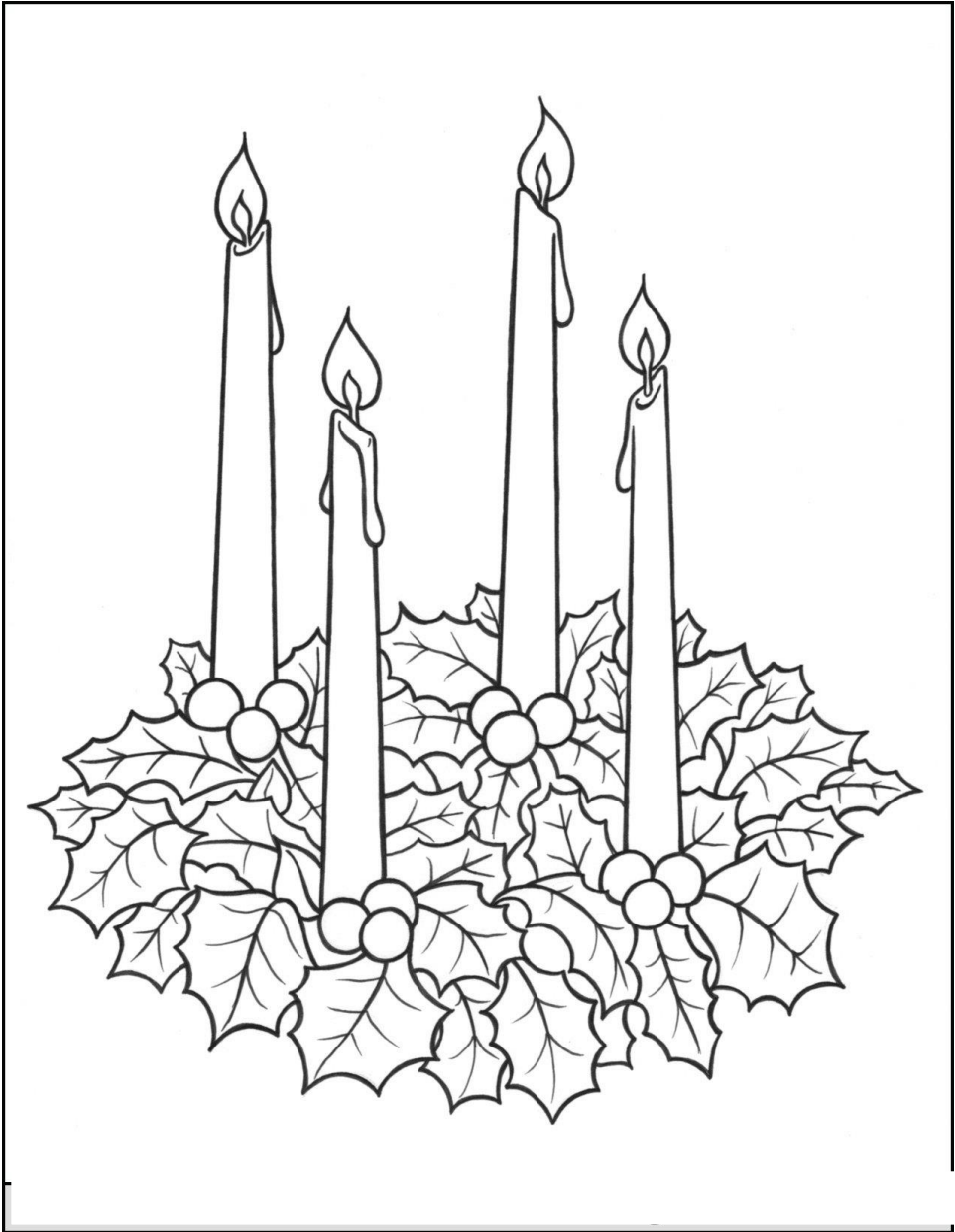


DECEMBER 10, 2023
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
10:15 AM



WELCOME TO ST. PETER'S!

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Wendy and Wilson Mitchell in loving memory of their parents Leslie and Janet Mitchell and Peter and Daphne Bayley.

Ministers of the Service

Today's Servers

Celebrant & Preacher:	The Rev. Michael Muller
Deacon:	The Rev. Deacon Nancy Hansen
Verger:	Tim O'Donnell
Organist/Music Director:	Sal Lagattuta
Cantor/Soloist	Jonathan Dawson and Loki DeAngelis, Tenor
Ushers:	Jerry and Evelyn Watkins
Crucifer:	Charlie Conforti
Torch Bearers:	Colson Russo and Garbrielle Roth
Layreader:	Don MacGowan
Eucharistic Minister:	Tim Berrios
Altar Guild:	The Mitchell Team: Wendy Mitchell, Betsy Myatt, Elaine Pantaleo, Anna Floreno, Susan Marshall
Camera Operator:	Brad White
Coffee Hour:	Marguerite Smith

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Minister and 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.

