



St. Peter's Church  
IN THE GREAT VALLEY

✠  
1700

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 28, 2021 — 11:15 AM

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO

### WORD OF GOD

*Welcome! It is our wish that you feel at home in this place, and that you experience God's presence in heart, mind, and spirit.*

*In this leaflet the words to be said by all are **bolded**.*

*As we prepare for worship you are warmly invited to enter into silence to best appreciate the music that is offered.*

**Voluntary** *Variations on "O Come Emmanuel"*

Daniel Pinkham (1923-2007)

I. Joyous II. Bold III. Spirited IV. Tranquil V. Serene

**Hymn 58** *Lo! he comes, with clouds descending*

*St Thomas*

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for our sal -  
2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in dread - ful  
3 Those dear to - kens of his pas - sion still his daz - zling  
4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on thine e -

va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing  
ma - jes - ty; those who set at nought and sold him,  
bo - dy bears, cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion  
ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the power and glo - ry;

swell the tri - umph of his train: Al - le - lu - ia!  
 pierced, and nailed him to the tree, deep - ly wail - ing,  
 to his ran - somed wor - ship - ers; with what rap - ture,  
 claim the king - dom for thine own: Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.  
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

*The people standing, the Presider says*

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

*People* And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

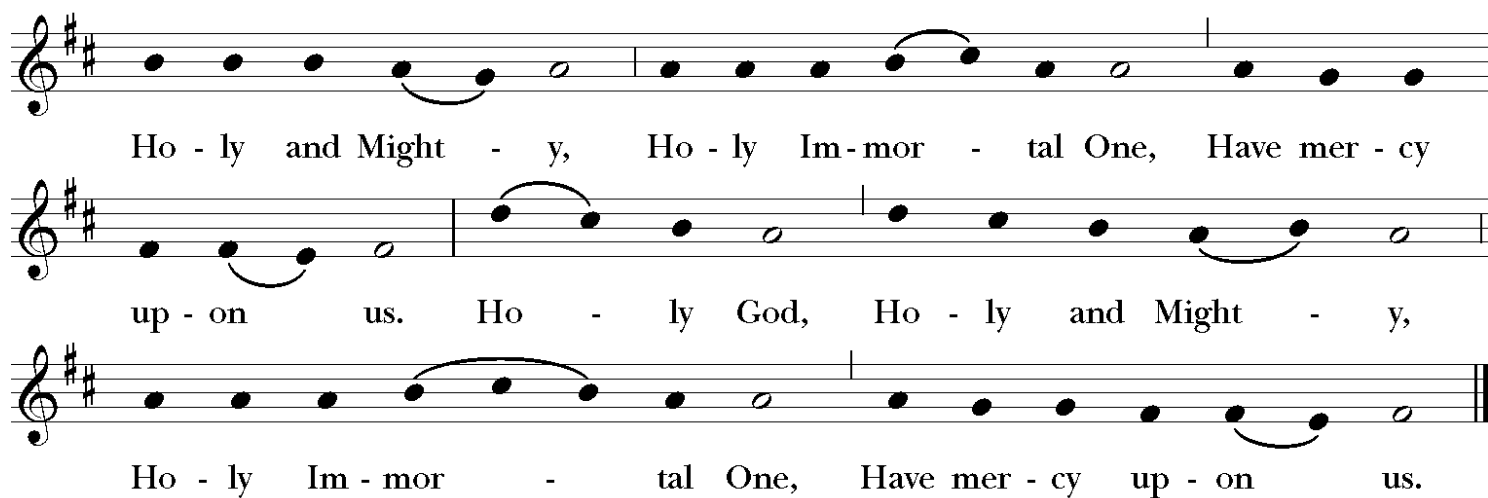
*Presider* Almighty God,

*People* 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.

