



ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2025 - 8:00 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

*This service booklet is used at both the 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. services.
The hymns, choral, and organ music listed are for the 10:30 service only.*

PRELUDE Rorate Caeli

Jeanne Demessieux (1921-1968)

THE BIDDING FOR ADVENT

Celebrant Dear People of God: In the season of Advent, we are exhorted to keep vigil for the coming of the Lord, as the scriptures call to us that the gloom of night is far gone, and that the day of salvation draws near. Therefore, I invite you in this time to draw near with faith, that the Sun of Righteousness would rise in our hearts, and that we would be enlightened by the brightness of the Lord when he comes again in glory.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

8:00 Tim and Didi Noelker
10:30 Sarah, Luke, Emma, and Boardie Fouke

The candle for the First Sunday of Advent is lit.

The Advent Wreath is a visual symbol marking the progress of the season of Advent.

Lector A reading from the Gospel according to Mark. (Mark 13:35-36)

Therefore, keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly.

Celebrant Let us keep awake,
People **For the Son of Man is coming.**

THE WORD OF GOD

- 8:00 *The People stand as the procession enters. The service begins with the Opening Acclamation.*
- 10:30 *The People stand and sing the hymn.*

HYMN 68: "Rejoice! rejoice, believers"

Llangloffan

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy, and living God.
People **You come to your people and set them free.**

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.**

TRISAGION

- 8:00 *Said by all, three times*

Celebrant Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
People **Have mercy upon us.**

- 10:30 *Sung by all, three times (Hymnal S 102)*

after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924)

All Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The People sit.

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills;

all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say,

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples;

they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks;

nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 122 *Laetatus sum*

- 8:00 *Said responsively by half verse*

- 10:30 *Sung by the Choir*

Anglican Chant: G. C. Martin

- 1 I was glad when they said to me, *
"Let us go to the house of the Lord."
- 2 Now our feet are standing *
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
- 3 Jerusalem is built as a city *
that is at unity with itself;

- 4 To which the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord, *
**the assembly of Israel,
to praise the Name of the Lord.**
- 5 For there are the thrones of judgment, *
the thrones of the house of David.
- 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: *
"May they prosper who love you.
- 7 Peace be within your walls *
and quietness within your towers.
- 8 For my brethren and companions' sake, *
I pray for your prosperity.
- 9 Because of the house of the Lord our God, *
I will seek to do you good."

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 13:11-14

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The People stand.

HYMN 53: "Once he came in blessing"

Gottes Sohn ist kommen

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 24:36-44

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Nathan Haydon

A period of silence is kept. Then the People stand.

THE NICENE CREED

Celebrant Let us affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

All **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

Lector It is now the moment for us to wake from sleep, for salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers. With our feet standing in the house of the Lord, let us seek the salvation of all and pray for the needs of the world, saying, "May the Lord teach us his ways; / May we walk in the light of the Lord."

The People kneel, as able.

We pray for the Church of God, remembering Sarah, Archbishop-elect of Canterbury; Sean, Presiding Bishop; Deon, our Bishop; and for the clergy and ministry leaders of St. Peter's. May we all put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for darkness, for the night is far gone, and the day is near.

In our diocesan cycle we pray for the Episcopal Church of the Holy Communion in University City, and the Episcopal Church of All Saints and Ascension, our Companion Community. In the Anglican Communion, we pray for the Anglican Church in Australia. May the Lord teach us his ways;

People **May we walk in the light of the Lord.**

Lector We pray for those in authority here and in all places, remembering Donald, our President, and Mike, our Governor. May those in leadership everywhere labor to establish justice and equity, for the Lord will judge between the nations from the thrones of judgment. Let there be peace in all places, that swords would be beat into ploughshares; spears into pruning-hooks; that no sword would be lifted against another; and war would be learned no more. May the Lord teach us his ways;

People **May we walk in the light of the Lord.**

Lector We pray for those with any need in our parish and community, remembering Garth Fort, [_____,] and Holly Parks. For the sake of our companions, let us seek to do good for those in need, that all would prosper in body and soul. May the Lord teach us his ways;

People **May we walk in the light of the Lord.**

Lector We remember before God those departed [especially ____]. May those who have gone to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, be at rest within walls of peace. May the Lord teach us his ways;

People **May we walk in the light of the Lord.**

Lector Let us pray for our own needs, and for those of others.

