

**St. Christopher's Episcopal Church  
Sunday, December 7, 2025**

**Second Sunday of Advent  
Holy Eucharist Rite II**

**9:30 a.m.**

**St. Christopher's Episcopal Church**  
10233 W. Peoria Avenue \* Sun City AZ 85351  
623-972-1100 \* [office@stchristophers-az.org](mailto:office@stchristophers-az.org)

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**Holy Eucharist Rite II**  
**Sunday, December 7, 2025**

**Liturgy of the Word**

Prelude		
Announcements		Dick Young
Processional	<i>O Come, O Come, Emmanuel</i>	H-56, Vs 1, 2
Opening Acclamation		BCP 355
Kyrie	<i>Lord Have Mercy Upon Us</i>	S-91
Lighting of the Advent Candle		Attached
The Collect of the Day		Attached
First Reading	Isaiah 11: 1-10	Attached
Psalms	Psalms 72: 1-7, 18-19	Attached

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning,  
is now and will be forever. Amen**

Second Reading	Romans 15: 4-13	Attached
Gospel Hymn	<i>Prepare Ye (The Way of the Lord)</i>	Attached
Gospel	Matthew 3: 1-12	Attached
Sermon		The Rev. Gerardo Brambila
Nicene Creed		BCP 358
Prayers of the People Form III		Attached
Absolution		BCP 360
The Peace		BCP-360
Birthdays/Anniversaries/Blessings		BCP Inside Cover
Travel Blessings		BCP 831

**Offertory**

Offertory Sentence		BCP 376
Offertory Anthem	<i>On Jordan's Bank, the Baptist's Cry—arranged by Don Palm</i>	
Doxology	<i>Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	H-380, v. 3

**The Holy Communion**

Eucharistic Prayer B		BCP 367
Sanctus	<i>Holy, Holy, Holy Lord</i>	S-129
The Lord's Prayer	<i>Our Father (Spoken)</i>	BCP 364
Fraction Anthem	<i>Christ Our Passover</i>	S-155
The Breaking of the Bread		BCP 364

**The Invitation & Distribution**

Communion Hymn	<i>The King Shall Come</i>	H-73
Post Communion Prayer		BCP-365
The Blessing		Celebrant's Choice
Dismissal Hymn	<i>Soon and Very Soon</i>	Attached
Dismissal Acclamation		BCP 366

## Lighting of the Advent Candle

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant: Gracious God, as we light the second candle of this Advent wreath, we seek your peace.

**People: In a world filled with turmoil, may the light of this candle remind us of the peace that only you can bring. Help us to be instruments of your peace in our homes, communities, and the world. Amen.**

## **Collect of the Day**

Merciful God, who sent your 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 lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

### **Old Testament Isaiah 11:1-10**

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.  
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.  
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear;  
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.  
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.  
The cow and the bear shall graze,  
their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.  
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.  
They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain;  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord  
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

**The Psalm**  
**Psalm 72: 1-7, 18-19**

1. Give the King your justice, O God, \*  
**and your righteousness to the King's Son;**
2. That he may rule your people righteously \*  
**and the poor with justice;**
3. That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, \*  
**and the little hills bring righteousness.**
4. He shall defend the needy among the people; \*  
**he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.**
5. He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \*  
**from one generation to another.**
6. He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \*  
**like showers that water the earth.**
7. In his time shall the righteous flourish; \*  
**there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.**
- 18 Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, \*  
**who alone does wondrous deeds!**
- 19 And blessed be his glorious Name forever! \*  
**and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. Amen.**

**The Epistle**  
**Romans 15:4-13**

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again,  
"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says,  
"The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall  
hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in  
hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

### **The Holy Gospel Matthew 3:1-12**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for  
the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke  
when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths  
straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was  
locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and  
all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing  
their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You  
brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of  
repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor;' for I tell  
you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at  
the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown  
into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after  
me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His  
winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into  
the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

**Prayers of the People**  
**Form III**

Lector: Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
**People: That we all may be one.**  
Lector: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you.  
**People: That your Name may be glorified by all people.**  
Lector: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
**People: That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**  
Lector: We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
**People: That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**  
Lector: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
**People: That our works may find favor in your sight.**  
Lector: Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
**People: That they may be delivered from their distress.**  
Lector: Give to the departed eternal rest.  
**People: Let light perpetual shine upon them.**  
Lector: We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
**People: May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**  
Lector: Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence. The People may add their own petitions.*

Celebrant: Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*  
Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

**Celebrant** Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned  
**And People:** 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.*

from the Musical *GODSPELL*

# PREPARE YE

(The Way of the Lord)

Words and Music by  
STEPHEN SCHWARTZ

Moderately

N.C.

