Choral Evensong

The Last Sunday After Pentecost: The Feast of Christ the King

November 22, 2026 **4 p.m.**

In the Name of Christ Jesus, welcome to Choral Evensong at St. Martin's Episcopal Church! May all who gather here be nourished by this service of prayer, scripture, sermon, and music.

A Prayer Before Worship

ALMIGHTY God, who pourest out on all who desire it the spirit of grace and of supplication: Deliver us, when we draw near to thee, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship thee in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 833

Organ Prelude

Keyboard Sonatas in D major and G major
K 288 and K 328 — Domenico Scarlatti (1685-1757)

The People stand for the Hymn in Procession

Hymn in Procession

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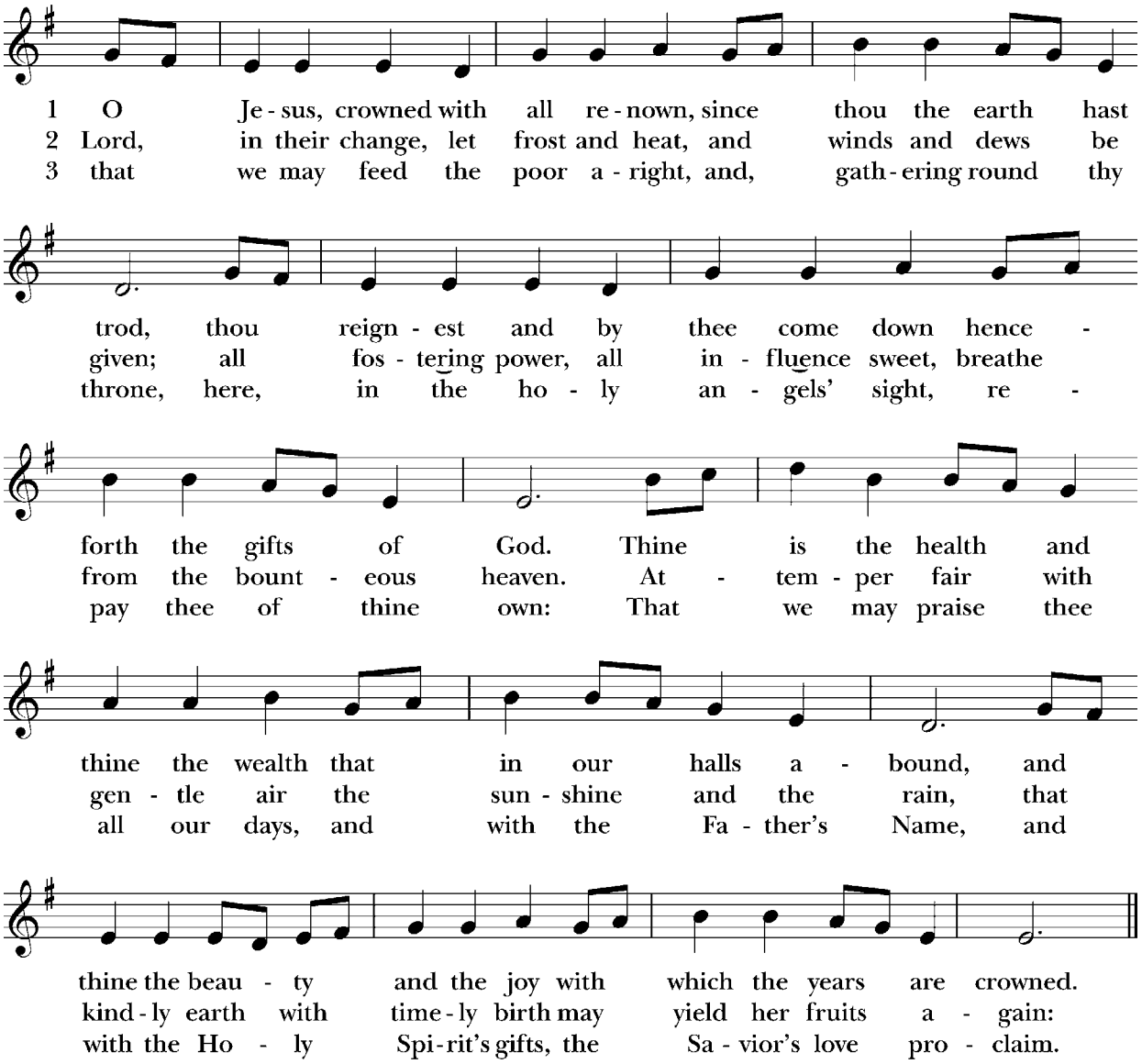

