

St. Peter's Episcopal Church and School

Our Mission: We welcome all to join us in knowing Christ and making Him known to others.

The Rev. Bert Baetz
Rector

The Rev. J. Michael Wheeler
Assistant Priest

Janet Boutin
Day School Director

David Miron
Director of Music/Organist

Claire Rabson
Chancel Choir Director

Jenny Ligon
Children's Minister

Kourtney Doster
Middle School Youth Minister

Kelsey Keller
High School Youth Minister

Kristie Keese
Controller

Ginny Stehling
Parish Administrator

Guy Scott
Facilities Manager

Bruce Heun
Sexton

Lauren Vereen
Communications Coordinator



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 14

5:00 pm - The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

Sunday, December 18

8:00 am - The Holy Eucharist: Rite One

9:15 am - The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

11:15 am - The Holy Eucharist: Rite One
also streaming online

The Third Sunday of Advent

The Holy Eucharist: Rite One

December 11, 2022

11:15 AM

The Third Sunday of Advent

Welcome to St. Peter's Episcopal Church. Third Sunday of Advent again has as its central theme the ministry of John the Baptist. Jesus said of him, "Among those born of women there has risen no one greater than John the Baptist...." In today's Gospel, John, who has been imprisoned by Herod Antipas, is facing death and wishes to know before he dies that he was correct in identifying Jesus as the Messiah. Jesus' reply is to quote from the Messianic prophecy of Isaiah, demonstrating that he is indeed fulfilling the Messiah's ministry as Isaiah had foretold.

The Old Testament reading is the passage Jesus quotes in the Gospel reading. The sign of the Messiah is a new order of existence ~ God's Kingdom ~ in which health and salvation spring forth. The second reading is a call to patient waiting for the Lord to appear to inaugurate the Kingdom of God.

The distinction between John and even the least in the Kingdom ~ ourselves ~ who are even greater, is that our birth is more than natural ~ it is the new birth by water and the spirit in Holy Baptism, which has made us members of the Body of Christ. We are commissioned for ministry in Baptism; a ministry like that of Jesus. In Holy Eucharist, we affirm our commitment to that ministry to all people, which is the ongoing sign of Christ in the world.

From *The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year*. Copyright © 2009 by Michael W. Merriman. Church Publishing Incorporated, New York.

The red ***Book of Common Prayer*** (BCP)
is our source of Liturgy and is indicated by BCP page numbers.

Our hymns are found in the blue ***Hymnal 1982***
as printed selections from it and other supplemental hymnals,
including, but not limited to, *Lift Every Voice and Sing* (LEVAS),
Voices Found (VF), *Wonder, Love, Praise* (WLP),
My Heart Sings Out (MHSO) and *Enriching Our Music* (EOM)

St Peter's Episcopal Church and School
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The Holy Eucharist: Rite One