Pre - pare ye - the way of - the Lord, pre -

*p*

This system features a vocal melody in treble clef and piano accompaniment in grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). The tempo is marked 'Moderately'. The first measure is marked 'N.C.' (No Chord). The lyrics are 'Pre - pare ye - the way of - the Lord, pre -'.

A

Bm

pare ye - the way of - the Lord. Pre - pare ye - the

*mp*

This system continues the vocal melody and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are 'pare ye - the way of - the Lord. Pre - pare ye - the'. The piano part includes a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic marking. Chord diagrams for A and Bm are shown above the staff.

C#m

Dmaj7

E

A

Bm

C#m

Dmaj7

E

way of - the Lord, pre - pare ye - the way of - the Lord.

This system concludes the piece. The lyrics are 'way of - the Lord, pre - pare ye - the way of - the Lord.'. The piano part includes a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic marking. Chord diagrams for C#m, Dmaj7, E, A, Bm, C#m, Dmaj7, and E are shown above the staff.

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# Soon And Very Soon

Andraé Crouch

SOON AND VERY SOON, Irregular  
Andraé Crouch  
Adapt. by William F. Smith



1. Soon and ver - y soon, — we are going to see the King; —  
2. No more cry - ing there, — we are going to see the King; —  
3. No more dy - ing there, — we are going to see the King; —

Hal - le - lu - jah!

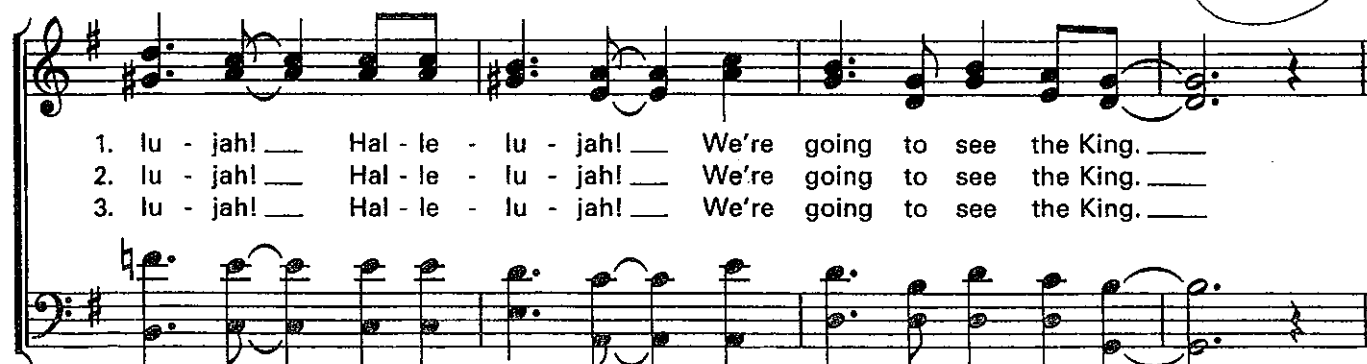


1. soon and ver - y soon, — we are going to see the King; —  
2. no more cry - ing there, — we are going to see the King; —  
3. no more dy - ing there, — we are going to see the King; —

Hal - le - lu - jah!



1. soon and ver - y soon, — we are going to see the King; — Hal - le -  
2. no more cry - ing there, — we are going to see the King; — Hal - le -  
3. no more dy - ing there, — we are going to see the King; — Hal - le -



1. lu - jah! — Hal - le - lu - jah! — We're going to see the King. —  
2. lu - jah! — Hal - le - lu - jah! — We're going to see the King. —  
3. lu - jah! — Hal - le - lu - jah! — We're going to see the King. —

**St. Christopher's uses the following texts as worship aides:**

The Book of Common Prayer = BCP  
The 1982 Hymnal = H  
Wonder, Love & Praise Hymnal = WLP

**Today's Worship Leaders**

Celebrant:	The Rev. Gerardo Brambila
Verger:	Patty Emanuelson
Crucifer:	Judi Soock
Gospel Bearer	Betty Roddy
First Reading and Psalm	Marva Martinez
Second Reading	Beth Mayhew
Prayers of the People	Patty Emanuelson
Chalice Bearers:	Betty Roddy & Judi Soock
Music Director	Mr. Don Palm