Silence is kept.

Celebrant Almighty God, hear our prayers, and fulfill those desires that are kindled in our hearts by your Spirit, that being filled with the oil of your grace, we may shine as bright lights at the coming of your Son; through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

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

Silence is kept.

Celebrant Most merciful God,
All **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.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The People stand.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

After the Peace, the People sit.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS

•10:30 BLESSING OF VESTMENTS AND PARAMENTS

*These vestments and paraments are given to the Glory of God
in loving memory of Barbara Wilbanks Roberts,
by John, Allison, and Sarah Roberts.*

Celebrant You shall make holy garments for Aaron, for glory and for beauty.

Celebrant Clothe your ministers with righteousness:
People **Let your people sing with joy.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you revealed your Son clothed in majesty and glory: Accept these vestments and paraments for the use of the clergy and the adornment of your Church. May the clergy, being clothed with humility as they minister to you, show forth the Lord's eternal splendor; and let your sanctuary be hallowed in beauty; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

Everyone participating in worship is invited to make an offering in gratitude for God's generosity. If you would like to make an offering, you may scan the code to the right and follow the prompts.



ANTHEM

Gerre Hancock (1934-2012)

Kyrie eleison. (*Lord have mercy.*)

The Lord will surely come and not delay, and He will bring to light the things hidden in darkness.
The Lord will surely come, and will manifest Himself to all nations.

Therefore work out your own salvation with fear and trembling that you may be blameless and innocent, Children of God without blemish.

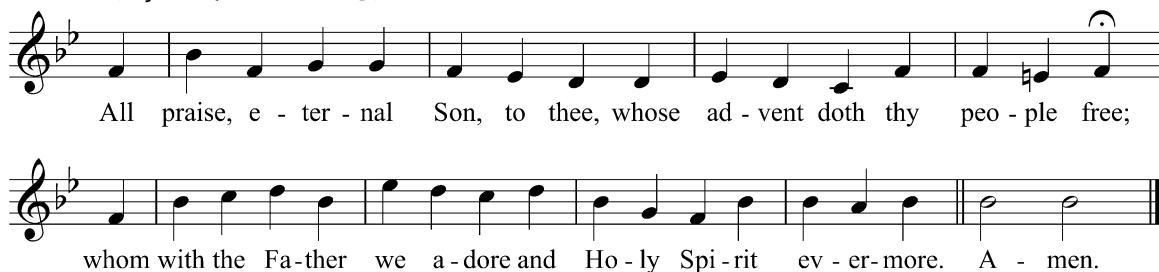
Kyrie eleison.

- *Philippians 2 and the Benedictus Antiphon
for the Fourth Sunday of Advent*

The People stand and sing.

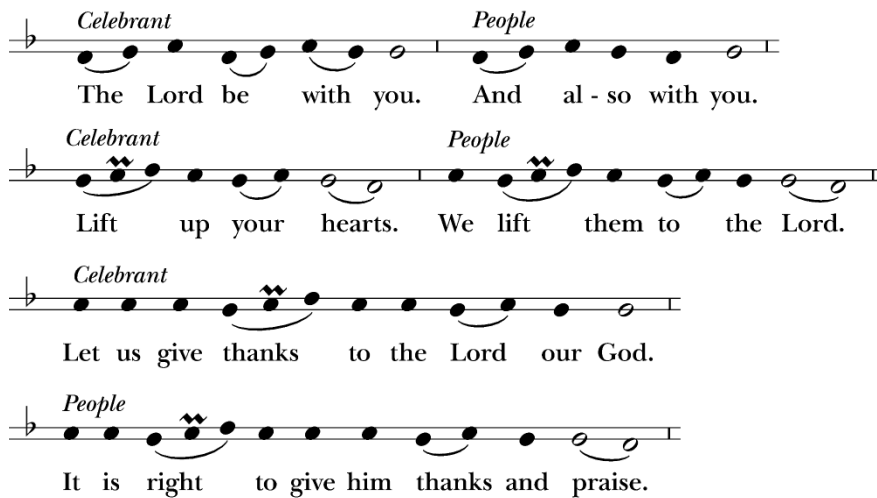
THE PRESENTATION (*Hymn 76, stanza 5*)

Winchester New



- *Charles Coffin, tr. C. Winfred Douglas*

- 8:00 *Said by all*
- 10:30 *Sung by all*



Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS ET BENEDICTUS

- 8:00 *Said by all*
- 10:30 *Sung by all* (Hymnal S 127)

Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The People kneel, as able.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All **We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Peter, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.