## Hymnal S-100 *Trisagion*

David Hurd (b. 1950)

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im -  
 mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us. Ho - ly God,



## The Collect of the Day

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* 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 Lesson

*Jeremiah 33:14-16*

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**



- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
my God, I put my trust in you; \*  
let me not be humiliated,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes. [Antiphon]
- 3 Show me your ways, O Lord, \*  
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long. [Antiphon]
- 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, \*  
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \*  
remember me according to your love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord. [Antiphon]
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; \*  
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right \*  
and teaches his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness \*  
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies. [Antiphon]

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn 56 vs. 1-4 *O come, O come, Emmanuel*

*Veni, veni, Emmanuel*



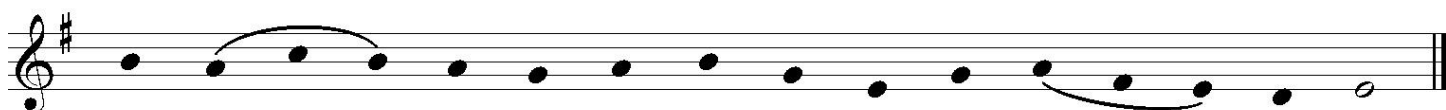
(Dec. 23) 1	O	come,	O	come,	Em - man	-	u - el,	and	ran - som
(Dec. 17) 2	O	come,	thou	Wis - dom	from		on high,	who	or - derest
(Dec. 18) 3	O	come,	O	come,	thou Lord		of might,	who	to thy
(Dec. 19) 4	O	come,	thou	Branch	of Jes	-	se's tree,	free	them from
(Dec. 20) 5	O	come,	thou	Key	of Da	-	vid, come,	and	o - pen
(Dec. 21) 6	O	come,	thou	Day - spring	from		on high,	and	cheer us
(Dec. 22) 7	O	come,	De - sire	of na	-	tions,	bind	in	one the
(Dec. 23) 8	O	come,	O	come,	Em - man	-	u - el,	and	ran - som



1	cap - tive	Is -	ra - el,	that	mourns	in	lone - ly	ex -	ile
2	all	things	might -	i - ly;	to	us	the	path	of know - ledge
3	tribes	on	Si -	nai's	height	in	an -	cient	times didst give the
4	Sa -	tan's	ty -	ran - ny	that	trust	thy	might - y	power to
5	wide	our	heaven -	ly	home;	make	safe	the	way that leads on
6	by	thy	draw -	ing	nigh;	dis -	perse	the	gloom - y clouds of
7	hearts	of	all	man -	kind;	bid	thou	our	sad di - vi - sions
8	cap -	tive	Is -	ra - el,	that	mourns	in	lone - ly	ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.  
3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.  
4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.  
6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.  
7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.  
8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

## The Holy Gospel

*Luke 21:25-36*

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People* **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

*Deacon* The Gospel of our Savior.

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

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

*Presider* In the hushed anticipation of your coming, O God, kindle within us the desire to remain on guard; that we might be ready for your coming, and eager to pray.

*Intercessor* O God, the days are surely coming when all your promises will be fulfilled to your faithful children. We pray for the church, especially Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael our Presiding Bishop; Daniel, our bishop; Abigail and Chris, our priests; Jeff our deacon; and all the people of St. Peter's, that we might fulfill our promises to you, and be forgiven for all our failures.

Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor* In your time, O God, a righteous branch sprang up and you brought justice and righteousness in every land. We pray for our nation, and all nations, that your peace would be manifest in every corner of the earth.

Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor* In your Kingdom, O God, you bring your people safety and comfort. We pray for the sick, the suffering, and those in distress of any kind especially all those on our parish prayer list; that you would heal all injuries, comfort all grief, and settle all wrongs.

Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor* Your great works of redemption, O God, span the ages. We pray for those who rejoice this week that they might be filled with joy and gladness.

Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor* In the fullness of time, O God, you sent your son, to be born of our sister Mary. And his name was Emmanuel: God With Us. We thank you for your Presence with us, and we pray that you might be always present with those whom we love but see no longer, especially Miranda Scott Warner, Andrea Penn Warner, Roger Mosvick, and Andrew W. Grancio, for whom our altar memorials are given.

Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

*Presider* Come among us O God, and hear our prayers; so that when your Son Jesus comes among riding on a cloud and with great power and might, we might come to adore him. **Amen.**



## The Confession of Sin

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

*Silence may be kept.*

*People* **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.

*Presider* 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 Peace

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Please remain at your place and exchange the Peace with a wave and greeting from where you are. Thank you!*

## Welcome and Announcements



## THE HOLY COMMUNION

*All who seek a closer relationship with God, including children, are invited and encouraged to participate in Holy Communion.*

*Please let the clergy know if you would like a gluten-free wafer.*

*If you do not wish to receive communion, you may cross your arms over your chest and receive a no touch blessing.*

## The Anthem at the Offertory

*The Truth Sent from Above*

English trad. Carol collected by Cecil Sharp  
arranged by Richard Lloyd (b. 1933)

This is the truth sent from above,  
The truth of God, the God of love;  
Therefore don't turn me from your door,  
But hearken all, both rich and poor.

