



Episcopal CHURCH
of the Ridge 



Rev. Lathrop Mosley, Rector
DECEMBER 1 / 10 AM OUR SAVIOUR
FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Livestream the Sunday Service here:

[ECOR YouTube](#)

Did you know we are on Facebook and Instagram? Look for us. Like us on Facebook. Follow us on Instagram. Share our news and events on your social media!



A word about Thanksgiving....

On Thanksgiving Eve, I will be sitting with my mom in the pews of the church in which I was born and raised, baptized, confirmed, and married, St. Mark's Episcopal in Jacksonville, FL. Thanksgiving has always been my favorite service of the church year. The church will be decorated beautifully with a huge Cornucopia in front of the altar. Wheat is tied to the processional crosses. Candles are in the windows. The church has an amazing glow to it. I have memories of the long-time rector announcing the service as a "Come as you are service" – come off the road, come out of the kitchen, come from work, come from the cleaning and preparations you are making, etc. As a child, I sang in the children's choir and that was one of the few times we sang with the adult choir and that was always fun. As a youth, I loved acolyting this service. Once I went off to college it was a time, I would see fellow friends who also had gone off to college. Ever since being out of college, I have always planned my travel to Jacksonville so that I would be in town by the time of that Thanksgiving Eve service. It has always been a homecoming of sorts and still is to this day. And the hymns are some of my favorites of the church year. No church so far has been able to duplicate that experience – most other services I have attended have been on Thanksgiving Day. One of my dear friends and mentors, The Rev. Eric Kahl, after being at St. Mark's for a time, tried to duplicate Thanksgiving Eve at the first church in which he was Rector, and he said it just wasn't the same.

From the perspective of our church, Thanksgiving Day is in something of an odd situation. It is only one of two secular holidays that are on our church calendar – the other being The Fourth of July. Everything else on our church calendar is either directly related to the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Christ or related to a Saint. The Prayer Book calls it a major feast, yet its

origins are civic as well as churchly. It is widely observed by the people of this country, but people in other countries generally do not keep Thanksgiving Day, at least not at this time in November.

And the popular observance of Thanksgiving Day among people in the United States in our time is less concerned with attending worship than it is with travel by car or plane to get where we must be, a turkey feast in the home, a gathering of family and friends, football on the field and on the TV screen, and for many of us, a satisfying nap. I cannot tell you how many times I have received weird looks when I share that being in church on Thanksgiving Eve or Thanksgiving Day is a priority for me.

The placement of Thanksgiving Day on November's fourth Thursday does not reflect ancient church tradition but is the relatively recent work of a former vestry member of St. Thomas Parish in Washington, D.C., named Franklin Roosevelt who became President of the United States and established the new date in 1939.

Thanksgiving is one of those holidays that we are often reminded that giving thanks shouldn't be just a once a year or once a season thing. We all know that and hopefully we are thankful throughout the year. This is a holiday in which we are called to pause and be thankful for all that God has given us. But we also as Episcopalians give thanks Sunday after Sunday in the form of the Eucharist.

It is such an odd holiday with all of its complexities, but yet, we in The Episcopal Church have marked it on our church calendar as a feast day and we stop, we reflect, and we give thanks. I

cannot think of a better way to start time with family than to be in church and thank God for all God has given us and continues to give us.

So, before we turn the church calendar to another year and start to prepare for the birth of the Christ child, let us take a moment to reflect and be thankful for all that God has given us.

I am thankful for...

- Our first year in ministry together
- Our deep and abiding love for one another
- Our gift of hospitality
- Our fighting spirit and resilience
- Our generosity and service to one another and to our communities around us
- For all of the saints in this parish – past, present, and future
- For all of my predecessors
- For how beautiful, unique and wonderful we are
- For Parish Status
- But more than anything else, I am thankful for each and every one of you.

Enjoy your time with family and friends!

Blessings,

Mother Lathrop

Calling for Nominations!