Celebrant And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM

Celebrant This is the true Bread which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.

People **Whoever eats this Bread will live for ever.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

*All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion
by coming to the altar rail where you may kneel or stand.*

Please tell the clergy if you require gluten-free Bread.

*Crossing your arms over your chest will let the clergy know
you would like to receive a blessing but not the Bread and/or Wine.*

COMMUNIO *Dominus dabit benignitatem*

Plainsong, Mode 1

The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will bring forth its increase.

– Psalm 85

MOTET The Advent Prose

Judith Weir (b. 1954)

Drop down ye heavens from above, And let the skies pour down righteousness. Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people; My salvation shall not tarry. I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions. Fear not, for I will save thee; For I am the Lord thy God, The holy one of Israel, thy redeemer. Drop down ye heavens from above, And let the skies pour down righteousness.

– Isaiah 45:8

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

The People kneel, as able.

All **Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Celebrant May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The People stand.

HYMN 57: "Lo! he comes, with clouds descending"

Helmsley

THE DISMISSAL

Priest Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

("Sleepers, wake! a voice astounds us;" Hymn 61)

MUSIC NOTES Gerre Hancock (1934-2012) was the organist and master of the choristers at St. Thomas Church, New York City. From this position, Hancock exerted great influence over American church through many channels, including through his teaching, improvisation, and composition. One such composition to have found an established place in the repertoire of the Episcopal Church is his Advent anthem "The Lord will surely come." The anthem is framed by the invocation "Kyrie eleison" sung to the familiar Advent hymn melody *Conditor alme siderum* (Hymn 60). The anthem was written in honor of John Loessi, on the 25th anniversary of his association with the music program of First Wayne United Church in Fort Wayne, Ind.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Given to the glory of God in loving memory of James and Virginia Crawford,
by their children and family.

Given to the glory of God in honor of Jane Laping
by her grandchildren, William and Margaret;
and in celebration of the birthday of Anne Timberlake,
by her family.

Given to the glory of God in loving memory of Willard and Patsy Walker,
and her beloved sister Jane Walker, by the Walker family.

THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

8:00 A.M.

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Rev. David Hodges
<i>Preacher</i>	The Rev. Dr. Nathan Haydon
<i>Organ</i>	David Sinden
<i>Lectors</i>	Brig Buettner, Jane Gilbert
<i>Ushers</i>	Penny George, Mokie Carmichael
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Didi Noelker

10:30 A.M.

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Rev. David Hodges
<i>Preacher</i>	The Rev. Dr. Nathan Haydon
<i>Musicians</i>	The St. Peter's Choir David Sinden, Organist and Choirmaster
<i>Acolyte Masters</i>	Katelyn Wilson, Charlie Claggett
<i>Acolytes</i>	Alice Craig, Locke Carmichael, Janie Weiss
<i>Lectors</i>	DeWayne Trainer, Wendy Olk
<i>Ushers</i>	Josh Schafer, Luke Fouke, Matt Sokolich, Mark Pye
<i>Altar Guild</i>	DeWayne Trainer
<i>Monday Counters</i>	June Sellenriek, Annette Goldman

PRAYER LIST

For Family and Friends: Garth Fort, Holly Parks

For the Men and Women of the Armed Forces: Alexandra Maranto

For Those Committed to Our Ongoing Prayers: Lee Arten, Victor Belyan, Bev Bouchard, Virginie Brightman, Craig Campbell, Wendell Covington, Ralph Dacey, Kathryn Dewein, Margaret Ruth Dewein, Bonnie and Rich Essick, Prissy Evans, Nolan Fagan, Teenie Followell, Don Franz, Margie Franz, Christy Garesche, Annette Goldman, Maria Greider, John Hartman, Emily Hintz, Jeff Hirsch, Jack Howard, Ian, Mike Kolman, John Marshall, Kary Matthews, Sharon Trainer Mauney, Bob Messey, Cheryl Meyer, Randy Meyer, Liza Nash, Chris O'Connor, Maddie O'Keefe, David Orlowski, Holly Parks, Kimberly Penning, Howard Price, Chi Chi Rassieur, Sara Rigel, Judith Roos, Hudson Rosencrans, Sally Russell, June Sellenriek, Martha Shaffer, Jill Smock, Dewayne Stapes, Abbot Thomas, Mia Tiefenbrunn, Anne Wetzel, Rolla Wetzel, and Goldie Wirth