The first thing, which I do relate,  
That God at first did man create;  
The next thing, which to you I tell,  
Woman was made with him to dwell.

Then after this, 'twas God's own choice  
To place them both in paradise,  
There to remain from evil free  
Except they ate of such a tree.

But they did eat, which was a sin,  
And thus their ruin did begin;  
Ruined themselves, both you and me,  
An all of their posterity.

Thus we were heirs to endless woes,  
Till God the Lord did interpose;  
For so a promise soon did run  
That he'd redeem us with a Son,

*Text: Traditional*

*Lasst uns erfreuen*

## **The Doxology**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

*Eucharistic Prayer B*

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

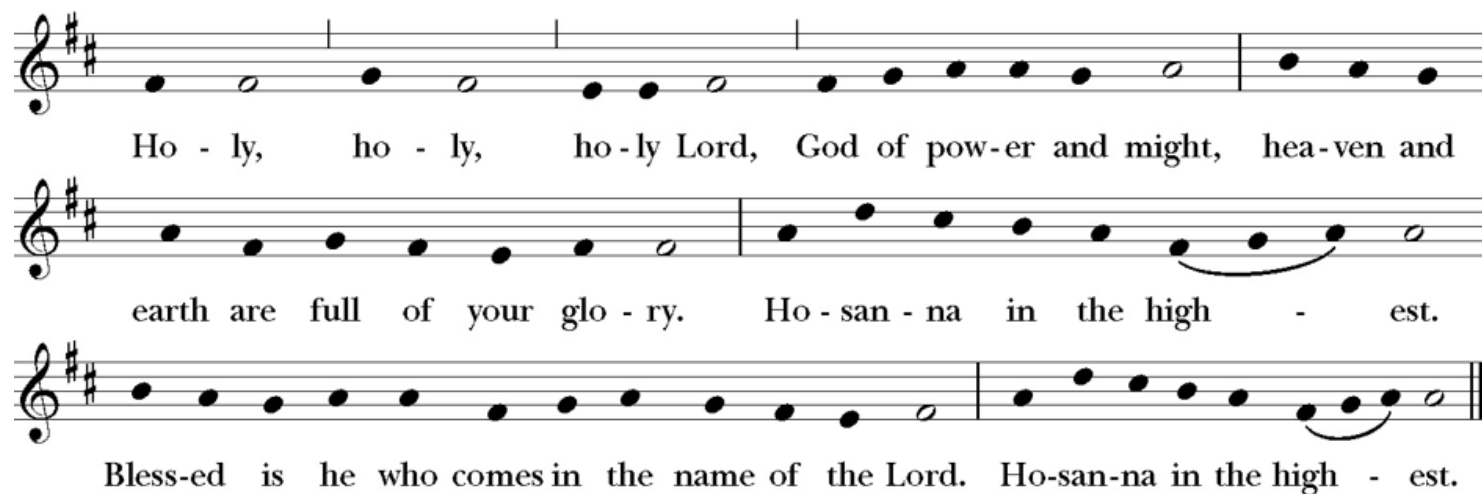
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you,  
Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

*Here, a Proper Preface is said on all Sundays as appointed.*

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:

**Hymnal S-124** *Sanctus*

David Hurd (b. 1950)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, hea-ven and  
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

*Then the Presider continues*

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,

*Presider and People*

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

*The Presider continues*

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 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. **Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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

**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 Presider breaks the consecrated Bread.*

### **Hymnal S-161 *Agnus Dei***

David Hurd (b. 1950)

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

*Facing the people, the Presider says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*Those worshipping at home and those worshipping at St. Peter's join in the following prayer for spiritual communion.*

**Gracious God we believe that you are present in the Holy Sacrament. As people worshipping in different places, your love unites us. We affirm that we are one in the body of Christ. Amen.**

### **The Anthem at Communion**

*Mercy and Truth are Met*

Ned Rorem (b. 1923)

Mercy and truth are met together,  
righteousness and peace have kissed.  
Truth shall spring out of the earth,  
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.  
Yes, the Lord shall show loving kindness,  
and our land shall yield her increase.  
Righteousness shall go before him,  
and peace shall be the pathway of his steps.  
Mercy and truth are met together. Amen.