Voluntary

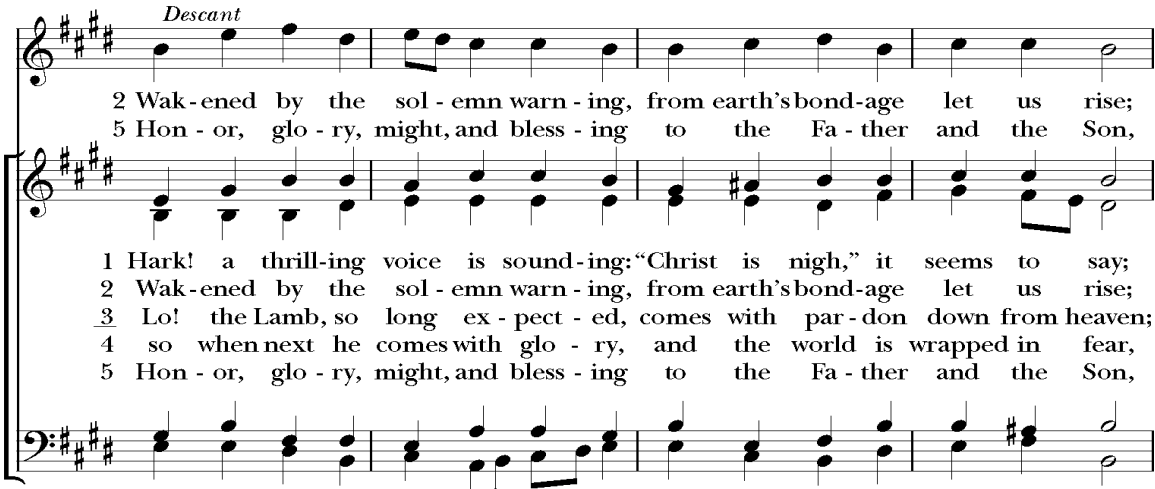
Improvisation

Processional Hymn

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding


Hymn 59

Descant



2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age let us rise;
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing; "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age let us rise;
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, comes with par - don down from heaven;
4 so when next he comes with glo - ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,



2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

1 "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness, O ye child - ren of the day."
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
3 let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for - given;
4 may he with his mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

Words: Latin, ca. 6th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, alt. Music: Merton, William Henry Monk (1823-1889); desc. Alan Gray (1855-1935)

All standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

People His mercy endureth forever. Amen.

The Celebrant says the Collect for Purity

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Celebrant then says

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Trisagion

S-100

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

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

All sit.

The First Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;

like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!"

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,

with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;

the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;

the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;

they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;

everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Antiphon

He that is might-y hath mag - ni - fied me: and ho - ly is his Name.



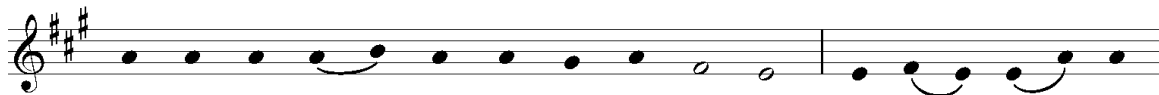
1. My soul doth mag - ni - fy the Lord, and my spi - rit



hath rejoiced in God my Sav - ior. 2. For he hath re - gard - ed



the low - li - ness of his hand - maid - en. 3. For be - hold from hence - forth



all gen - er - a - tions shall call me bless - ed. 4. For he that is



might - y hath mag - ni - fied me, and ho - ly is his Name.



5. And his mer - cy is on them that fear him through - out all gen - er - a - tions.



6. He hath showed strength with his arm; he hath scat - tered the



proud in the imagi - na - tion of their hearts. 7. He hath put

down the might - y from their seat, and hath ex - alt - ed the
 hum - ble and meek. 8. He hath filled the hun - gry with good things,
 and the rich he hath sent emp - ty a - way. 9. He re -
 mem - ber - ing his mer - cy hath hol - pen his ser - vant Is - ra - el,
 as he prom - ised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ev - er. [Ant.]
(Gloria Patri may be omitted)
 10. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spi - rit:
 11. As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for ev - er. A - men. [Ant.]

The Second Reading

James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand.

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 re - fuge, 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.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2-11

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

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

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’

"Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Rev. J. Michael Wheeler

The Nicene Creed

BCP 326

**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 people may stand or kneel.

The Prayers of the People

BCP 328

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially to Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; David and Rayford, our Bishops; Bert and Mike, our priests; that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Joseph, our President, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor those on our long-term prayer list, our homebound, and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Additional petitions and thanksgivings may be included here.

And we ask most earnestly for thy protection of all those serving in our armed forces, especially those listed in our bulletin who are members, or related to members, of this parish.

We pray for the election of our next bishop. By your Spirit, guide the Standing Committee, the delegates, and the clergy who shall discern the one you call to be a bishop in our diocese, and send us a faithful shepherd who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries.

