



St. Edward's Episcopal Church

The Third Sunday of Advent
December 14, 2025 + 8:00 am
The Holy Eucharist + Rite 1

The Procession into the Church

Hymn 65

THE WORD OF GOD

The Collect for Purity

BCP 323

Trisagion

BCP 324

The Collect of the Day

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

The First Lesson:

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Psalms 146:4-9

BCP 803

The Second Lesson:

James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Gospel:

Matthew 11:2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’

“Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

The Homily	Rev. Mark Lafler
The Nicene Creed	BCP 327
The Prayers of the People	BCP 328
Confession of Sin	BCP 331
The Peace	BCP 332
Welcome and Announcements	

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory	
The Doxology	Hymn 380, vs. 3
Eucharistic Prayer 2	BCP 340
The Lord's Prayer	BCP 336
The Communion	

All Christians who have been baptized and of a clean conscience are welcome to receive communion. All others are invited to come forward to receive a blessing or remain in their seats in prayer. If you are interested in baptism, please contact the office.

Healing Prayers	
The Post Communion Prayer	BCP 339
The Blessing	
The Procession into the World	Hymn 75
Dismissal	BCP 340

St. Edward's Episcopal Church

*A place to grow in Jesus Christ
by the power of the Holy Spirit*

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St. Edward's Episcopal Church

The Third Sunday of Advent
December 14, 2025 + 10:00 am
The Holy Eucharist + Rite 2

The Procession

Hymn 65

THE WORD OF GOD

The Collect for Purity

The Trisagion

BCP 356

The Collect of the Day

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.*

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The Sequence

Hymn 56

Holy Gospel:

Matthew 11:2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

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The Homily	Rev. Mark Lafler
The Nicene Creed	BCP 358
The Prayers of the People Form 4	BCP 388
Confession of Sin	BCP 360
The Peace	BCP 360
Welcome and Announcements	

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory	
The Doxology	Hymn 380, vs.3
Eucharistic Prayer B	BCP 367
The Sanctus	Hymn S-129
The Lord's Prayer	BCP 364
Fraction Anthem	Hymn S-161
The Communion	

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Communion

Healing Prayers	
The Post Communion Prayer	BCP 366
The Blessing	
The Procession	Hymn 75
Dismissal	BCP 366

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December 14, 2025

WELCOME

We are glad you are here this morning. We hope you will sense the presence of the Holy Spirit while you worship God through His Son, Jesus Christ.

If you are seeking a church home, we would love to have you join us. Please sign the Guest Register in the Narthex.

A NURSERY is provided for 10:00 am worship every Sunday for infants through age 4. The nursery is located across from the restrooms in the main hallway.

SUNDAY SCHOOL meets every Sunday after communion. The children (Ages 5 to 11) gather and make their way to the classroom located in Hartridge Hall.

YOUTH MINISTRY meets every Sunday at Noon. Middle School and High School students meet in the Shipes House across the campus. Lunch will be provided.

COFFEE HOUR is provided after worship every Sunday. We gather in the Hall for some snacks, drinks, and fellowship. This is a great way to build community.

What is Emmanuel?

A Hebrew word that means "God is with us." It is mentioned in Is 7:14 as a sign from the Lord and the name of a child to be born. In the NT it is used only in Matthew at the beginning of his gospel as a way of understanding the significance of Jesus. Many scholars have suggested that its mention at the beginning of Matthew is directly connected with Jesus' concluding statement in Matthew: "I will be with you to the end." The meaning of the term is vividly recalled in the Advent hymn, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (Hymn 56).

Emmanuel
— GOD WITH US —

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRESCHOOL ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM will be Tuesday evening, December 16th at 6:00 pm in the church.

THE VESTRY will meet at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, December 16 in the parish library. Vestry may pick up their packets in the narthex.

OUR EYC will have their Christmas Progressive Dinner on Friday, December 19th beginning at the church at 6:30 pm.

