



St James Cathedral

CHICAGO

Forged in Fire: From Age to Age



"Scenes from the Life of St. John the Baptist" by Francesco Granacci

Choral Evensong
Evensong for Advent
December 7, 2025 at 4 p.m.

Welcome to St. James Cathedral

Whether you are visiting or are a regular worshipper, you're not just welcome at St. James – you belong! This booklet contains everything you need to worship with us today. If you would like to learn about the mission and ministry of the cathedral, please complete one of the visitor cards available in the pews and place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher.

This service is from the 1662 English Book of Common Prayer, which is the basis of Evensong liturgies in the Anglican and Episcopal family ever since. Thomas Cranmer sought to simplify the daily pattern of prayer by creating Evensong out of Vespers and Compline. The high-point of the service are the two canticles which celebrate Christ's Incarnation: Mary's song of joy we call the *Magnificat*, and Simeon's song of revelation we call the *Nunc Dimittis*.

Unlike celebrations of Holy Communion, Evensong does not involve much congregational participation. You are invited to stand, kneel, or sit where indicated. Above all, make space to allow the beauty of spoken and sung scripture to bring you closer to God.

Whether you are a committed follower of Christ, an occasional visitor who appreciates our programming, or fall somewhere in between, we are happy you chose to worship with us today. We look forward to getting to know you and helping you connect with this vibrant and historic community!

The Very Rev. Lisa Hackney-James, *Dean of the Cathedral*

LIVE-STREAM NOTICE

A reminder this public service will be live-streamed and your image or the image of any children or vulnerable adults in your care may appear in the video. By your entry and presence in this service, you agree on behalf of yourself and any children or vulnerable adults attending with you to be photographed, filmed, and/or otherwise recorded, and also agree to our use of such images in any and all media.

PARKING

On Sundays, reduced-rate parking is available at R.O.W. Parking Garage (50 E. Ohio) for \$2 for up to six hours from the time of entering the garage. Discounts are also available for all-day parking at Ohio Ontario Self Park (33 W. Ontario) for \$10. To receive a reduced-rate parking voucher, please go to the Welcome Center desk in the narthex.

Gathering

VOLUNTARIES Wer nur den lieben Gott lässt walten, BWV 647 J.S. Bach (1685–1750)
Meine Seele erhebt den Herren, BWV 648 Bach

INTROIT Thomas Ravenscroft (c. 1588–1635)

Remember, O thou man, thy time is spent. Remember, O thou man, how thou camest to me then, and I did what I can. Therefore repent.

Remember God's goodness, O thou man, and promise made. Remember God's goodness, how his only son he sent our sins for to redress. Be not afraid.

In Bethlehem was he born, O thou Man, for mankind dear. In Bethlehem was he born for us that were forlorn, and therefore took no scorn our sins to bear.

The people stand and the choir sings

PRECES & RESPONSES William Smith (1603–1645)

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir And our mouth shall show 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, and is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.

The Dean introduces the service and welcomes the congregation.

The people are seated and the choir sings

PSALM 114

Tonus Peregrinus

When Israel came out of Egypt,
and the house of Jacob from among the strange people,
Judah was his sanctuary,
and Israel his dominion.

The sea saw that, and fled;
Jordan was driven back.

The mountains skipped like rams,
and the little hills like young sheep.

What aileth thee, O thou sea, that thou fleddest?
and thou Jordan, that thou wast driven back?

Ye mountains, that ye skipped like rams?
and ye little hills, like young sheep?

Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord:
at the presence of the God of Jacob;

Who turned the hard rock into a standing water,
and the flint-stone into a springing well.

*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.*

PSALM 115

Gerald H. Knight (1908–1979)

Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy name give the praise;
for thy loving mercy, and for thy truth's sake.

Wherefore shall the heathen say,
where is now their God?

As for our God, he is in heaven:
he hath done whatsoever pleased him.

Their idols are silver and gold,
even the work of men's hands.

They have mouths, and speak not;
eyes have they, and see not.

They have ears, and hear not;
noses have they, and smell not.

They have hands, and handle not; feet have they, and walk not;
neither speak they through their throat.

They that make them are like unto them;
and so are all such as put their trust in them.

But thou, house of Israel, trust thou in the Lord;
he is their helper and defender.

Ye house of Aaron, put your trust in the Lord;
he is their helper and defender.

Ye that fear the Lord, put your trust in the LORD;
he is their helper and defender.

The Lord hath been mindful of us, and he shall bless us;
even he shall bless the house of Israel, he shall bless the house of Aaron.

He shall bless them that fear the Lord,
both small and great.

The Lord shall increase you more and more,
you and your children.