We give thanks for Church of the Annunciation, Luling and Grace Church, Port Lavaca.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of blessed Peter and of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

BCP 330

The Deacon then says

Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God.

Silence may be kept.

Celebrant and People

Almighty God,

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

maker of all things, judge of all men:

We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins

and wickedness,

which we from time to time most grievously have committed,

by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,

provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.

We do earnestly repent,

and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;

the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,

the burden of them is intolerable.

Have mercy upon us,

have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,

forgive us all that is past;

and grant that we may ever hereafter

serve and please thee in newness of life,

to the honor and glory of thy Name;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant stands and says

Almighty God , our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Minister may then say one or more of the following sentences, first saying

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1:15*

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world.
1 John 2:1-2

All stand.

The Peace

BCP 332

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem *Comfort, comfort ye my people*

Comfort, comfort ye my people, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
comfort those who sit in darkness mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.

Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;
tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over.

Hark, the voice of one that crieth in the desert far and near,
calling us to new repentance since the kingdom now is here.

Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way;

let the valleys rise to meet him and the hills bow down to greet him.

Make ye straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain;

let your hearts be true and humble, as befits his holy reign.

For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad;

and all flesh shall see the token that the word is never broken.

The people stand while our offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

The Presentation of the Offerings *Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness* Hymn 339



1 Deck thy - self, my soul, with glad - ness, leave the
2 Sun, who all my life dost bright - en; Light, who



gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, come in - to the day - light's
dost my soul en - light - en; Joy, the best that an - y



splen - dor, there with joy thy prais - es ren - der
know - eth; Fount, whence all my be - ing flow - eth:



un - to him whose grace un - bound - ed hath this
at thy feet I cry, my Ma - ker, let me



won - drous ban - quet found - ed - high o'er all the heavens he
be a fit par - ta - ker of this bless - ed food from

reign - eth, yet to dwell with thee he deign - eth.
 hea - ven, for our good, thy glo - ry, giv - en.

The people remain standing.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer I

BCP 333

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People It is meet and right so to do.

The Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

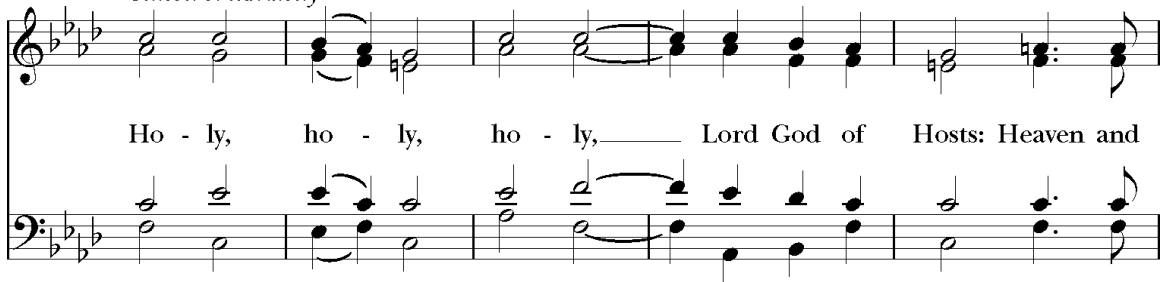
Because thou didst send thy beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee and saying,

Sanctus (choir only)

