

# SAINT PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CHATTANOOGA, IN THE DIOCESE OF EAST TENNESSEE

DECEMBER 10, 2023 – 10:30 A.M.



## THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

**Welcome to worship at St. Peter's Episcopal Church!**


We are glad that you are here.

**Prayer for Our Clergy Search**


Almighty God, you know the needs of your Church in every place: Look graciously upon us and grant us the guidance of your Holy Spirit as we seek a new priest for this parish. Give us discernment, wisdom, and confidence in your timing. Guide the members of our Vestry, as they labor to be faithful in seeking your will. We pray for the life of our parish that we may continue in our mission to proclaim not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Christ's sake. Amen.

## THE WORD OF GOD


### OPENING HYMN: "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People" (Hymn 67)




1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus  
2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert  
3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er



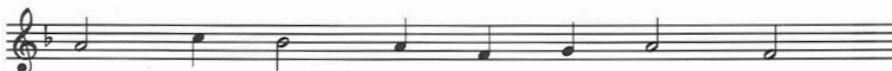
saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness  
far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance  
pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,




mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -  
since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing  
as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry



ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;  
cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;  
of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;



tell her that her sins I cov - er,  
let the val - leys rise to meet him  
and all flesh shall see the to - ken



and her war - fare now is o - ver.  
and the hills bow down to greet him.  
that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

Words: Johann G. Olearius (1611-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt.  
Music: *Psalm 42*, melody Claude Goudimel (1514-1572)

87. 87. 77. 88

## THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 355

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

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Priest 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.**

## THE TRISAGION (S-102)

*Repeated 3 times.*

The musical score for the Trisagion is presented in two systems. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a basso continuo line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: "Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us." The first system covers the first two phrases, and the second system covers the final phrase. The music is written in a simple, homophonic style.

Setting: Ver. Hymnal 1982, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924)

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 211

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest 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 FIRST LESSON (Isaiah 40:1-11)

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.

Lector    The Word of the Lord.

People    **Thanks be to God.**

*Please join the choir in chanting the psalm.*

## THE PSALM (Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13)

BCP 708

1 You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, \*  
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people \*  
and blotted out all their sins.

8 I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, \*  
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.

9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, \*  
that his glory may dwell in our land.

10 Mercy and truth have met together; \*  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, \*  
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

12 The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, \*  
and our land will yield its increase.

13 Righteousness shall go before him, \*  
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

#### **THE SECOND LESSON (2 Peter 3:8-15a)**

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.

Lector    The Word of the Lord.

People    **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (Hymn 56, v 3-4)



Re - jice! Re - jice!



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



3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy  
4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from



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



3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.  
4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - jice! Re - jice!



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

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt.

Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, *Processionale*, 15th cent.;  
 adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890)

LM with Refrain

## THE GOSPEL (Mark 1:1-8)

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

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.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord

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

## THE SERMON

Kimberly Kilgore



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** (*The people stand or kneel.*)

Intercessor As we wait and watch during this holy season, let us pray for strength to stand with confidence before our Maker and Redeemer. That God's kingdom may come with justice and mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor That God may establish righteousness among all the nations of the world, let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor That we may seek Christ in the Scriptures and recognize him in the breaking of the bread. For all those whose lives are closely linked to ours, let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor That God may bind up the brokenhearted, restore the sick, and raise up all who have fallen, let us pray to the Lord:

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor That the light of Christ's coming may dawn on all who live in darkness and the shadow of death, let us pray to the Lord:

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor That, with all the saints in light, we may shine forth as lights for the world. For all those who have died, let us pray to the Lord:

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor We commend ourselves and all for whom we pray to the mercy and protection of God almighty:

*Silence. The Priest adds a concluding Collect.*

Priest For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE CONFESSION

BCP 360

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

All **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.**

Priest 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

Priest        The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People        **And also with you.**

*The people greet one another in the name of the Risen Christ.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

*The Eucharistic table is set and the ushers collect offerings from the congregation.*

*If you prefer to make an online donation, please use this QR code:*



## THE OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY HYMN: "On Jordan's Bank" (Hymn 76)

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -  
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make  
 3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our  
 4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and  
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
 2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -  
 3 ref - uge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we  
 4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy  
 5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.  
 2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.  
 3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.  
 4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.  
 5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944),  
 after John Chandler (1806-1876); alt.

Music: *Winchester New*, melody from *Musicalishes Hand-Buch*, 1690;  
 harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.

LM

*Sursum Corda*

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Lift up your hearts.

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

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Priest God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Priest At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People **By your will they were created and have their being.**

Priest From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Priest Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People **By his blood, he reconciled us.**

**By his wounds, we are healed.**

Priest And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

*Sanctus* (S-129)

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. \_\_\_\_

Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

Priest (*The people stand or kneel.*) And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Priest Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

People **We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

Priest Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Priest Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

And now, as our 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

BCP 364

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

Priest Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

## *Agnus Dei (S161)*

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and homophonic, using quarter and half notes. The lyrics are: "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." The final phrase "grant us peace" is marked with a fermata over the word "grant".

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.