Ye are the blessed of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

All the whole heavens are the Lord's;
the earth hath he given to the children of men.

The dead praise not thee, O Lord,
neither all they that go down into silence.

But we will praise the Lord,
from this time forth for evermore. Praise the Lord.

*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.*

FIRST READING

A Reading from the Prophet Amos. (6:1-14)

“Woe to those who are at ease in Zion,
and to those who feel secure on the mountain of Samaria,
the notable men of the first of the nations,
to whom the house of Israel come!

Pass over to Calneh, and see;
and thence go to Hamath the great; then go down to Gath of the Philistines.

Are they better than these kingdoms?

Or is their territory greater than your territory,
O you who put far away the evil day,
and bring near the seat of violence?

“Woe to those who lie upon beds of ivory,
and stretch themselves upon their couches,
and eat lambs from the flock,
and calves from the midst of the stall;
who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp,
and like David invent for themselves instruments of music;
who drink wine in bowls,
and anoint themselves with the finest oils,
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!

Therefore they shall now be the first of those to go into exile,
and the revelry of those who stretch themselves shall pass away.”

The Lord God has sworn by himself (says the Lord, the God of hosts):

“I abhor the pride of Jacob,
and hate his strongholds;
and I will deliver up the city and all that is in it.”

And if ten men remain in one house, they shall die. And when a man’s kinsman, he who burns him, shall take him up to bring the bones out of the house, and shall say to him who is in the innermost parts of the house, “Is there still any one with you?” he shall say, “No”; and he shall say, “Hush! We must not mention the name of the Lord.”

For behold, the Lord commands,
and the great house shall be smitten into fragments,
and the little house into bits.

Do horses run upon rocks?

Does one plow the sea with oxen?

But you have turned justice into poison
and the fruit of righteousness into wormwood—
you who rejoice in Lo-debar,
who say, “Have we not by our own strength
taken Karnaim for ourselves?”

“For behold, I will raise up against you a nation,
O house of Israel,” says the Lord, the God of hosts;
“and they shall oppress you from the entrance of Hamath
to the Brook of the Arabah.”

The people stand and the choir sings

MAGNIFICAT from *Fifth Service*

Thomas Tomkins (1572–1656)

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.

The people sit.

SECOND READING

A Reading from the Gospel of Luke. (1:57–68)

Now the time came for Elizabeth to be delivered, and she gave birth to a son. And her neighbors and kinsfolk heard that the Lord had shown great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. And on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child; and they would have named him Zechariah after his father, but his mother said, “Not so; he shall be called John.” And they said to her, “None of your kindred is called by this name.” And they made signs to his father, inquiring what he would have him called. And he asked for a writing tablet, and wrote, “His name is John.” And they all marveled. And immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he spoke, blessing God. And fear came on all their neighbors. And all these things were talked about through all the hill country of Judea; and all who heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, “What then will this child be?” For the hand of the Lord was with him.

And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying,

“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has visited and redeemed his people.”

The people stand and the choir sings

NUNC DIMITTIS from *Fifth Service*

Tomkins

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.

APOSTLES' CREED

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.

RESPONSES

Smith

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.

Choir 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.

Officiant O Lord, show 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 COLLECT OF THE DAY

Officiant Merciful God, who didst send thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Choir Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PEACE

Officiant O 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.
Choir Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST PERILS

Officiant 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.
Choir Amen.

The people are seated and the choir sings

ANTHEM

Robert Parsons (c. 1535–1572)

*Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum:
 Benedicta tu in mulieribus,
 et benedictus fructus ventris tui. Amen.*

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.
 Blessed are you among women,
 and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Amen.

The people kneel.

PRAYERS

The people stand and sing

HYMN

Hymnal 60



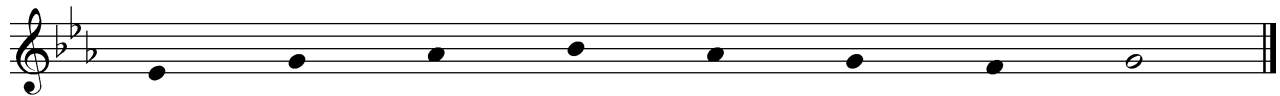
1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse
3 When this old world drew on toward night,
4 At your great Name, O Je - sus, now
5 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray,
* 6 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,



1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,
2 should doom to death a u - ni - verse,
3 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,
4 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow:
5 re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;
6 and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,
2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free
3 not as a mon - arch, but the child
4 all things on earth with one ac - cord,
5 de - fend us while we dwell be - low
6 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



1 we pray you hear us when we call.
2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.
3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.
4 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.
5 from all as - saults of our dread foe.
6 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

Words: Latin, 9th cent.; ver. Hymnal 1940, alt.