It is time to start thinking about nominations for Vestry and Delegate to Diocesan Convention. We will form a Nominating

Committee soon. If you have questions about either of these positions, please ask Mother Lathrop, one of our current Vestry members, or someone who has served as a Delegate. If you would like to run or think someone else would be good for one of those positions, please email Mother Lathrop.

Vestry Requirements (3 people)

- Confirmed Communicant in Good Standing of Episcopal Church of the Ridge
- 3-year term
- Currently, Vestry meetings are held at Trinity at 6:00 PM on the 2nd Wednesday of the month

Delegate Requirements (4 Delegates and 4 alternates)

- Confirmed Communicant in Good Standing of Episcopal Church of the Ridge
- 1- year term
- Diocesan Convention for 2025 is November 14-15

Love,

Mother Lathrop+

 **ACTS - Area Churches Together** 

Every third Wednesday of the month, join us for a meaningful and fun morning at Ridge Spring Farmers Market! The next date for distribution is November 20th, from 8:30am to 11:00am.

Rev. Lathrop, Sarah, Greg, Jack, and Jerrold will be there to guide you. Remember, many hands make light work.

ACTS needs items for their senior holiday gift bags! Below is the list of items they are collecting. If you bring them to Our Saviour on December 1 or Grace on December 8, Mother Lathrop will make sure it gets delivered to ACTS in time to prepare the bags for their Senior Food Distribution on December 21st

List for Senior Gift Bags:

- Lotion/Hand Cream
 - Shampoo/Conditioner
 - Small package of Kleenex
 - Hygiene wipes
 - Deodorant
 - Toothpaste
 - Toothbrush
 - Chapstick
 - Tree Ornament
 - Bar soap
 - Knit hats, scarves, gloves
 - Individually wrapped candy
-



🎄 December Calendar of Events 🎄

- **December 1:** *Advent* - Begin the New Liturgical Year “C” with hope and anticipation.
 - **December 7:** *Wine and Cheese Party* - Enjoy an evening of fellowship from 5-8pm, hosted by Peggy Ann Moss.
 - **December 8:** *Christmas Parade* - Join the festivities in Edgefield at 3pm.
 - **December 8:** *Tour of Churches* - Explore the beauty of Ridge Spring from 2-4pm.
 - **December 15:** *Edgefield Tour of Churches* - Experience the spirit of the season with a tour.
 - **December 17:** *ECOR 52nd Birthday and Parish Status Celebration* - Celebrate with us at Trinity at 6:00pm, followed by a covered dish meal.
 - **December 20:** *Cook Dinner for Military Teams Retreat* - 3pm to cook and serve and Support our military at Camp Gravatt. Homemade cookies for the weekend are needed, so if you're baking for Christmas, please consider baking a few extra dozen.
 - **December 21** - ACTS Food Distribution in Ridge Spring, right on Main Street at the Farmers Market. Please come help and share of yourself during this Christmas season.
 - **December 24:** *Christmas Eve Service* - Join us for a special service at 4:00pm at Our Saviour in Trenton.
 - **December 25:** *Christmas Day Service* - Celebrate the birth of Christ with us at 10:00am at Our Saviour in Trenton
-



MERRY *Christmas*

*Its time for the Annual
Wine and Cheese Party*

When: December 7th 2024

Time: 5-8PM

Where: Home of Peggy Ann Moss
406 Church Street, Trenton

Bring your favorite wine and
beautifully plated appetizer or treat

Come join us for a festive time!

The Angel Tree

✧ KICK OFF THE HOLIDAY SEASON WITH GENEROSITY! ✧

*this holiday season, let's bring joy
to those most in need. here is the link
TO THE GIVING TREE WITH A VARIETY OF
ITEMS TO CHOOSE FROM. DON'T HESITATE TO SELECT MORE
than one category to spread
the love and cheer! Thank you for your
GENEROSITY AND COMPASSION!*



Just click anywhere on the picture above to take you to the sign up sheet.
Once again, Thank you for your generosity and compassion!