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.

Kyrie

Loki DeAngelis

The musical notation for the Kyrie consists of two staves. The first staff has three measures: the first measure is labeled 'Cantor or Choir' and contains the lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy.'; the second measure is labeled 'All' and contains the lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy.'; the third measure is labeled 'Cantor or Choir' and contains the lyrics 'Christ, have mer - cy.' The second staff has three measures: the first measure is labeled 'All' and contains the lyrics 'Christ, have mer - cy.'; the second measure is labeled 'Cantor or Choir' and contains the lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy.'; the third measure is labeled 'All' and contains the lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy.' The music is written in a single melodic line on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat).

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Lay Reader: Today we light the first and second candles of the Advent Wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle calls us to BELIEVE, the second candle call us to HOPE.

The candle is lit.

Lay Reader: We wait in hope for the Lord, and our hoping is not in vain. For as the Baptist announces today, “One is coming who is more powerful than I. He will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

Celebrant: Eternal God, as we await. The coming of our savior, give us the courage to hope. Give us grace to see your plans of salvation for our lives, for this community, and for the world. Through Jesus Christ, the eternal source of our redemption and our hope.

***People:* AMEN**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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 for ever..**Amen.**

The Lessons *(Please be seated)*

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.
Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her

that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,

that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

A voice says, "Cry out!"
And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;

lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,
"Here is your God!"

See, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;

his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,

and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.
The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



Cantor: I will hear what God proclaims;
The Lord-for he proclaims peace to his people
Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him,
Glory dwelling in our land.

Refrain

Cantor: Kindness and truth shall meet;
Justice and peace shall kiss.
Truth shall spring out of the earth.
And justice shall look down from heaven

Repeat Refrain

Cantor: The Lord himself will give his benefits;
Our land shall yield its increase
Justice shall walk before him,
And prepare the way of his steps.

Repeat Refrain

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

A reading from the second letter of St Peter. Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn: "The king shall come" vs. 1-3 Hymn #73



1 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
2 Not, as of old, a lit - tle child, to
3 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and

1 light tri - um - phant breaks; when beau - ty gilds the
2 bear, and fight, and die, but crowned with glo - ry
3 earth's dark night is past; O haste - the ris - ing

1 east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
2 like the sun that lights the morn - ing sky.
3 of that morn, the day that e'er shall last;

Gospel Announcement

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to Mark.

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

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Sermon

Rev. Michael Muller

The Nicene Creed

Book of Common Prayer p. 358

**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

Leader: Together as your Church, we long to see your face. Speak to us, Lord, as we walk through the wilderness listening for the sound of your voice. Give our leaders patience, wisdom, and a heart for your will: For Michael our presiding bishop, Carlye our bishop Michael, our priest, and Nancy our Deacon . Lord, hear our prayer.

People: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader: We pray for all who govern, especially Joseph our president, and for the Congress and courts of this land. Guide the leaders of all nations as they work for the welfare of their people and the good of all. Lord, hear our prayer.

People: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader: Awaken us to the suffering of people near us Bring healing to those for those whom we now pray. Reading their names together, we pray for **Bob Messick, Sandra Narain, Mark Iovino, Betsy Foth, Jane Murphy, Mary Del Ojo, Gisela Sekiya, Glenn Clark, Toby Frey, Clifford Benfield, Dana Dean, Evelyn Watkins, Nancy Mclarin, Lee Westbrook, Nancy Pignatello, Jack Christel, Nancy Nickens, Ray Rogers, Judy, Candy, Doris, Tessie, Christopher, Martha, Dorothy, Kevin, Cicely, Dylan and Elyse.**

Leader: Lord, hear our prayer.

People: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader: Arouse in us a sense of urgency to demonstrate your Good News in our lives. Make us messengers of your love. We pray for the St. Peter's Church Family and in particular today, the Troiano and Troisi Families.

We pray for those celebrating birthdays this week; Brooklyn Harris, Charlotte Kalb, Cynthia Shaw, Sal Lagattuta, Tim Berrios, and Jack Eaton. We pray for Liberian students Fatumata, Princess, Maxwell, George and Derick; and the Ibrahim and Mohabat Families. Lord, hear our prayer.

People: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader: We pray for those who have died, that their memories be blessings in our lives. Lord, hear our prayer.

People: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Make our hearts ready for your coming, O Lord, and hear the prayers that we have offered. May we be formed into a dwelling place of holiness to welcome you, the Holy One of God, whose coming is certain and whose presence is peace and joy forever and ever. **Amen.**

The Peace

The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

All are invited to share God's peace.

Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Sentence:

Choral Anthem: "And the Glory of the Lord" from 'Messiah' G. F. Handel

The Great Thanksgiving, *Eucharistic Prayer B* Book of Common Prayer p.367

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, faces them and says

The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant proceeds

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 to 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

Hymnal S 124

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.