Words: Edward White Benson (1829-1896), alt.
Music: *Kingsfold*, English melody; adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Opening Sentence

THINE is the day, O God, thine also the night; thou hast established the moon and the sun. Thou hast fixed all the boundaries of the earth; thou hast made summer and winter.

Psalm 74:15,16

Preces and Responses

Officiant: O Lord, open thou our lips.
Choir: And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.
Officiant: O God, make speed to save us.
Choir: O Lord, make haste to help us.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Officiant: Praise ye the Lord.
Choir: The Lord's name be praised.

Setting by Philip Radcliffe (1905-1986)

The People are seated as the Choir sings the Appointed Psalm

Appointed Psalm

Psalm 108

Paratum cor meum

GOD, my heart is ready, my heart is ready: I will sing and give praise with the best member that I have. Awake, thou lute and harp: I my self will awake right early. I will give thanks unto thee, O Lord, among the people: I will sing praises unto thee among the nations. For thy mercy is greater than the heavens: and thy truth reacheth unto the clouds. Set up thy self, O God, above the heavens: and thy glory above all the earth. That thy beloved may be delivered: let thy right hand save them, and hear thou me. God hath spoken in his holiness: I will rejoyce therefore and divide Sichem, and mete out the valley of Succoth. Gilead is mine and Manasses is mine: Ephraim also is the strength of my head. Juda is my law-giver, Moab is my wash-pot: over Edom will I cast out my shoe; upon Philistia will I triumph. Who will lead me into the strong city: and who will bring me into Edom? Hast not thou forsaken us, O God: and wilt not thou, O God, go forth with our hosts? O help us against the enemy: for vain is the help of man. Through God we shall do great acts: and it is he that shall tread down our enemies.

All stand

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Settings by John Andrew Stevenson (1761-1833)
& Robert Prescott Stewart (1825-1894)

All sit for the first lesson

The First Lesson

Isaiah 19:19-25

IN that day shall there be an altar to the Lord in the midst of the land of Egypt, and a pillar at the border thereof to the Lord. And it shall be for a sign and for a witness unto the Lord of hosts in the land of Egypt: for they shall cry unto the Lord because of the oppressors, and he shall send them a saviour, and a great one, and he shall deliver them. And the Lord shall be known to Egypt, and the Egyptians shall know the Lord in that day, and shall do sacrifice and oblation; yea, they shall vow a vow unto the Lord, and perform it. And the Lord shall smite Egypt: he shall smite and heal it: and they shall return even to the Lord, and he shall be intreated of them, and shall heal them. In that day shall there be a highway out of Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrian shall come into Egypt, and the Egyptian into Assyria, and the Egyptians shall serve with the Assyrians. In that day shall Israel be the third with Egypt and with Assyria, even a blessing in the midst of the land: whom the Lord of hosts shall bless, saying, Blessed be Egypt my people, and Assyria the work of my hands, and Israel mine inheritance.

Lector: Here endeth the lesson.

All stand for the Song of Mary

The Song of Mary

"Magnificat" *New College Service* Alexander L'Estrange (b. 1974)

MY soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations. He hath showed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

All sit for the second lesson

The Second Lesson

1 Peter 3:13-22

AND who is he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good? But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled; but sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ. For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing. For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: by which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison; which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ: who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.