**St. Christopher's Staff**

The Rev. Gerardo Brambila, Rector  
Cathy Sheredy, Administrative Assistant  
Arturo Jaramillo, Sexton  
Don Palm, Music Director & Organist  
Arturo & Isabel Jaramillo, Hispanic Music Leader & Vocalists

**Vestry Members**

Beth Mayhew, Senior Warden  
Vacant, Junior Warden  
Vacant, Clerk of the Vestry  
Richard Camp, Treasurer  
Jim Barnette, Member-at large  
Jane Cooley, Member-at-large  
Bill Masters, Member-at-Large  
Mary Salgado, Member-at-large  
Mike Soock, Member-at-Large  
Kelly Thomas, Member-at-Large  
Dick Young, Member-at-Large

**Do you know someone who would benefit from prayer?** Contact us! Would you like more information about something you read in the announcements? Contact us! Do you have an idea for fellowship or fund-raising? Contact us! Maybe you would like to talk with Fr. Gerardo? Contact us! Have a pastoral emergency (hospitalization, accident, family issues, something similar)? Contact us! Lots of information on the message! And you can leave one too!

But, if you have a pastoral emergency, please call Fr. Gerardo at 602-405-4588 and leave a message.

Church Office Hours:  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday  
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Office Phone: 623-972-1100.



## St. Christopher's Episcopal Church Weekly Announcements December 7, 2025

**Our Vision:** One congregation worshipping and serving in two languages.  
**Our Mission:** We are the heart, hands, and feet of Jesus: welcoming all to worship and serving those in need to the glory of God.

*Please leave the music inserts and the Prayers of the People inserts in the pews or in the narthex. Thank you for helping to save administrative costs.*

*Friendly Reminder: All changes and submissions for the bulletin and/or announcements for Sunday, December 14 needs to be in the office by Thursday, December 11 at noon to be included. Thank you.*

**CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE:** A Celebration of Life Service for Jim Dunkelbarger will be on **Thursday, Dec 11, at 11:00 am** at All Saints on Central Ave in Phoenix. His daughter Joy has posted the information on Facebook and asks that you RSVP to help them plan. If you don't have Facebook, please call/text Joy at 520-907-7939 or email: [joyelainedr@gmail.com](mailto:joyelainedr@gmail.com). If you'd like to send a card, her mom, Marie Dunkelbarger's address is 9908 N Painted Rainbow Pl, Tucson, AZ 85743

**BIBLE STUDY:** One of the best ways to connect and grow in our church community is through small groups. Small groups are a place where we can study God's word together and support each other in our faith journeys. The Bible Study is open to everyone and takes place on **Mondays at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall**. Come and join in fellowship.

**MORNING PRAYER BY ZOOM ON WEDNESDAYS AT 10:05 AM:** If you like morning prayer and can't get to church all the time, feel free to join us on Zoom any Wednesday morning around 10:05 – 10:35. For more information, contact Patty Emanuelson, Mona Guarino or Beth Mayhew (602-435-5272). Look forward to seeing you!

**Giving Statements for 2025 as of 11-30-25:** Please check your mail cart folder for your current 2025 giving statement. If you find any errors or have questions please call or text Beth Mayhew at 602- 435 -5272. Thank you for your generosity.



**FELLOWSHIP AND COFFEE HOUR NEEDS YOUR HELP!** Coffee hour needs donations of cookies, donuts, coffee cakes, fruit trays, or anything you would like to bring. We are always looking for an extra set of hands to help in the kitchen. Sign up in the kitchen.

***We really do appreciate the help everyone gives each week! Thank you!***

**NAME BADGES:** We ask everyone to please remember to wear your name badge as it would be of immense help for Fr. Gerardo, new parishioners, and visitors. If you need a name badge, please contact the office.

**2026 PLEDGES/PROMISE FORMS:** The Vestry and Stewardship Committee of St. Christopher's would like to thank the people below who submitted their 2026 Promise forms for blessing on Sunday November 2 during the bilingual All Saints Day/Day of the Dead service.

We are pleased to report now that the combined total of the commitments received is \$129,062. This is about 58% of the anticipated budget.\*

**In addition to those who were listed previously, we would like to thank the following people who have submitted their promises for 2026 in support of our Stewardship/Generosity campaign.**

\* Janet Cairo \* Sallie Crill \* Bonnie & Al Franco \* Mona Guarino \* Carlos & Maria Guevera \*  
\* Miguel & Elvira Lopez-Vasquez \* Charlotte Powley \*

### **UPCOMING SERVICES**

**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE:** **Sunday, December 14 at 11:15 a.m.**

**LAS POSADAS:** This year, to celebrate Las Posadas, St. Christopher's will join with Iglesia Episcopal de San Pablo, 2801 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, Phoenix on **Saturday, December 20 at 5:00 p.m.** See the flyer in the Narthex for more information.