*Text: Psalm 85: 10-13*

### **The Post-Communion Prayer**

*Presider and People*

**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.**

### **The Blessing**

*The Presider blesses the People.*

*People*      **Amen.**

# Hymn 72 *Hark! the glad sound!*

Richmond

*Descant*

4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

1 Hark! the glad sound! the Sa - vior comes, the Sa - vior  
 2 He comes, the pri - soners to re - lease in Sa - tan's  
 3 He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

prom - ised long; let ev - ery heart pre -  
 bond - age held; the gates of brass be -  
 soul to cure; and with the trea - sures  
 shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.

pare a throne, and ev - ery voice a song.  
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
 arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.

## **The Dismissal**

*Deacon*     Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People*     **Thanks be to God.**

## **Postlude** *Variations on “O Come Emmanuel”*

Daniel Pinkham

### VII. Fervent

*We are sent forth to be Christ’s blessing in the world.*

*Our prayer is that today’s worship has encouraged you in love, strengthened you for service, and filled you with grace. We look forward to your presence again in worship, in service to others, in learning and fellowship.*

## THIS WEEK AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH

### **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28** First Sunday in Advent

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I – historic church
  - 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Enriching Our Worship–bank barn\*
  - 9:00 a.m. Sunday school – bank barn, lower level
  - 10:00 a.m. Reception in thanksgiving for the ministry of Liam Reid
  - 10:20 a.m. Advent wreath workshop – bank barn
  - 11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II – historic church\*
- fellowship follows each service*

### **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29**

- 9:30 a.m. Atwater Walk
- 12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer – Via Facebook Live
- 3:00 p.m. Echo Lake Bible Study

### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30**

- 12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer – Via Facebook

### **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1**

- 10:30 a.m. Prayer Group – Via Zoom
- 12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer – Via Facebook Live

### **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2**

- 12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer – Via Facebook Live
- 7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal

### **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3**

- 8:00 a.m. Gathering of Men – Via Zoom

### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4**

- 10 a.m. Needlework – historic church

### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5** Second Sunday of Advent

- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II – barn\*
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday school – bank barn, lower level
- 11:00 a.m. Farewell To The Reverend Christopher Exley
- 4:00 p.m. Advent Lessons and Carols – barn

\* Services marked with an asterisk can be viewed on YouTube or <https://youtu.be/uOfY7nBy1o8>  
services in the barn are also available through our website [stpetersgv.org](http://stpetersgv.org) or via Facebook.



## ST. PETER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** begins at 9:00 a.m. Children should go to the classrooms in the lower level of the bank barn when they arrive. They will return to the church service at the time of the Peace. If you have questions, please contact Cathy Terlescki.

**YOUTH GROUP** Will meet on Sunday, December 12 for gingerbread in Abigail's kitchen! 3:00-4:30 p.m. grades 6-9 and 4:30-6:00 p.m. grades 10-12. Please RSVP to [Abigail@stpetersgv.org](mailto:Abigail@stpetersgv.org) 610-644-2261. Thank you!

**NURSERY CARE** is available in the nursery room near the elevator on the lower level of the barn. Our youngest worshippers are welcome to join us for the service or may choose to be cared for in the nursery by our wonderful team of providers.

**THANKSGIVING FOR THE MINISTRY OF LIAM REID** Please join us today as we thank Liam Reid for his years of ministry as our weekend facilities manager and his ongoing ministry of assistance with live-streaming. We will thank him at the end of the 9:00 a.m. service and then enjoy festive fellowship in his honor.

**ADVENT WREATH WORKSHOP** Please join us this morning, following the family Eucharist, at 10:20 a.m. for an intergenerational opportunity to assemble Advent wreaths this first Sunday of Advent.

**YOU ARE INVITED! OUR ZOOM ADVENT PROGRAM** begins this Wednesday, December 1 at 7:00 p.m. Writing is a way of paying close attention to our lives. Finding just the right words to describe our lives can be an act of holy gratitude and a way of connecting to ourselves and others. What does the season of Advent look like, sound like, taste like? What memories are awakened? What does it mean to anticipate? Join us for an experience of writing our thoughts and sharing them with each other. We will be guided by a program and process initiated by the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina. For more information, call the church office or Shannon Almquist (610-908-3883), who will facilitate the experience and hopefully inspire you to find the writer deep within.