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP & MUSIC

CONCERT: EARLY MUSIC MISSOURI

Next Sunday, December 7, at 3:00 p.m. Gloria in Excelsis Deo! featuring masterpieces by G. F. Handel, Antonio Vivaldi, and Arcangelo Corelli. The program includes Corelli's beloved *Christmas Concerto*, Handel's radiant *Gloria* for solo soprano, and Vivaldi's joyful *Gloria* for choir, soloists, strings, Baroque oboe, and trumpet. Come enjoy an afternoon of exceptional Baroque music in the beautiful acoustic of St. Peter's. \$20 suggested donation at the door with discounts for students.

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

A Service of Lessons and Carols for Advent will be held on Sunday, December 14, at 5:00 p.m. This popular service reflects the Advent season's growing anticipation. The St. Peter's Choir sing music by G.P. da Palestrina, Aaron Copland, Judith Weir, Francis Pott, James MacMillan, Matthew Martin, Jessica Nelson, and Kerensa Briggs. A recital of Advent music, played by organists Joseph Arndt and David Sinden, begins a few minutes after 4:30 p.m. A festive reception will follow the service.

DONATE TO CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

The flowers and greens used to beautify the sanctuary for the Christmas Season are an annual cost that is graciously offset by the generosity of our parishioners. We hope that you will contribute \$50.00 or more to the general cost, in loving memory or in honor/thanksgiving of loved ones. You may make your donation and acknowledgment by scanning the QR code, or complete a "Christmas Flowers" form found in the narthex and undercroft. All donations and acknowledgments must be placed by Monday, December 15.



BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

For many, Christmas can be an occasion to seek solace rather than celebration. Remembering that God shares in our sorrows as well as our joys, all are welcome to attend a "Blue Christmas" service on Wednesday, December 17, at 5:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ST. PETER'S

St. Peter's will offer three services for Christmas Eve and one on Christmas Day:

Christmas Eve - December 24

- 4:00 p.m. Christmas Pageant and Holy Eucharist: Family friendly and led by the children of St. Peter's
- 6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist: A merry, traditional service with the full choir
- 9:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist: An intimate and festive gathering of celebration with carols

Christmas Day - December 25

- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist: A joyful and quiet celebration of the birth of our Savior

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY

FAMILY CHRISTMAS COOKIE DECORATING PARTY

This Saturday, December 6, at 1:00 p.m., families are invited to a festive afternoon in the Undercroft for a joyful Christmas Cookie Decorating Party, complete with cookies, sprinkles, icing, and plenty of holiday cheer. Come share in the fun as we decorate cookies, sip something warm, and celebrate the anticipation of Christmas with family, friends, and community.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

- Children's Chapel is offered in Grace Chapel from 10:15 to 10:25 a.m. All children and parents are invited. Children are then escorted down to their Sunday school classes.
- Sunday School classes begin at 10:30 a.m.
- Nursery is offered in the lower level of the Little Building from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Please contact Didi Noelker, Director of Children & Family Ministries, at dnoelker@specstl.org with any questions.

YOUTH GROUP

St. Peter's Youth Group meets tonight at 5:00 p.m. in the confirmation classroom downstairs (or, as the St. Peter's youth recently renamed it: "SPY HQ"). All youth, grades 6-12, are invited to be part of this Sunday evening community where we share in discussions about faith, life, and how the two intersect - plus have plenty of fun along the way. This week, we are going to have some fun with pizza and Game Night! For more information, contact the Rev. Zack Rugenstone at zackr@specstl.org. NOTE: No Youth Group on Sunday, November 30.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

We would love to have your child involved in this year's Christmas Pageant. Children, age 4 to Grade 5, will have costumed parts, and students in Grade 6 and above will be the readers. It is a remarkable experience for a child to help recreate the story of the Nativity during the service of Holy Eucharist on Christmas Eve, December 24, at 4:00 p.m. There will be one mandatory rehearsal on Saturday, December 20, at 10:00 a.m. More information will be coming to families soon. Please contact Didi Noelker if you have questions at dnoelker@gmail.com.