Setting: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

Priest The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*All baptized Christians, regardless of age or denomination, are invited to receive the bread and wine. Come up the center aisle to receive the Eucharist at the altar rail. Return to your pew using the side aisle. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please let the clergy know by crossing your arms in front of you at the altar. The chalice will be offered to all. If you prefer not to receive, you may choose to reverently acknowledge the presence of Christ in the wine, while the minister says, "The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation."*



COMMUNION HYMN: "What Is the Crying at Jordan?" (Hymn 69)



1 What is the cry - ing at Jor - dan? Who  
2 Who then shall stir in this dark - ness, pre -  
3 Lord, give us grace to a - wake us, to  
4 Now comes the day of sal - va - tion, in



hears, O God, the pro - phe - cy? Dark is the  
pare for joy in the win - ter night? Mor - tal in  
see the branch that be - gins to bloom; in great hu -  
joy and ter - ror the Word is born! God gives him -



sea - son, dark our hearts and shut to mys - ter - y.  
dark - ness we lie down, blind - heart - ed see - ing no light.  
mil - i - ty is hid all heaven in a lit - tle room.  
self in - to our lives; O let sal - va - tion dawn!

Words: Carol Christopher Drake (b. 1933), alt.

Music: *St. Mark's, Berkeley*, Irish melody from *Danta De: Hymns to God, Ancient and Modern*

88. 86

## SENDING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Deacon We send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body,  
People Because we all share one bread and one cup.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 366

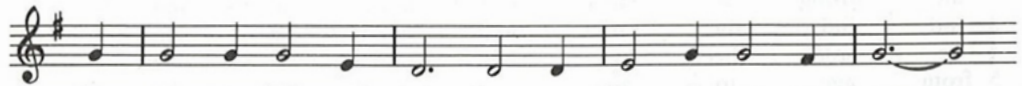
All Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## THE BLESSING

CLOSING 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.



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

Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847); tr. composite; adapt. Charles P. Price (b. 1920)  
Music: *Bereden väg för Herran*, melody from *Then Swenska Psalmboken*, 1697

76. 76. 77 with Refrain

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

**Lectors:** Jessica Dumitru (OT), Susan Crawford (NT)  
**Intercessor:** Chassie Long; **Livestream / Audio:** Jeff Davis  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Chip Stansbury, Rena Stansbury  
**Acolytes:** Jessie Long, Lucy Davis, Sterling Porter  
**Ushers:** Kris Riefler, Aaron Wells; **Greeter:** Regina Saas  
**Healing Altar:** Joani Koch

**We pray for the healing and comfort of:**

Alicia, Betty Lamance, Betty Thompson, Bill Kazmier, Bob Hoover, Bonnie Brown,  
Bryson Tidwell, Cynthia Millwood, Dianne Stone, Dixie Warren, Donie, Eddie Rodgers,  
Emmalea Rogers, Ernestine Rogers, Gail Abston, Garnet Johnston, Gene Vredeveld, Jack Rudez,  
Jimmy McDaniel, John Giles, John Hickman, Julie Suttles Saunders, Karin Gilstrap,  
Kelly Snyder, Maggie Williams, Mark Northern, Mary Cook, Matt Klinger, Pete Garland,  
Richard Rogers, Robert Carnes, Sawyer Burch, Suzy Marland, Terrell Williams, Terry Arnold,  
Tony D, Vicki Neff

**St. Peter's accepts online donations.**

If you would like to give online, please use this QR code:



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Complete the form below, mark your check "Christmas Flowers,"  
and drop in the offering plate or mail to the church office  
**by Sunday, December 17, 2023.**

The cost for each Poinsettia is \$10.

*Use back of form, if needed, to add more names.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number of flowers \_\_\_\_\_ Total amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Flowers in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Flowers in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Flowers in thanksgiving for \_\_\_\_\_

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Flowers in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Flowers in thanksgiving for \_\_\_\_\_

A detailed illustration of a gingerbread house with a red door, yellow windows, and various colorful decorations like red and white striped candies and blue and white swirls. The house is centered at the top of a white rectangular area.

# Gingerbread Event

**10:00am - 12:00pm  
Saturday, December 16**



**Check your email\* or click this  
image to register.**

\*Email subject line: Gingerbread Event Registration

# Christmas

## S E R V I C E S

### CHRISTMAS EVE

4:30PM: HOLY EUCHARIST  
W/ PAGEANT

8:00PM: HOLY EUCHARIST  
W/CHOIR AND INCENSE

### CHRISTMAS DAY

10:30AM\* HOLY CHRISTMAS  
DAY EUCHARIST W/ FESTIVE  
CHRISTMAS MUSIC

### 1 CHRISTMAS (12/31)

7:30AM: HOLY EUCHARIST

10:30AM: LESSONS AND CAROLS



## **St. Peter's Church Staff**

Church Office Hours: M-F, 9am to 4pm; 423-877-2428

The Very Rev. John H. Bonner III, Interim Rector

The Rev. John R. Rouser, Deacon; jrrouser@comcast.net

Tim Hinck, Organist & Choirmaster; timhinck@gmail.com

Kelsey Aebi, Director of Youth Ministry & Lay Associate Minister; kelseyaeabi@stpeters.org

Morgan Giannotti, Director of Children's Ministry; morgangiannotti@stpeters.org

Jaime McDaniel-Porter, Director of Parish Life; jaimemcdporter@stpeters.org

Gerald Motley, Facilities Manager; geraldmotley@stpeters.org

Tina Chambers, Parish Administrator; parishadmin@stpeters.org