The people stand or kneel as able. Then the Celebrant 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,

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant 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 Saint 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.**

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

Celebrant and people

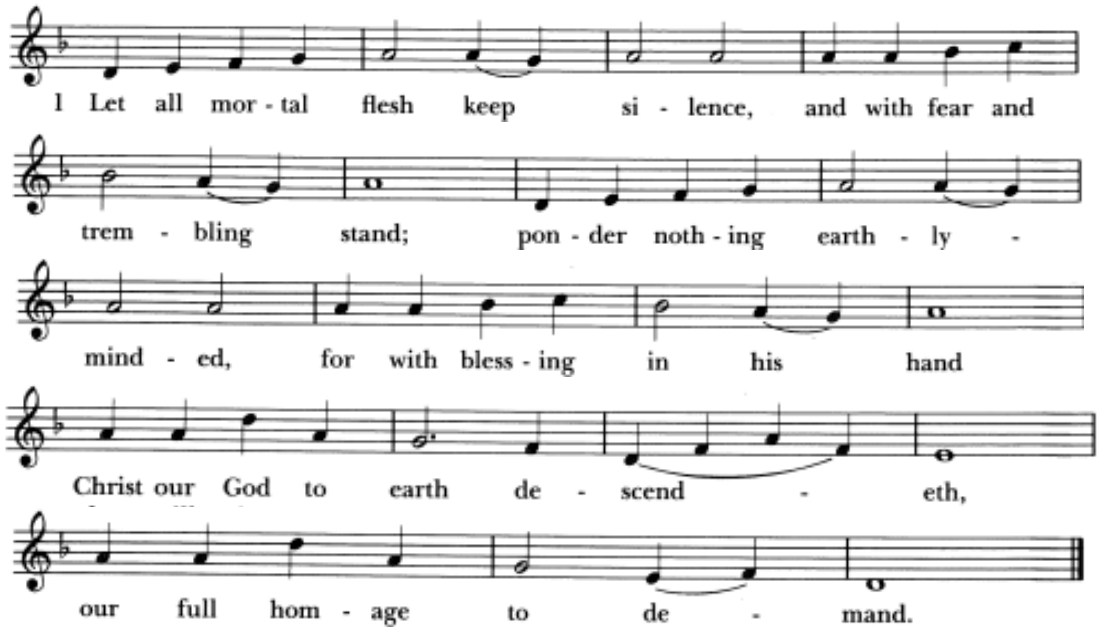
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the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

The Breaking of the Bread.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Fraction Anthem:



Invitation to Communion

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion. Please tell the Eucharistic Minister if you wish a gluten-free Communion wafer.

Please approach the Altar by the center aisle and return to your pew by exiting to the right.

Communion Anthem: "But Who May Abide the Day of his Coming"
from 'Messiah' G. F. Handel

Post Communion Prayer

Book of Common Prayer p. 366

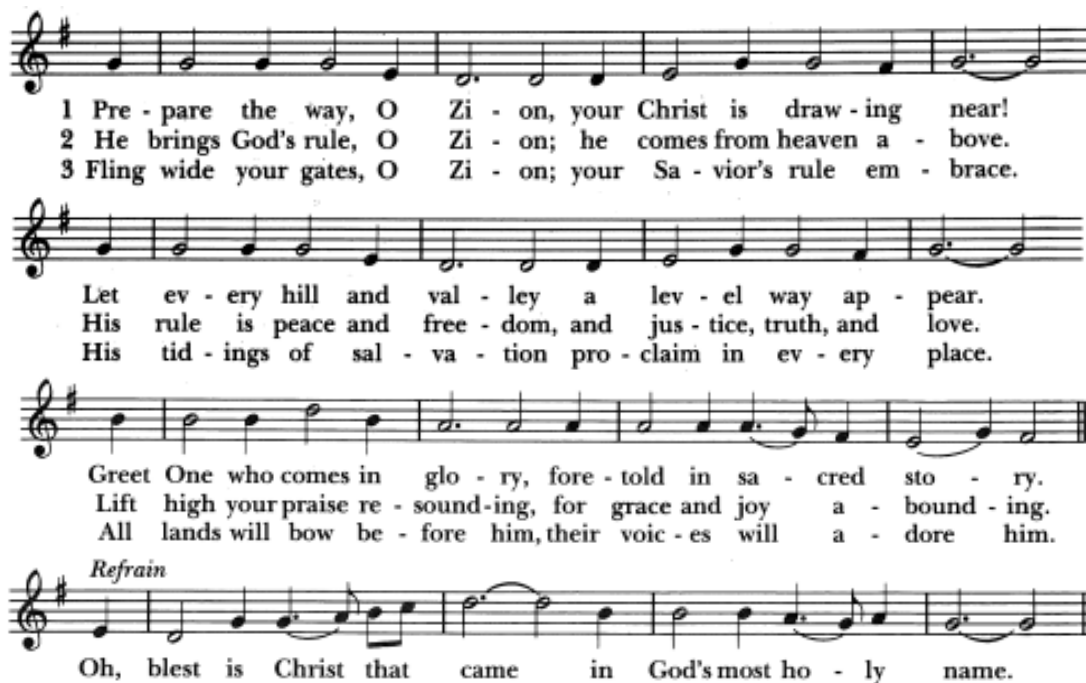
Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, 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.