Lector: Here endeth the lesson.

All stand for the Song of Simeon

The Song of Simeon

"Nunc Dimittis" *New College Service* Alexander L'Estrange

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people, To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together

I BELIEVE in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Lesser Litany

Philip Radcliffe

Officiant: The Lord be with you.
Choir: And with thy spirit.
Officiant: Let us pray.

The People kneel

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Lord's Prayer

OUR Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

The Suffrages

Officiant: O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.
Choir: And grant us thy salvation.
Officiant: O Lord, save the State.
Choir: And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.
Officiant: Endue thy ministers with righteousness.
Choir: And make thy chosen people joyful.
Officiant: O Lord, save thy people.
Choir: And bless thine inheritance.
Officiant: Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Choir: Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.
Officiant: O God, make clean our hearts within us.
Choir: And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Officiant continues

Collect of the Day

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in thy well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

Collect for Peace

GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

Collect for Aid against All Perils

LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord, and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night, for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Authorized Intercessions

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People

ALMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants, do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

The Officiant continues

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee, and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen**.

Benedicamus Domino

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God**.

Sentence of Scripture

GLORY to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Ephesians 3:20,21

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn

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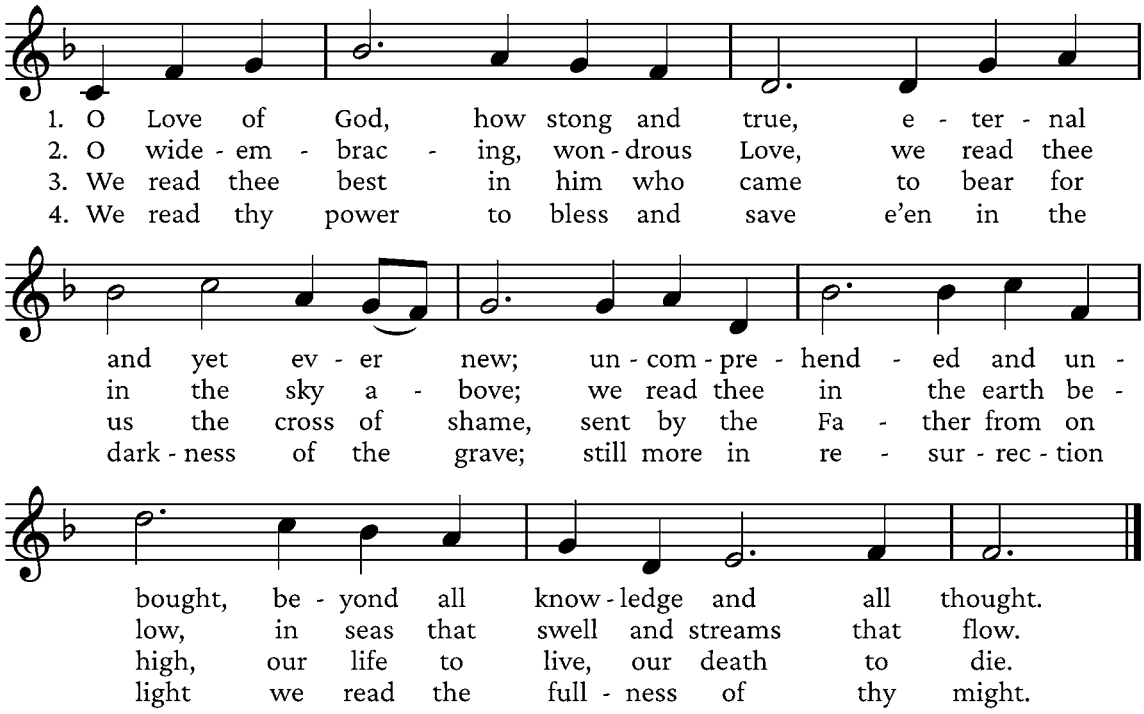

Words: Horatius Bonar (1808-1889), alt.
Music: *Dunedin*, Francis Vernon Griffiths (1894-1985)

Sermon The Rev. Dane E. Boston

The Officiant bids the Offering

Anthem at the Offering

"How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place" Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

HOW lovely is Thy dwelling-place, O Lord of Hosts! For my soul, it longeth, yea, fainteth for the courts of the Lord; my soul and body crieth out, yea, for the living God. Blest are they that dwell within Thy house, they praise Thy Name evermore!

