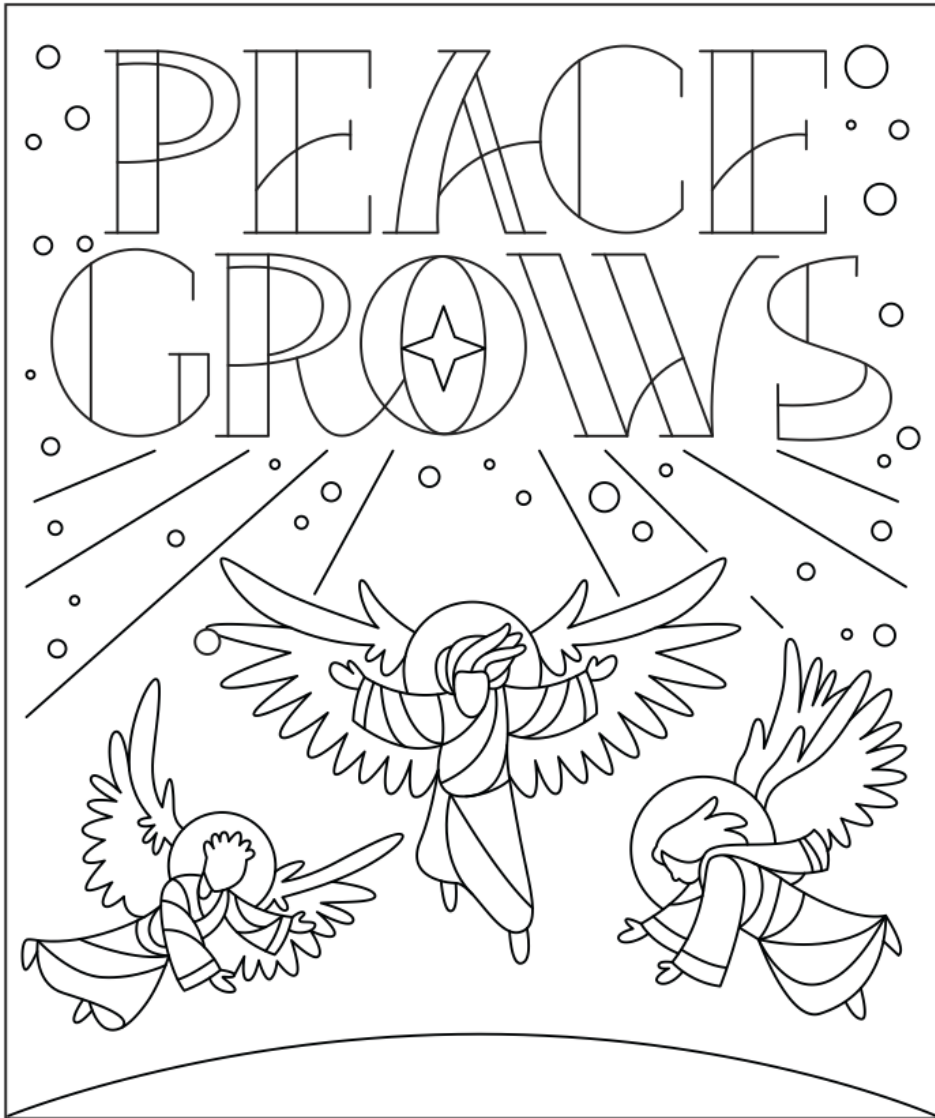
Chelsea, AL 35043

[www.stcatherinesal.org](http://www.stcatherinesal.org)

**Join us for worship on Sundays at 10 a.m.**

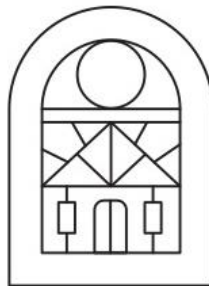
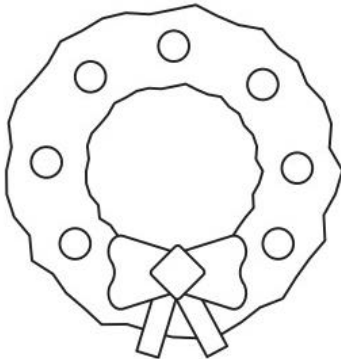
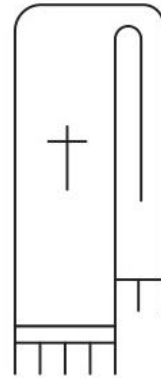
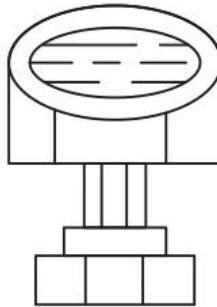
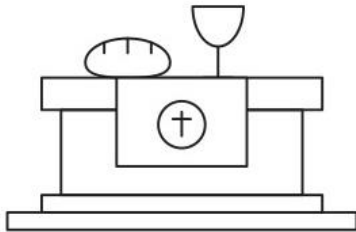
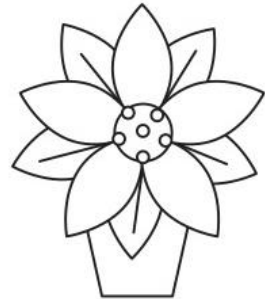
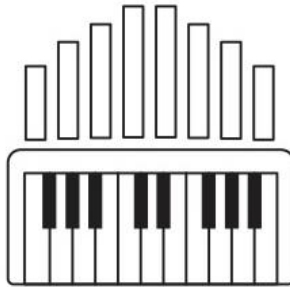
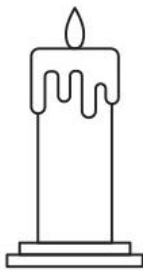
# ADVENT TWO

INTERACTIVE WORSHIP BULLETIN FOR ALL AGES



# iSPY in CHURCH

There can be a lot of things in our worship space during Advent and Christmas that aren't normally there, along with the regular stuff! Here's your chance to notice and name what things connect with the good news of Jesus' love. Color or circle the items below once you spot them!



# WORD CHAIN

The good news of Christmas is so great we can't help but spread and share it everywhere. Help this good news "grow" with a word chain. Starting with the phrase "GOOD NEWS," take turns with a partner by writing a word that *starts* with the *last* letter of the word your partner just wrote. Have fun seeing what can grow from this spreading of the Christmas good news!

GOOD NEWS

# WORDS to CARRY

Write down three words from today's service on **Jesus' birth** and bringing of good news that you will carry with you this week.