STEWARDSHIP & PARISH LIFE

ADVENT WREATH "TO GO" WORKSHOP TODAY

Be sure to stop in the Undercroft following both services to pick up your supplies to make your own Advent Wreath. We'll have everything you need including directions and a paper bag if you want to take your supplies and assemble your Advent Wreath at home.

END-OF-YEAR GIVING

We invite you to reflect on the blessings of this past year and consider making an end-of-year gift to support the mission of St. Peter's. Your generosity enables us to provide meaningful ministries, maintain our sacred spaces, and serve as a place of faith and community for all who seek it. Please note that all offerings for 2025 must be postmarked on or before Wednesday, December 31, 2025. There are many ways to give, including one-time gifts, charitable IRA rollovers, stock donations, or by starting or updating your online giving. Visit www.specstl.org/give. Thank you!

FRIDAY MORNING PRAYER GROUP

The Prayer Group is open to all. The group meets on Fridays at 10:00 a.m. in the Elliot Room. This group also focuses on the current week's Gospel to prepare for a more meaningful Sunday worship experience. For information, please contact Sally Lemkemeier at lemkemeier@aol.com

ST. PETER'S GUILD

At the St. Peter's Guild gathering on Tuesday, December 2, at 10:30 a.m., we are delighted to welcome Bev Schuetz of History Talks for her engaging program, "The Treacherous, The Bold, and The Brilliant!" In this lively presentation, Bev will introduce us to three remarkable women who made their mark on history by giving voice to the voiceless.

CHILDREN'S ART SHOW RECEPTION

After the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, December 7, join us for a joyful celebration of our children's artwork in the Undercroft! Kids can create LEGO-printed Christmas cards while everyone enjoys cookies and hot chocolate while viewing the wonderful pieces from St. Peter's children and youth.

OUTREACH

GIVING TREE DRIVE

A tree in the Narthex is adorned with ornamental tags listing gifts for St. Peter's Blessing Bags and our outreach ministry partners - Welcome Neighbor, Urban League, and GiFT (Giving is a Family Tradition). Tags can be taken from the tree and returned to the church with corresponding unwrapped gifts by Monday, December 8. You may also shop from our Amazon Giving Tree Wishlist. Just scan the QR code and have items sent directly to the church. Thank you!



FOOD BAGS DISTRIBUTED TODAY

Today we are distributing more food bags for our December food drive in support of the Trinity Food Ministry. This will be our last food drive of the year and the last opportunity to reach our goal of 1,500 bags donated in 2025. The need has never been greater. If you did not pick up a bag last Sunday, please take a bag home today and return it next Sunday, December 7. Thank you for your generosity!

TRINITY HOT LUNCH

Several times a year, St. Peter's parishioners volunteer to prepare and serve a meal at Trinity Episcopal Church in the Central West End. The next opportunity will be Sunday, December 7. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Jim Gilbert at hockeygolf@live.com

COAT DRIVE THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who contributed to the coat drive for Trinity Church. We collected 34 coats, 64 survival blankets, 21 sets of long underwear, 42 hats, 80 toe warmers, 58 pairs of socks, and 20 pairs of gloves. These items will allow unhoused and underhoused men to stay warm this winter. Thank you!

FORMATION

RECTOR'S FORUM AND BREAKFAST

This season, we welcome guest speakers from across our parish and the wider St. Louis community to join us for Rector's Forum. Each week will bring a new voice, a new perspective, and a new opportunity to explore how faith connects with the world around us. Come enjoy a hearty breakfast (beginning at 8:45 a.m.) and conversation/speakers (beginning at 9:15 a.m.). The cost of breakfast is \$9. Kids under 5 eat free!