S-117

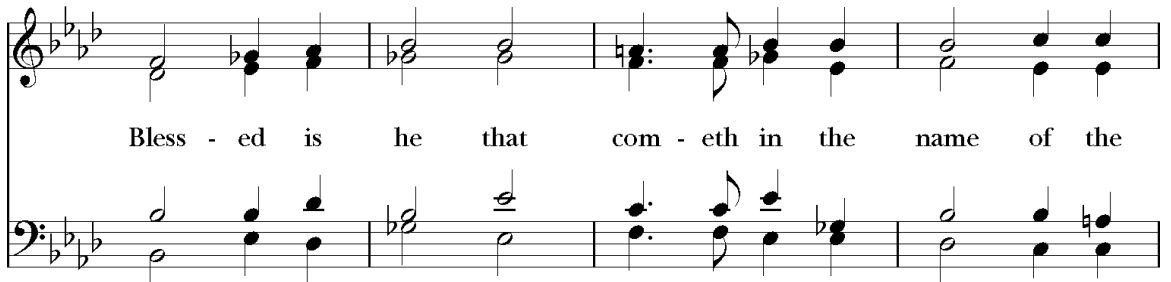
Unison or harmony



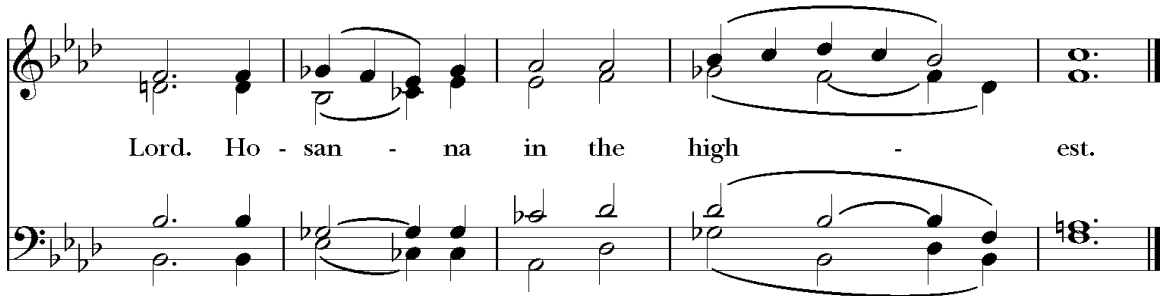
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and



earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo-ry be to thee, O Lord Most High.



Bless - ed is he that com - eth in the name of the



Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this: for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most

precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

The Celebrant continues

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

People and Celebrant

**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.

O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy up-on us. O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy up-on us. O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a-way the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

The following prayer may be said. The people may join in saying this prayer

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Celebrant says

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.

Communion

The Celebrant receives the Body and Blood of Christ and others physically present may also receive the Sacrament. All those who choose not to receive the Sacrament or are unable to receive are able to make a Spiritual Communion, as the Prayer Book directs on page 457: "If a person desires to receive the Sacrament, but, by reason of extreme sickness or physical disability, is unable to eat and drink the Bread and Wine, the Celebrant is to assure that person that all the benefits of Communion are received, even though the Sacrament is not received with the mouth."

A Prayer for Spiritual Reception of Communion

If you choose to make a Spiritual Communion, you may pray the following prayer during Holy Communion

In union, dear Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church, where your blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body, with the earnest wish that I may ever be united to you. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I pray you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. O let nothing ever separate me from you. Let me live and die in your love.

Amen.

Communion Hymns

Watchman, tell us of the night

Hymn 640

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Watchman, tell us of the night". It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom. The treble staff contains the melody, and the bass staff contains the accompaniment. The music is in a 4/4 time signature and the key signature has one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the treble staff, with three verses numbered 1, 2, and 3. The lyrics are: "1 Watch-man, tell us of the night, what its signs of prom - ise", "2 Watch-man, tell us of the night; high - er yet that star a -", and "3 Watch-man, tell us of the night, for the morn - ing seems to".

are. Trav - eler, o'er yon moun-tain's height, see that glo - ry -
scends. Trav - eler, bless - ed - ness and light, peace and truth its
dawn. Trav - eler, dark - ness takes its flight, doubt and ter - ror

beam - ing star. Watch-man, does its beau - teous ray
course por - tends. Watch-man, will its beams a - lone
are with - drawn. Watch-man, let thy wan - derings cease;

aught of joy or hope fore - tell? Trav-eler, yes; it
gild the spot that gave them birth? Trav-eler, a - ges
hie thee to thy qui - et home. Trav-eler, lo! the

When Eucharistic Visitors are sent, the Deacon says

In the name of St. Peter's Congregation, I 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.