Found on Sunday after the service at Grace, a pair of Ray-ban sunglasses. If they are yours,
please email Mother Lathrop (vicar@churchoftheridge.org).



Please let us know if you have any needs after Hurricane Helene. We are here for you!

If you also have any updates please let us know so we can get the word out to everyone. Contact Mother Lathrop for assistance at your earliest need.

Here is the [link](#) on the diocesan website for any and all resources for disaster relief related information. Including donations of money to the diocese of Western North Carolina.

The diocese has determined the best thing right now for relief is through monetary donations. Please follow the link above and you will see all things hurricane relief related. DOK would like to suggest that the congregation put money/checks (made out to ECOR and noted for Helene) in the envelopes that are in each pew. Mark on the outside "other" or Helene. The money collected over the next few weeks will be sent directly to the Diocese of Western North Carolina.



Make sure you mark your calendars. We have a very busy 4th quarter and don't want you to miss any of the details! ALWAYS REFER TO THE EBLAST FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING ANY OF THE DATES BELOW. AS THE DATES COME CLOSER MORE DETAILS WILL BE ADDED

- **November 24** 3:00pm Afternoon service at Trinity PLEASE NOTE THE TIME CHANGE!
- **November 24** Stewardship Ingathering
- **December 1** Advent (Beginning of New Liturgical year)
- **December 7** Wine and cheese Party Peggy Ann Moss's Home 5-8pm at 406 Church Street, Trenton.
- **December 8** Edgefield Christmas Parade. All children and their families are invited to join Mother Lathrop in Lauren and Andy Whitfield's yard (607 Main Street) to watch the parade together! There is some parking in the Whitfield's driveway, but you may also park on Macedonia Street.
- **December 8** Tour of Churches Ridge Spring 2-4pm
- **December 15** Edgefield Tour of Churches 2-4pm
- **December 17** ECOR 52nd birthday and Parish Status Celebration (Trinity) 6pm. Eucharist followed by a celebration Covered dish dinner. Please plan to attend. The **Bishop** will be in attendance at Trinity.
- **December 20** Cook Dinner for Military Retreat at Gravatt - Homemade Cookies are requested to keep the military happy for 2 days!
- **December 24** Christmas Eve 4:00pm Our Saviour
- **December 25** Christmas Day 10:00am at Our Savior



THANKS **FOR** DONATING!

Miss Nikki, our beloved Sunday School Teacher, suffered significant damage to her roof and home from Hurricane Helene. We are committed to helping her meet her deductible and replace any damaged furniture or household goods.

Your generous contributions have already made a difference—we have collected \$1,010.00 towards her \$1,500.00 deductible.

Please continue to support this cause. Place your donation in an envelope and designate it to the Miss Nikki Fund.



It's almost that time again! A favorite tradition at Gravatt's Military Retreat is the Christmas Treat Table. They keep it filled all weekend long.

As you are doing your holiday baking, please bake an extra batch of holiday treats for these families who serve us all year long.

Please deliver treats to Sarah Schwarz or Mother Lathrop by December 20th so we can deliver them to Gravatt when we cook dinner for the Military Retreat. Thank you!

If you plan to attend to help cook and serve please be at Camp Gravatt at 3pm. on December 20th!



☀️ Sunday Afternoon Monthly Services ☀️

December: December 22 - Our Saviour

January 19 at Grace

February 23 at Our Saviour

ALL SERVICES ARE AT 3:00PM

Good news! Our Sunday afternoon monthly services will continue on November 24th at Trinity. Each Sunday, we see more and more attendees, and we couldn't be more grateful.

Looking forward to seeing everyone there! 😊🙏



Safety Update

The Vestry met with Sheriff Jody Rowland on November 6 to begin exploring ways of keeping our community safe. We are also in the beginning stages of forming a committee to develop plans for all three of our campuses, not only in the event of a visitor we are unsure about, but also in the event of other things, such as tornados, fires, medical emergencies, etc. If you would like to be on that Committee, please let Mother Lathrop know.