Psalm 84

During the Anthem, Ushers will come forward to collect member pledges and donations. While visitors are never expected to give, all donations are welcome. Offerings support Choral Evensong and St. Martin's ministries.

Contributions may also be made online by visiting smec.org/give or by scanning the QR code. Thank you for your generous support!

The People kneel for the Blessing

The Blessing

Following the Blessing, all stand for the final hymn

Hymn

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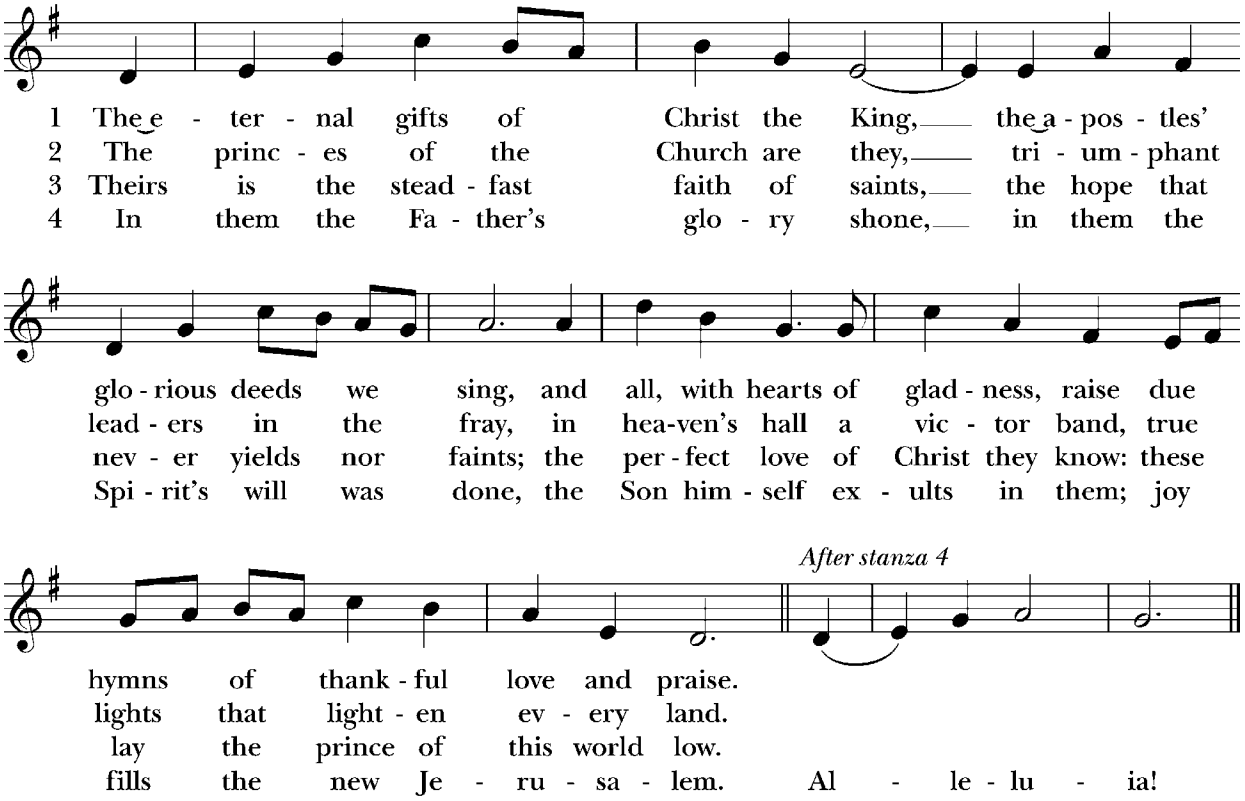