People We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

Deacon Go in peace.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the people, saying

May almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

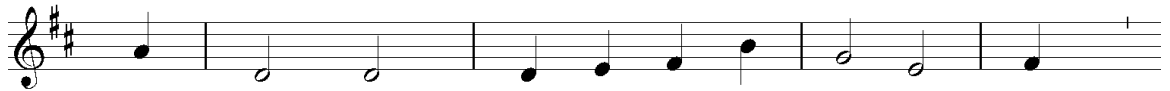
May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**



1 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord!
 2 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his Name!
 3 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his might!
 4 Tell out, my soul, the glo - ries of his word!



Un - num - bered bless - ings give my spi - rit voice;
 Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
 Powers and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.
 Firm is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure.



ten - der to me the prom - ise of his word;
 his mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;
 Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,
 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord



in God my Sa - vior shall my heart re - jice.
 his ho - ly Name— the Lord, the Might - y One.
 the hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.
 to chil - dren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

Dismissal

Deacon

Let us bless the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Voluntary

Improvisation

*The greens on our altar today are given to the Glory of God by Stockton Williams
and Caroline Williams in loving memory of Leslie Williams.*

Rector
 Assistant Priest
 Director of Music/Organist
 Chancel Choir Director

The Reverend Bert Baetz
 The Reverend J. Michael Wheeler
 David Miron
 Claire Rabson

REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday

8:00 am – The Holy Eucharist: Rite One
 9:15 am – The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
 11:15 am – The Holy Eucharist: Rite One – also streaming online

Wednesday

5:00 pm – The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

<u>Ministries–Dec. 11</u>	<u>8:00 am</u>	<u>9:15 am</u>	<u>11:15 am</u>
Eucharistic	John Nolen	Barb Jansen	Amy Ives
Ministers		Amanda McDonald	Fred Henneke
Vestry Rep.	Amy Ives	Amy Ives	Richard Eastland Jr.
Ushers		Sarah Hilburn Amy Richards	Mark Haufler Doug Holmes Wes Pittman

Altar Guild - Deidra Harmer, Amy Best, Kathy Diamond, Harriett Ritter, Bev Schwehm, Beverlee Smith, and Valerie Stinnett.

<u>Ministries–Dec. 18</u>	<u>8:00 am</u>	<u>9:15 am</u>	<u>11:15 am</u>
Eucharistic	Dave Weekley	Caroline Williams	Paula Karl
Ministers		Amanda McDonald	Lee Martin
Vestry Rep.	Amy Ives	Amy Ives	Richard Eastland Jr.
Ushers		Sarah Hilburn Junior Hilburn	Mark Haufler Doug Holmes Wes Pittman

Altar Guild - Rolinda Schmidt, Marianne Crain, Deborah Rommel, Ellen Schoenfeld, Robin Wheeler, Jennifer Timko, and Nancy Brown.

The below long-term prayer list will be refreshed on January 1.
Please notify the church office of your wish for a name to remain on this list!

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Long Term Prayer List: Julie, Ryan, Mike, Beth, Kevin, Lila, Florence, Marilyn, Caitlyn, Lucas, Randy, Rick, Mary Margaret, Charles, Keely, Jerry, Stacy, Brandon, Lindsay, Jean, Naji, A.A. and family, Johneen, Donna, Ronnie, Josiah, James, Adam, Mark R., Carol, Mark, Grace, Carter, Amy, Ariel, Cody, Sterling, Jessica, Rylee, Grant, Barbara, Roy, Isabella, Eleanor, Mary, Charlie, Naji, Larry, Sue, Bob, Jay, Vince, Susan, Jonathan, Ted, Ray, Shep, Thomas.

Short Term Prayer List: PJ, Denise, Rolinda Schmidt, Dee Shoultz, Chuck, Bob.