Ways you can SERVE

👤 Request for Volunteers to Help with Livestreaming 👤

We are testing to see if the live streaming can be simplified a little and just stream off our phones. Once we get that testing done Please let us know as the process will be greatly simplified and should be quite easy.

If you're interested in helping, please contact Jay Summer at 330-991-3157 or jaysummersc@gmail.com.

Your help would mean the world! ✨💡



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- Chapstick
- Tree Ornament
- Bar soap
- Knit hats, scarves, gloves
- Individually wrapped candy



 **Bingo at the Edgefield Senior Center!** 

Every 3rd Thursday, join us for Bingo at the Edgefield Senior Center from 9am to 11am. We're looking for volunteers to help purchase gifts or call Bingo.

If you're interested in lending a hand, please contact Cindy Vann at 706-833-3328.

Hope to see you there!  

 **Sunday Food Collections - If You Bring It, We Will Deliver It!** 


In an effort to simplify our Outreach Ministries, we encourage you to bring donations whenever the spirit moves you! We will sort and transport the donations to the proper agencies.

Requested Items:

- Non-perishable food items (no glass)
- Spices
- Toiletries
- Cleaning supplies
- Pet food

Please do not include any clothing.

For additional information, please contact Jerrold Watson or Ric Vann.

Thank you for your generosity! 



Acolyting is a cherished ministry within our church, and it holds a special place in my heart because I had the privilege of serving as an acolyte. It was one of my favorite activities, alongside Youth Group. Through acolyting, I learned the value of teamwork, collaborating with fellow acolytes and other servers, and experienced the profound honor of serving at the altar with our priests.

The Importance of Acolyting:

- **Learning the Liturgy:** Serving as an acolyte offers children and youth a unique opportunity to learn and engage with the liturgy firsthand.
- **Building Community:** It fosters a sense of teamwork and community among our young members.
- **Spiritual Growth:** Being close to the altar and participating in the services can deepen their spiritual connection and understanding.
- **Leadership Development:** Acolyting helps develop leadership skills and responsibility.

Currently, we have a small group of dedicated acolytes, and my vision is to grow this ministry into regular teams. I want our younger children to eagerly anticipate becoming acolytes. To support this growth, we will need additional robes in various sizes for each of our churches.

Your Generosity Matters: Your donations will enable us to expand our acolyte program, providing the necessary resources and robes for our young members.

Thank you for helping us nurture the next generation of church leaders!



Dana Buchli
James Courtney
Kirk Curran
Suzanne Derrick
Radley Edwards
Angela Fay
Nancy Gilliam
Linda Heos
Bob Hodges
Harriet Boatwright Huiet
Meg Jolly
Joe Lojewski
Jason and Mary Mathis
William McCollough



Art Amos
Pauline Berry
Emma Lou Easley
John Eubanks
Carolyn Lovell
Rick Lovell
Susie Watson



Liz Jordan
Christopher Brooks Thelen
EllenCourtney
Steve Jordan
Ben Mims

Rebekah Robeson
Carol Rhoades
Vic Roof
Brannon Rowland
Mary Lou Seymour
Joe Smith
Libba Ingram Zion

Vestry Members

Jean Covar 2024
Deborah Neese 2024
Bettis Rainsford Jr. 2025
Kathie Stallworth 2025
Sarah Schwarz 2025
Muffy Sander 2026
Caleb Connor 2026
Jay Summer 2026

Rev Lathrop Mosley -Rector
Cindy Vann - Senior Warden
Sarah Schwarz - Junior Warden
Scotty Scott - Treasurer
Sarah Schwarz -Assistant Treasurer

Church Office

313 Simpkins Street
Edgefield, SC 29824
Office Mailing Address:
PO Box 508
Edgefield, SC 29824



Regular Office Hours:
Monday: 9-1
Tuesday: 10-1
Wednesday: 9-1
Thursday: By Appointment
Friday: Office Closed
Vicar's Cell: 864-497-3205



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