Upcoming Rector's Forums:



December 7: Robert Boyle, CEO & Founder of Justine PETERSEN

Robert will share how his organization is transforming financial opportunity for thousands of individuals and families in St. Louis and beyond. Drawing on a legacy of social worker and innovator, Justine M. Petersen, he will speak about the organization's work at the intersection of social work and banking - connecting low- and moderate-income households with the tools, education, and lending products needed to build credit, access homeownership, launch small businesses, and create lasting, intergenerational wealth.



December 14: LaChrisa Crenshaw, The Youth & Family Center

LaChrisa Crenshaw from the Youth & Family Center (YFC) will share the powerful, ongoing story of an organization that has been strengthening St. Louis families for more than 135 years. The YFC continues to respond to the needs of low-income families with dignity, creativity, and care. LaChrisa's presentation will offer a look at the center's current initiatives and its transformative vision for the whole family.



December 21: Dr. Isaac Arten, St. Peter's Theologian in Residence

Dr. Isaac Arten will offer a rich and accessible exploration of the Incarnation. Drawing on scripture, theological tradition, contemporary insights, Dr. Arten will reflect on what it means for God to enter fully into human life, and how this central mystery of the faith shapes our understanding of grace, hope, and the dignity of every person. His presentation will invite us to consider how the Incarnation continues to transform the Church's life and our own daily practices of faith.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PETER'S

Sunday	Nov. 30	The First Sunday of Advent	
		8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist	
		8:45 a.m. Parish Breakfast	
		Advent Wreath Workshop	<i>Undercroft</i>
		9:00 a.m. Nursery Care Opens	<i>Little Building</i>
		9:15 a.m. Rector's Forum	<i>Undercroft</i>
		10:00 a.m. Nursery	
		10:15 a.m. Children's Chapel	<i>Grace Chapel</i>
		10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist	
		Sunday School	<i>Classrooms</i>
		11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour	
		Advent Wreath Workshop	
Tuesday	Dec. 2	7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer	<i>Grace Chapel</i>
		8:30 a.m. Zoom Bible Study	<i>Online</i>
		10:30 a.m. St. Peter's Guild	<i>Undercroft</i>
Wednesday	Dec. 3	7:30 a.m. Rector's Bible Study	<i>Elliot Room</i>
		5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist	<i>Grace Chapel</i>
Thursday	Dec. 4	7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer	<i>Grace Chapel</i>
		10:00 a.m. Centering Prayer	<i>Grace Chapel</i>
		5:15 p.m. Probationers Rehearsal	<i>Choir Room</i>
		6:00 p.m. Choristers Rehearsal	<i>Choir Room</i>
		7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	<i>Choir Room</i>
Friday	Dec. 5	8:00 a.m. A.A.	<i>Classroom</i>
Saturday	Dec. 6	1:00 p.m. Christmas Cookie Decorating	<i>Undercroft</i>
Sunday	Dec. 7	The Second Sunday of Advent	
		8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist	
		8:45 a.m. Parish Breakfast	
		9:00 a.m. Nursery Care Opens	<i>Little Building</i>
		9:15 a.m. Rector's Forum	<i>Undercroft</i>
		10:15 a.m. Children's Chapel	<i>Grace Chapel</i>
		10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist	
		Sunday School	<i>Classrooms</i>
		11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour	
		Children's Art Exhibit Reception	<i>Undercroft</i>
		3:00 p.m. Concert: Early Music Missouri	

WELCOME TO ST. PETER'S

If you are visiting St. Peter's, we would love to share more information with you about our shared life and ministry! Please take a red welcome bag on your way out the door. In it you'll find information about our worship, formation, and fellowship opportunities as well as information for families. You can also scan the QR codes below to get connected with us and learn more.



New Visitor Form



Give Online



News & Events

THE PARISH STAFF

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The Rev. Dr. Nathan Haydon, <i>Associate Rector</i>	nhaydon@specstl.org
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THE VESTRY

Cyd Alloway, Peter Boumgarden, Barbara Brinkman (Secretary, *ex officio*),
Margaret Carmichael, Clark Davis, Amy Hilmer, Rich Huck (Senior Warden),
Noelle Miles, Tim Noelker, Logan O'Connor, Michael Orlowski,
William Schoenecker, Traci Scudi, Matt Sokolich, and Ann Sutter Spann (Junior Warden)



ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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