Military and Diplomatic Service Prayer List: Kareen Hart, George Hart, Justin Augustine, Alison Crum, Ross Davis, Kevin DeVore, Jr., Jason Horne and family, Emily Matz Corbin, Joshua Bosworth, Nate Munton, Eric Wood, John Christy, Brittany Vinson, Ian Nix, and all who serve our country.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We give thanks for St. Nicholas, Bulverde and Church of the Advent, Alice.

Worship Attendance on 12/4/22:

8:00AM: 35, 9:15AM: 106, 11:15AM: 93



ADVENT SERIES Adult Class

CONTINUES DEC. 4, 11, AND 18

In the season of Advent, the clergy will lead a study of the Advent Collects (prayers). The Collects in our Book of Common Prayer are gems in our tradition and worthy of our exploration. Join the clergy to unpack these treasured prayers and to go deeper into the holy season of Advent.

Sundays, at 10:25 in the MPR

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, December 11

- 8:00 am **The Holy Eucharist: Rite One Traditional Service** – no music
- 9:00 am Nursery opens – Rm. 95 by the chapel
- 9:15 am **The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two Service in TUCKER HALL! Join us for the Children's Christmas Pageant during this special service!**
- 10:15 am Coffee & Fellowship – Tucker Hall
- 10:25 am Study of the Advent Collects – Adult Christian Formation – MPR, off Tucker Hall
- 10:30 am Children's Sunday School – Shelton Hall
- 10:30 am Youth Sunday School – Youth Room, Shelton Hall
- 11:15 am **The Holy Eucharist: Rite One Traditional Service** (also streamed)
- 12:15 pm Coffee & Fellowship – Tucker Hall
- 6:30-8:30 pm Middle School Christmas Party at the Richards' House

MONDAY, December 12

- 8:00 am – 3:00 pm **Cottage Shop Volunteer workday** & receiving donations. Call 830-257-0290 to make an appointment for consignments, accepted on Mondays only from 8AM – 11 AM.
- 12:30 pm **St. Peter's School Board Meeting** - MPR

TUESDAY, December 13

- 9:00 am – 4:30 pm **Cottage Shop Open** – Donations gratefully received without an appointment. We welcome all who would be interested in volunteering to serve in our Cottage Shop. To volunteer, please contact Marsha Hofland or Margaret Galloway at 830-257-0290.
- 12:00 pm **Prayers, Fellowship & Football** –Tucker Hall. P.F.F. is a men's lunch group with no agenda. It's purely social and men of all ages are welcome. Join us for a delicious \$8.00 lunch and lively conversation! If you need more information, please feel free to call Jon Wilems at (281) 723-9671 or John Elliott at (830) 238-4958. An RSVP is appreciated, but not necessary.
- 2:00 pm **Contemplative Prayer** – Offsite. Everyone is welcome! Our goal is to support one another in private contemplative prayer and meditation and share our faith journeys. We are affiliated with

Contemplative Outreach LTD and World Community for Christian Meditation. For more information, please contact Susan Parker at 830-257-3918.

WEDNESDAY December 14

- 10:00 am **Staff Meeting** – AV Room
- 10:30 am **The Path of Life** - Multi-Purpose Room. Path of Life (POL) is currently studying *Life Lessons from Philippians – a Guide to Joy* by Max Lucado. Everyone is welcome to join this learning, caring, and fun group.
- 5:00 pm **The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two** – Sanctuary
- 5:30 pm **Wednesday Family Dinner** – Tucker Hall
- 6:00 pm **Santa Claus is here – and a Nativity Escape Room ?!**
Fun for the whole family in Tucker Hall
- 6:15 pm **Men’s Group** – Library in church office. All men in the church are welcome to gather in the library for prayer, fellowship and study. We are currently reading and discussing the upcoming Sunday’s gospel message.