THE GREENING OF THE CHURCH will take place next Sunday, December 22nd at 11:30 am. All are welcome to help prepare the church for Christmas services. Join us following the 8:00 and 10:00 services for a biscuit and gravy breakfast provided by Meridith Nagel.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday	EYC-12:00 pm AA's and Alanon-7:00 pm	
Tuesday	Reading with the Rector-11:30 am Preschool Christmas Program-6:00 pm Vestry-6:30 pm	
Wednesday	Women's Caring & Sharing-10:00 am Eucharist @ Waterman Village-11:00 am Preschool Chapel will not be held	Wednesday Eucharist-12:15 pm
Thursday	Choir-5:00 pm	
Friday	EYC Progressive Dinner-6:30 pm	

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

Christmas Eve 12/24

6:30 pm Eucharist (Rite II)

9:00 pm Christmas Carols

9:30 pm Eucharist (Rite II) (With Incense)

Christmas Day 12/25

9:00 am Christ Mass (Rite I)

ANNIVERSARIES

ANNIVERSARY OF BIRTH

Olivia Maxwell	12/15	Mark France	12/17
Charles Anderson	12/19		

ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH

John Hollomon	12/14	Thomas Hurlburt, Sr.	12/14
Leander Morin	12/15	Scott Hatcher	12/15
Alice Maxwell	12/16	Joe Sehlinger	12/16
David Sayre Sr.	12/17	Roland Gadoury	12/18
Edna Marshall	12/18	Larry Hawkins	12/18
Edward Mitchell	12/20	Ben Harmon	12/20
Robert Quarles	12/20		

PRAYERS

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Libby S.	Carole M.	Janet M.	Lorraine M.
Greg S.	Richard S.		

SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES

T.J. Glennon	Mary Hyland	Laura Cain
Trevor Orr	Steve Husted	Emma Hogan
Andrew Seley	Zack Ryan	

CYCLE OF PRAYER

Episcopal Church of St. Mary, Belleview
St. Francis of Assisi Church, Bushnell
For our parish members Tom and Jane Brust

SERVING TODAY

	<u>8:00 AM</u>	<u>10:00 AM</u>
First Reading	Tom Felcher	Roseann Abato
Second Reading	Chloe Hatcher	Gary Swedberg
LEM 1	Tom Felcher	Betty Hensinger
LEM 2	Chloe Hatcher	Michael Viel
Acolytes	Mallory, Chloe K., Theodore	
Ushers	Patti Conrader	Steve Wilbanks
	Steve Nichols	Ali Wilbanks
Deacon	Deacon Dan	Deacon Mickey
Altar Guild	Patti Conrader	Jackie Castiglione
Screens	Sandy Minkoff	Madeline Lafler
Video	Madeline Lafler	Trinity Viel
Postulant	Dennis Hartenstein	
Music	Libby Sellers	Church Choir

PARISH LEADERSHIP

Head of the Church: Jesus Christ
Bishop: The Rt. Rev. Dr. Justin Holcomb
Priest: The Rev. Mark A. Lafler
Deacon: The Rev. Mickey Maxwell
Deacon: The Rev. Dan King

		<u>VESTRY</u>
Sandy Minkoff, Sr. Warden	Leah Felcher	Steve Wilbanks
Tom Brust, Jr. Warden	Cheryl Hogan	TJ Reeves
Gaines Campbell	Fred Fitte	Janet Martin

OFFICERS

Barbara Minkoff, Treasurer
Jackie Castiglione, Clerk

PARISH STAFF

Admin. Asst. to Rector: Betty Welch
Bookkeeper & Business Asst.: Amanda Burkhalter
Family Ministries Director: The Rev. Dan King
Preschool Director: Heather Fortson
Organist & Choir Director: Libby Sellers
Shekinah Praise Team Director: Elizabeth Maxwell
Nursery Director: Cathy Love
Steward: Walter Burkhalter