**FAREWELL TO THE REVEREND CHRISTOPHER EXLEY** With a mixture of sadness and joy we will thank Chris for his ministry at St. Peter's and send him off to All Hallows' with our love and prayers. Please join us next Sunday, December 5 at 10:00 a.m. for worship followed by thank yous and festive fellowship. If you wish to donate to a purse, please send a check made payable to St. Peter's Church in the Great Valley with Assistant Rector Purse in the memo. Thank you!

**ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS** next Sunday at 4:00 p.m. You will not want to miss this beautiful, candlelit service, an adaptation of a medieval Christmas Vigil Service from the time of King Henry VII. The focus of the service is the lessons which tell the Biblical story leading to Christ's birth, beginning with Genesis. Together with hymns, anthems, and prayers, they provide an opportunity to reflect upon God's gift to the world. The service of Advent Lessons and Carols is intended as a preparation for the Christmas season and seeks to nurture anticipation in each of us. Treat yourself and a friend to this special service.

**GATHERING OF WOMEN CHRISMON WORKSHOP** Join us for this fun project that does not require artistic talent. Chrismons are lovely white and gold ornaments. At the family service on Christmas Eve the children will have the fun of using them to decorate a tree! Curious to know more? Ask Shannon Almquist ([shannonalmquist@verizon.net](mailto:shannonalmquist@verizon.net)) or Holly Hardester ([hahardester@gmail.com](mailto:hahardester@gmail.com)). We will meet on Tuesday, December 7th at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. For this gathering we will forego eating snacks and ask that everyone wear a mask. Additional information can be found in the December Beacon. Come and bring a friend. Youth are welcome too.

**CENTERING PRAYER** in the historic church on Thursday, December 9 at 7:00 p.m. You are invited to discover the refreshment that comes from intentionally listening to God rather than fretting about what needs to get done. Martin Laird in his book, *Into the Silent Land*, A guide to the Christian Practice of Contemplation, quotes Meister Eckhart, "The noblest attainment in this life is to be silent and let God work and speak within. We will begin with a very brief introduction and then enter into silent prayer together. Consider this gift of quiet in the midst of a busy season. For more information or to let her know you plan to participate, please contact Abigail at [abigail@stpetersgv.org](mailto:abigail@stpetersgv.org) or 610-644-2261.

**OPERATION GIFTING TREE** is well underway both online (refer to Outreach tab on our website) and through our Gifting Trees in the historic church and barn! We invite you to participate in any way you feel comfortable. The pandemic has left a wake of even greater need in our neighboring communities. Gifts will be distributed to hard hit Coatesville, Phoenixville, Darby and Philadelphia. Please join us in bringing Christmas to those who may not otherwise have it. Questions? Contact Gail Guthridge or Brenda Grove, whose information is in the directory.

**MASK UPDATE** With love for our multigenerational parish, we require that all people wear masks for indoor worship regardless of vaccination status. Thank you! As always, if you have any questions or comments please contact Abigail at [abigail@stpetersgv.org](mailto:abigail@stpetersgv.org).

**COATS FOR COATESVILLE** Once again we will be distributing new coats along with lunches during our December visit to Coatesville. Last year's offerings were received with joy and so we are repeating the coat drive again this year. Please consider donating a new coat or funds toward the purchase of coats for children, women, and men. Please bring coats to the parish house during the week or to church on Sunday. The deadline is December 12. Please contact Queenie Northrop with any questions. Thank you!

**LOOKING FOR A WAY TO GET INVOLVED?** We have lots of opportunities! One of the best ways to get to know people at St. Peter's is to volunteer for one of our many ministries. There are all sorts of things to do that are both fun and rewarding. Today we are highlighting communications. If you are excited about St. Peter's and want others to know about all that we do, please consider joining the communications commission. All you need to do is reach out to Abigail at [abigail@stpetersgv.org](mailto:abigail@stpetersgv.org) or 610-644-2261 and she will help you discern whether or not this is the right ministry for you. Thank you!

**LITURGICAL ASSISTANTS** Time to update the liturgical assistant's schedule which will run January 8 through May 2, 2022. Please email Rachel Martin Swartz, parish administrator, **no later than December 10, 2021** if: **1.)** You are not currently serving but would like to. **2.)** Wish to provide dates you are NOT available prior to the publication of the schedule. **3.)** Request to be removed from the schedule. Remember to provide the Sunday service time along with your availability. Your willingness to serve in all capacities is greatly appreciated.