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE:** There will be one Christmas Eve service in English, on **Wednesday, December 24 at 5:00 p.m.**

**CHRISTMAS MASS:** A Christmas Mass in Spanish will take place on **Thursday, December 25 at 10:00 a.m.**

**FOOD BANK/FOOD DRIVE!:** Next week is "Breakfast" Sunday. Please bring breakfast items (pancake mix, syrup, oatmeal, dry cereal) to share. Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity.

**Monthly Food Bank Donations**

	<b>December 1</b>	<b>2025 Total</b>
Weight	100 lbs.	1,572 lbs.
Cash		\$1,200.00

**Monthly Thrift Shop Stats**

	<b>December 1</b>	<b>December Total</b>	<b>2025 Year Total</b>
Bargains	\$580.00	\$580.00	\$21,416.35 **
Bookstore	\$37.00	\$37.00	\$2,462.00



### Happy Birthday to Everyone Celebrating in December

Susan Schlichting	December 03	Janice Crane	December 16
Nowelle Ketzalcoatl Aguirre Salgado	December 04	Anthony Nieco	December 17
Stacey Cortez	December 04	Lisa Wolford	December 17
Anna Van Scoter	December 06	Miguel López	December 24
Chinenye Anako	December 07	Mario Ramirez	December 24
Diane Neverman	December 08	Hugh Duncan	December 25
Jacinto Nieco Guzmán	December 08	Arturo Jaramillo	December 29,
Lucia Cortez	December 14		



### Happy Anniversary in December

Denisse Rios	December 2	5
Jacinto & Ivon Nieco	December 20	28
Zeferino & Maria Maciel	December 23	47
Frieda Spann & Al Hensley	December 29	36

### This Week's Prayer List

*One of the ways we care for one another in this church is through prayer. We believe that prayer is powerful and can bring comfort, healing, and peace. Today, we pray for the people below.*

\* Kelli Abel \* Juan Gabriel Aleman \* Anne \* Jim Barnette \* Viviana Brambila \* Judy Broeder \*  
 \* Jan Browning & granddaughters Haley and Kia \* Tom Camper \* John Card \* Clive Chancey \*  
 \* Rev. Sandy Chilese \* Christopher \* Claudio \* Colleen Combs \* Jonathan Dombek \* Jean Durrett \* Barbara Fabre \*  
 \* Gale & Arthur Farinas \* Cathy & Gary Gustin \* April Harris \* Michael Heap \* Judith \* Gene Lapham \* Terry Lewis \*  
 \* Domingo Lopez \* Monica Maldonado \* Ernesto Martinez \* Marva Martinez \* Wayne Martino & Family \*  
 \* Christina Mason \* Brenda McCormick \* Mia \* Shawn Mirigian \* Joanne Mola \* Mr. Monata \* Bryan Nance \*  
 \* Marla Karla Pallas \* Don Palm \* Joanne Porter \* Ramon \* Jill Renner \* Bill Richardson \* Rick & Robbie \*  
 \* Betty Roddy \* Javier Sanchez \* Socorro Sanchez \* Sharyn \* Sherrie \* Sebastian \* Charles Jay Smith & Family \* Stella \*  
 \* Kurt Tetrick \* Anna Van Scoter \* Victoria \* Lynn Viviano-Webb \* Ester Zamora \*

### For those who have died

\* Jim DuFault \* Jim Dunkelberger \* Peter Houle \* Ruth Jones \* Raúl Zamora \*

### Vestry

Jane Cooley, Senior Warden \* Bill Masters, Junior Warden,  
 Diane Plein, Clerk of the Vestry \* Richard Camp, Treasurer

**Members at Large**

Chinenye Anako \* Carmen Borda \* Marva Martinez \* Maria Salgado \* Mike Soock \* Dick Young \*

**St. Christopher's Staff**

The Rev. Gerardo Brambila, Rector \* Cathy Sheredy, Administrative Assistant

Arturo Jaramillo, Sexton

Don Palm, Music Director & Organist

Arturo & Isabel Jaramillo, Hispanic Music Leaders & Vocalists

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