Music: *Conditor alme siderum*, plainsong, Mode 4

SERMON

The Very Rev. Lisa Hackney-James

Dean of the Cathedral

Your offering supports the ongoing mission of St. James Cathedral, including the St. James Meals, Meals Among Us, and Summer in the City. Contributions are welcome online at SaintJamesCathedral.org/give, by texting "SJC" to 73256, or you may place checks and cash in the collection plate.



The people stand and sing
OFFERTORY HYMN

Hymnal 444



1 Blessed be the God of Is - rael, who comes to set us free;
2 He from the house of Da - vid a child of grace has given;
3 On pri - son - ers of dark-ness the sun be - gins to rise,



he vis - its and re - deems us, he grants us lib - er - ty.
a Sa - vior comes a - mong us to raise us up to heaven.
the dawn - ing of for - give - ness up - on the sin - ner's eyes.



The pro - phets spoke of mer - cy, of free - dom and re - lease;
Be - fore him goes his her - ald, fore - run - ner in the way,
He guides the feet of pil - grims a - long the paths of peace.



God shall ful - fill his prom - ise and bring his peo-ple peace.____
the pro-phet of sal - va - tion, the har - bin - ger of Day.____
O bless our God and Sa - vior, with songs that nev - er cease.____

Words: Michael A. Perry (b. 1942), alt.; para. of *The Song of Zechariah*
Music: Thornbury, Basil Harwood (1859-1949).

BLESSING

The Dean prays for God's blessing on the gathered people.

VOLUNTARY

Conditor alme siderum

Stephen Buzard (b. 1989)

Please join us for a festive reception in Kyle's Place following the service.



MUSIC AT ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL

ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL CHORAL SEASON

Sign up for our music newsletter at SaintJamesCathedral.org/music

St. James has long been recognized for excellence and leadership in sacred music. The Cathedral Choir sings Sundays at 11 a.m., at major feast days, and other special services. Choral Evensong, a particularly moving service of song, stillness, and scripture happens on the first Sunday of the month (October through June). Details are always available at SaintJamesCathedral.org/music.



St James Cathedral
CHICAGO



Sunday, December 14 ♦ 4 p.m.

CAROLS & COCOA



Sing your favorite Christmas carols with
festive refreshments led by organists
Stephen Buzard and Nico Tjoelker

ALL ARE WELCOME!
Free Admission

Proceeds to benefit
the Cathedral
Organ Project



THE FESTIVAL OF

NINE
LESSONS
& CAROLS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21
4 P.M.



St James Cathedral
CHICAGO





CHRISTMAS

AT THE CATHEDRAL

NINE LESSONS & CAROLS

Sunday, Dec. 21 at 4 p.m.

FAMILY EUCHARIST & CHILDREN'S PAGEANT

Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 4 p.m.

LESSONS & CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m.

SOLEMN EUCHARIST

Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 10 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY

Thursday, Dec. 25 at 10 a.m.

EVENSONG FOR CHRISTMAS

Sunday, Jan. 4 at 4 p.m.



St James Cathedral
CHICAGO



LITURGICAL MINISTERS

OFFICIANT: The Rev. Canon Steven Balke

PREACHER: The Very Rev. Lisa Hackney-James

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS	8 a.m.	Holy Eucharist (<i>Spoken</i>)	Chapel
	9 a.m.	Holy Eucharist (<i>Family</i>)	Cathedral
	11 a.m.	Holy Eucharist (<i>Choral</i>)	Cathedral
		Live-Stream Service (<i>see enews, website, or YouTube</i>)	
FIRST SUNDAYS	4 p.m.	Choral Evensong (<i>Oct–June</i>)	Cathedral
WEEKDAYS	9 a.m.	Morning Prayer (<i>see enews, or website</i>)	Zoom
	12:10 p.m.	Holy Eucharist	Cathedral
	5:45 p.m.	Choral Evensong (<i>Wednesdays, Sept–June</i>)	Cathedral

CLERGY & STAFF

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CATHEDRAL CHAPTER

Susan Fickling, *Senior Warden*, Allen Moye, *Junior Warden*, Erin Maus, *Chancellor*, Paul Thompson, *Treasurer*, Elizabeth Wakefield-Connell, *Secretary*, Lisa Ahmad, The Rev. Maurice Charles, Phil Debush, John Fischer, Greg Gerber, Ryan Middlebrook, Michelle Mitchell, Maria Price, Keith Schmidt, The Rev. Eileen Shanley-Roberts, and Eric Weddle



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