Words: Ambrose of Milan (340-397); ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt.
Music: *Gonfalon Royal*, Percy Carter Buck (1871-1947)

Organ Postlude

"Toccata in C" BWV 564 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

The Ministers and Choir depart

Welcome to St. Martin's

In the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, welcome to St. Martin's Episcopal Church!

We are so grateful that you are worshipping with us today. Everything that this vibrant Parish does flows from the worship of our Lord. Our service times and styles may vary, but through the riches of our Anglican tradition, they are all offered for the same ultimate purpose: to glorify our God and Father, to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ His Son, and to rejoice in the life-changing power of the Holy Spirit.

Whether you are here for the very first time or have been attending St. Martin's for decades, I invite you to explore our many daily and weekly opportunities for worship, learning, fellowship, and service. We are a community where people of every age and stage of life are met by Jesus and deepen their relationship with Him. Join us as we open God's Word in Bible studies large and small, gather in nourishing, nurturing care for one another, and reach out to show God's love in tangible ways to our brothers and sisters here in Houston, and around the globe.

Come, worship the Lord, and grow with us. Welcome to St. Martin's!

The Rev. Dane E. Boston, Rector

Mark Your Calendar

Thanksgiving Day Holy Eucharist

Thursday, November 26 - 10 a.m. in the Church

Take a break from the turkey before the holiday season kicks into high gear with our service of traditional harvest-time hymns and Holy Communion around Our Lord's Table.

Advent Lessons and Carols

Sunday, November 29 - 4 p.m. in the Church

Ring in the New Church Year with Scripture and music focused on the Advent season's joyful expectation of the coming of Christ into the world.

Houston Boychoir Winter Concert

Saturday, December 12 - 4 p.m. in the Church

This free concert will feature the youngest boys through the seasoned alumni singing a wide range of holiday music the whole family can enjoy.

Christmas Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 20 - 4 p.m. in the Church

Get into the Christmas spirit a few days ahead of the crowd at Lessons and Carols on the fourth and final Sunday of Advent.

Christmas at St. Martin's

Christmas Eve - Thursday, December 24

Family Table Christmas Eve Service
9:15 a.m. in the Parish Life Center

Christmas Pageant
11 a.m. in the Church

Riverway Christmas Eve Service
1:30 p.m. in the Parish Life Center

Traditional Christmas Eve Services with Choir, Organ, and Brass
1 p.m. in the Church
3:30 p.m. in the Church
6 p.m. in the Church
8:30 p.m. in the Church

Christmas Day - Friday, December 25

Traditional Christmas Day Service with Choir and Organ
11 a.m. in the Church

Join Us for Worship

Traditional Services with Choir

Holy Eucharist: Rite One - *9 a.m. in the Church* - First Sunday of Every Month

Morning Prayer - *9 a.m. in the Church* - Second through Fifth Sundays of Every Month

Holy Eucharist: Rite One with Children's Chapel - *11:15 a.m. in the Church* - Every Sunday

Contemporary Worship

Family Table - *9:15 a.m. in the Parish Life Center* - Every Sunday

Riverway with Children's Chapel - *11:15 a.m. in the Parish Life Center* - Every Sunday

Spoken Holy Eucharist: Rite One

8 a.m. & 6 p.m. in the Church - Every Sunday

7 a.m. & noon in Christ Chapel - Every Wednesday

The Daily Office (Morning and Evening Prayer)

8:30 a.m. & 4:30 p.m. in Christ Chapel - Monday through Friday

Evensong Staff

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Jesus Christ
The Head of the Church



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