



Saint Benedict's Episcopal Church
The Third Sunday of Advent
December 13 and 14, 2025 | 6pm, 8am, 10am

*Welcome to Saint Benedict's Episcopal Church, a church that feels like family! We are glad to have you worship with us today. If you are a newcomer, please complete a Welcome Card and place it in the offering plate so we can extend our welcome beyond this service. Additional information about Saint Benedict's and our ministries may be found online at www.saintbenedicts.org. The people's responses can be found in **BOLD**. The music for the service is taken from The Hymnal 1982 (H-1982) and Lift Every Voice and Sing (LEVAS). Let us prepare our hearts to celebrate in Word and Sacrament, the Risen Lord.*

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Rite I of The Holy Eucharist begins on **page 323** of the Book of Common Prayer - and Rite II begins **on page 355**.

Processional Hymn

O come, O come Emanuel

Hymnal 56 (1-4)

A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent

"God Is Near"

*Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.*

During Advent our eyes are opened to the wonders of God.

With God all things are possible.

During Advent our faith is nurtured by the promise of God.

With God all things are possible.

During Advent our hope is reawakened to the presence of God.

With God all things are possible.

During Advent our lives are touched by the love of God.

With God all things are possible.

Candle Lighting

Today the **third candle** is lit as we draw closer to God in faithful acceptance. Advent reminds us that even when God's ways exceed our understanding, God's word still demands our trust. As we continue our Advent journey let us hear what God has spoken, believe what God has promised, and accept what God has revealed.

*Listen to the angels, hear the message they bring;
Telling the news of a coming King;
Filling the world with hope and good cheer.
Jesus Emmanuel, God is near!*

Prayer

Gracious Lord, as we continue on our Advent journey, help us to hear again the message of the season, to place our faith in your unfolding promises, and lead us towards full acceptance of your will as it unfolds in the world and in our lives. We pray this in the name of Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Opening Acclamation

The people standing, the Celebrant says

+Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever.

The Collect for Purity

Celebrant 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.**

Kyrie for Advent Season (*Haugen*)

Celebrant Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison

People *Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison*

The Collect for the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you. *(8 am) And with thy spirit.

Celebrant 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 WORD OF GOD

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

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

Canticle 15 The Song of Mary *Magnificat* Luke 1:46-55

(10am ~Chanted by Choir)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.
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.*

A Reading from the Letter of James

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

Sequence Hymn

Be Thou My Vision

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
all else be nought to me, save that thou art—
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father; thine own may I be;
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.*

*High King of heaven, when victory is won,
may I reach heaven's joys, bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

+The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Matthew 11: 2-11

People **Glory to You, Lord Christ**

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.”

People **Praise to you Lord Christ**

Sermon

Father Albert Cutié, Rector

The Nicene Creed

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)

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

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the
Lord. **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 Bishop, 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 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 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.***

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

We pray for our partner churches, St. Michael and All Angels in Madagascar, and our missionary Jacky.

Today in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we remember the Anglican Church in Brazil.

We pray for those celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries this week...

Confession of Sin

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you. *(8 am): And with thy spirit.**

Announcements by the Rector

*An offering is now taken for the work of the parish. Please be generous – We count on your support all year!
Feel free to make a secure donation ONLINE www.saintbenedicts.org and go to “Online giving “or give by clicking on the QR CODE below... God bless you for your generous support!*



Offertory Hymn (6pm, 8am)	Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming	Hymnal 81
Offertory Anthem (Choir~10am)	Come, thou long-expected Jesus	
Doxology	Praise God from whom all blessings flow	Old Hundredth

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below:
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen!***

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.	
All	And also with you.	*(8 am) And with thy spirit.
All	We lift them up to the Lord.	*(8 am) We lift them up unto the Lord.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.	
All	It is right to give him thanks and praise.	*(8 am) It is meet and right so to do.

Preface

Sanctus

The Lord's Prayer

Albert Hay Malotte (1895-1964)

Fraction Anthem at the Breaking of the Bread

Douglas Major (b. 1953)



Agnus Dei

David Hurd

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us Thy peace.

Prayer of Humble Access **(8 am – optional at 6 pm and 10 am)*

All We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Communion Hymn

And now, o Father mindful of the love

Hymnal 337

The Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**(8 am Rite I)*

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

+The Blessing

Recessional Hymn

Revive us again

LEVAS 157

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! Alleluia Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



WELCOME TO SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10am Service

ALL children and youth are WELCOME to participate in this year's exciting program



The Angel Tree is in the Narthex

The Mission Team will be available to assist with posting an angel for someone in need or in providing you with an angel for you to purchase the identified gift
Please return gifts by December 20 to ensure timely delivery



The Second Coming of Christ

Please join us for a three-week study
Beginning Friday, December 5 at 9am and Monday, December 8 at 7pm



Christmas Flowers and Music

Consider honoring a loved one by donating towards the Christmas Flowers/Music
Please place the completed form along with your check in the Offering Plate
The deadline is Monday, December 15, 2025



The Greening of the Church Sunday, December 14 | 10am service

Christmas Carols, Decorating the Church (Wreaths, Garlands, Lights, and Christmas Trees)
Please wear your festive holiday attire



Friends in Faith Luncheon

Monday, December 15 | 12 noon | Deshaies Hall
Tickets are available for sale in the Narthex after all of the services
All are welcome, but tickets need to be purchased in advance



Seafarers House/Ship Activities

Seafarers' House, Grill & Chill | Wednesday, December 17 | 10am-2pm
Ship Visit | Thursday, December 18 | 10am
Ship Visit | Wednesday, December 24 | 10am

Please Contact Allan at 954.682.4130 for additional information and how to volunteer



Bereavement Walk

Candlelit Purple Labyrinth Walk

Friday | December 19 | 7:45 pm

Losses tend to surface at the Holidays. With the Lord's help be comforted, strengthened, guided and gain wisdom at our Candlelit Purple Labyrinth Walk.

LAST WEEK'S OFFERING TO GOD

Operating \$13,194
Building Maintenance \$2,087
Total \$16,001



SAINT BENEDICT'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

DIOCESE OF SOUTHEAST FLORIDA – ANGLICAN COMMUNION

Our mission is to know Christ's love, and to make it known

Weekly Worship Schedule

SATURDAYS

9:30 AM Yoga in the Sanctuary

6:00 PM Holy Eucharist Rite II ("Dog-friendly" Service)

SUNDAYS

8:00 AM (Rite I), 10:00 AM (Rite II), 12:00 PM (Misa en español) Holy Eucharist

MONDAYS

Bible Study 7:00 PM

TUESDAYS

Holy Eucharist 8:30 AM

WEDNESDAYS

Healing Mass and Litany 7:00 PM

THURSDAYS

Holy Eucharist 8:30 AM

FRIDAY

Bible Study 9:00 AM

The Reverend Albert R. Cutié, Rector

The Reverend Debra McLaughlin, Deacon

Ms. Linda Schlepp-Gray, Parish Administrator

Mr. Ashworth Matthews, Organist and Choirmaster

7801 NW 5th Street, Plantation, FL 33324 • PHONE: 954-473-6578

PARISH EMAIL: parishoffice@saintbenedicts.org

VISIT US ON OUR WEBSITE: www.saintbenedicts.org