Blessing

Please stand

Recessional Hymn: "Prepare the way, O Zion "

Hymn # 65



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.

Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.

Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.

Refrain
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

Dismissal

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the spirit.

People:

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "“Prepare the way, O Zion ”

arr. R. Lau

Parish Notes

Thank you for your generous donations to St. Peter's Christmas Outreach. We delivered 53 gifts to Lake Drive School and Boonton Social Services. Your contributions make it possible for the recipients to have a brighter Christmas.

Blessings,
St. Peter's Outreach Committee

Christmas Pageant Practice

The casting call goes out - We are in need of shepherds and magi, angels and sheep and the Holy Family and narrators.

The next practice will be **Friday, December 15** from **4:30 to 5:30 PM**.

Save the date for Bishop Hughes' 2024 Study Group

This is My Story: Learning to see, talk, and share stories of faith: JAN 9, 16, 23, 30 | 7-8:30 PM

Bishop Hughes' 2024 Study Group will focus on learning how to talk about faith and developing an ease with using language of faith both inside and outside of our faith communities. We will not focus on converting people or proselytizing, but rather on speaking faith to each other and into the various areas of our lives. Each session will include small group practice time.

The study group will meet on four consecutive Tuesday nights, Jan 9 - 30, 7-8:30 PM. The first two sessions will be via Zoom, the final two sessions will be in person at locations to be announced.

January - Save the Dates

Saturday, January 13, 5 to 8 PM:

12th Night Celebration at the home of Kris & John Garrison

Kris and John are once again graciously extending an invitation to their home to close out the Christmas season with a 12th night celebration. Look for an evite in coming weeks. Guests are welcome to bring hors d'oeuvres and desserts. Childcare will be provided.

Sunday, January 28,

Centennial Annual Parish Meeting after 10:15 AM Eucharist

Please join us for a one hour meeting at 11:30 AM. Come and hear all that is going on with St. Peter's, share our gratitude for the service of the Vestry people finishing their terms and elect new Vestry people. The Vestry will provide a more expansive coffee hour and we will be given an update of the Centennial Renewal and celebrations all happening in the Spring.

Christmas Service Calendar

Sunday, December 24th: Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I

10:15 am Holy Baptism of Colin and Shane Whelan

Sunday, December 24th: Christmas Eve

4:30 pm Christmas Eve Pageant with Communion

9:15 pm Christmas Carol Sing

9:30 pm Christmas Eve Festival Holy Eucharist

Monday, December 25: Christmas Day

9:30 am Christmas Day Holy Eucharist

Saturday, December 30:

Memorial Service for Charlotte Manning - Time: TBA

Sunday, December 31: First Sunday After Christmas

9:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II with music

Sunday, January 7, 2024: Epiphany

8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I

10:15 am Holy Eucharist Rite II Family Service
with visit of Three Kings

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

215 Boulevard Mountain Lakes, N.J. 07046

Phone: 973-334-4429

e-mail address: stpeter2@optonline.net

Web site: www.stpetersmountainlakes.org

Find us on Facebook!

Parish Office Hours:

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 9:30 am – 2:30 pm

Fridays 9 am – 12:00 pm

St. Peter's Mission Statement

St. Peter's exists to celebrate our Christian faith through worship, fellowship and the demonstration of Christian love in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

To accomplish this purpose we must

- Invite and welcome all persons into the warmth and fellowship of the St. Peter's family.
- Strengthen and support all members of our church family in their daily lives and minister to their needs.
- Create a rich environment where our common Christian values are shared and taught through worship, through study of the Bible and through example.
- Reach out to the world around us and demonstrate Christian love, sharing our gifts and talents with our neighbors and those in need of them.

The Staff at St. Peter's

The Reverend Michael Muller, Rector

The Reverend Deacon Nancy Hansen

Sal Lagattuta, Music Director

Susan Marshall, Parish Coordinator

The Wardens and Vestry

Betsy Myatt, Senior Warden; Deborah Osborne, Junior Warden

2024

E.V. Janopaul

Randy Immitt

Renee Caruthers

Kevin Edwards

2025

Jeff Roth

Janet Wilson

Traci Rutt

2026

Lisa Sonn

Mary Del Ojo