**STEWARDSHIP** It is the first Sunday of the new church year! We need a few more pledges to get to all the rising suns on our Rise and Shine posters in the gathering spaces. If you have not yet pledged, please do so this week so that we can begin the new year with a fully funded budget. That would truly be awesome! To pledge online go to: <https://www.stpetersgv.org/online-pledging/> The Stewardship Commission is thankful for all of you and your contributions of time, talent, and treasure. Let's all share the blessings God has relayed to us!! Thank you everyone.

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY** You can help low-income folks living in expensive, substandard housing own a new, attractive house in Cambridge Village, Coatesville. They invest 200+ hours of sweat equity. Can you spare a few hours wielding a hammer, saw, power tools, or paint brush at new construction? Next date is December 18. Work begins at 9 am, lunch around noon or 1pm, and head home around 3:30pm. You can volunteer for a monthly work day or for occasional times that fit your schedule. Experience is useful, but not required. **This opportunity is available to the entire congregation (16 years old or older).** Please contact Randy Klein whose contact information is in the directory, or call the parish office

**FOOD MINISTRY UPDATE** Thank you for your food generosity to our various local food ministry partners. Our friends in Phoenixville and Coatesville are so appreciative of your ongoing support!!! For the months of December and January, our porch donations will be delivered to CYWA (Community, Youth, and Women's Alliance) in Coatesville. All donations are greatly appreciated but especially CANNED MEATS (chicken, tuna, and other meats), PASTA and SAUCE, RICE and BEANS (canned and dried), PEANUT BUTTER, HEALTHY CANNED SOUPS. If you are able to take donations to Coatesville any week of December or January, please contact Eileen Klein, who is listed in the directory or you may call the parish office (610-644-2261). THANK YOU!!!

**ATWATER WALKS** Join Abigail on Monday morning at 9:30 a.m. for a 45-60 minute walk through the neighborhood adjacent to St. Peter's weather permitting, of course. Please contact Abigail directly if you wish to attend.

**BIBLE STUDY** takes place on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom. If you would like to participate, please contact Abigail at [abigail@stpetersgv.org](mailto:abigail@stpetersgv.org) for the necessary details.

**PRAYER GROUP** Join us on Thursdays via Zoom. Please contact Deacon Jeff for more information at [jeff@stpetersgv.org](mailto:jeff@stpetersgv.org).

**THE GATHERING OF MEN** Please join Rod Platt every Friday at 8:00 a.m. via Zoom or in person. All men in the parish are invited to this virtual morning gathering. If you would like to join this group, please contact Rod to receive the Zoom link. Rod is listed in the parish directory or you may contact the parish office at 610-644-2261 for his information.

**Altar Guild:** Marcia McIlvain, Katharine Campbell  
**Flower Guild:** Pat Harvey, Sue McMaster, Susy Baum  
**Intercessor:** Suzanne Casey  
**Ushers:** George and Betsy Comstock

**Fellowship:** Gail McLaughlin  
**Greeter:** Peter Kreek, Mary Kreek  
**Readers:** David Grave, Trudi Graves

### THE VESTRY

**Rector's Warden:** Dave Lockner  
**Vestry Warden:** David Graves

**Secretary:** Susy Baum  
**Treasurer:** Peter Kreek

#### Class of 2022

David Graves  
Linda Holden  
Cathy Terlescki  
Laurel Veitch

#### Class of 2023

Mark Clark  
Mike Harman  
Lyndsay Knupp  
Dave Lockner

#### Class of 2024

Philip Cauffman  
Kate Mallon-Day  
Steve Ockenden  
Luci Russell

**Youth Representative:** Tom Lockner

### ST. PETER'S CHURCH IN THE GREAT VALLEY STAFF

The Rev. Abigail Crozier Nestlehutt, Rector  
The Ven. Jeff Moretzsohn, Deacon  
Rachel Martin Swartz, Parish Administrator  
Denise Nuttall, Preschool Director

The Rev. Christopher W. Exley, Assistant Rector  
Dr. Bruce W. Glenney, Organist/Choirmaster  
Gail Malcolm, Event Coordinator  
Mario Delano, Weekend Facilities Manager

2475 St. Peter's Road  
Malvern, PA 19355  
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parishadministrator@stpetersgv.org  
<http://stpetersgv.org>