THURSDAY, December 15

- 11:00 am **The Order of the Daughters of the King** – Tucker Hall. The Order of the Daughters of the King meets on the third Thursday of the month. DOK is an order for women who are communicants of the Episcopal Church. Members undertake a Rule of Life, incorporating The Rule of Prayer and The Rule of Service. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, our vision as members of The Order is to know Jesus Christ, to make Him known to others, and become reflections of God's love throughout the world. Any women who are interested in our Order and is a member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church please contact: Beverly Dodds 832-797-8551 or bevdtexas@msn.com.
- 2:00 pm **St. Jerome Library Guild presents: Fly Fishing and Spirituality** – Tucker Hall. In this program, Dr. Mike and Father Bert will discuss, among other things, their ministry in Colorado called “Fishers of Men.” See information in this bulletin or the December Rock Road Newsletter.

5:30 pm

Holy Land Pilgrim Reunion

5:30 pm

Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

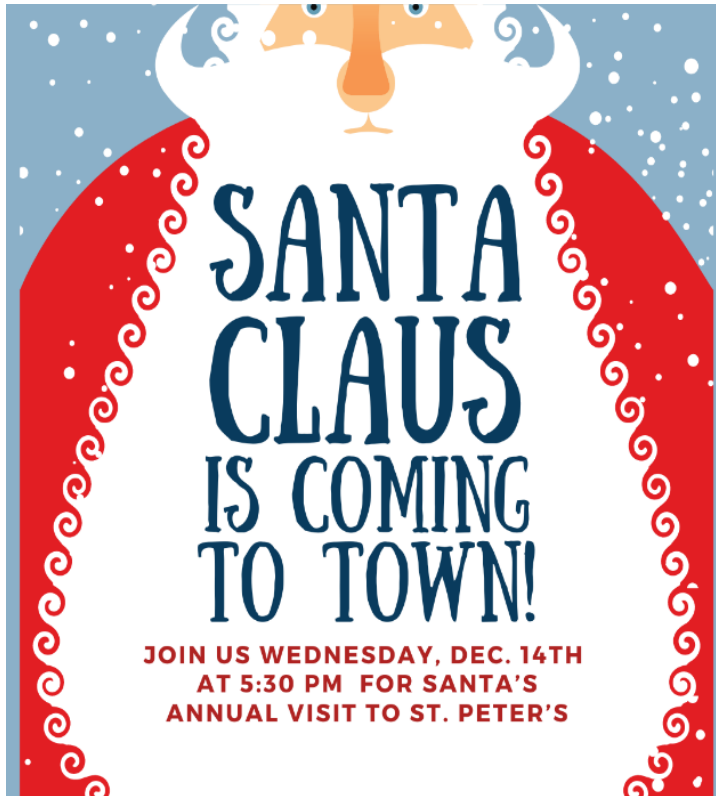
FRIDAY, December 16 (Rock Road Article Deadline!)

8:30 am

St. Peter's School Mom's devotional Book Study – MPR

11:00 am

Book Study - The Friday Book Study group meets in the AV room on the second floor of the church office, and also via Zoom. We are reading *Barking to the Choir: The Power of Radical Kinship* by Gregory Boyle, founder of Homeboy Industries. Boyle is a Jesuit priest in Los Angeles. Author Elizabeth Gilbert writes, "A beautiful and important soul-transferring book...about how to love people. How to *really* love people. And how to know God when you see God." Contact Susan Parker, parkers710@gmail.com or 830-257-3918 for more information, and for the Zoom link.



OH COME ALL YE
FAITHFUL



ST. PETER'S
SPROUTS
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

PRESENTS
A CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

SUNDAY

12/11 AT 9:15 AM
IN TUCKER HALL

This is a family friendly
service for ALL ages!



BRING YOUR STOCKING
AND JOIN US FOR

Blessing of the Stockings

Sunday, December 18, 2022
at the 9:15 Service



Middle School
Christmas
Party
DECEMBER
11
6:30-8:30P.M.

.....

717 OAKLAND HILLS LANE
KERRVILLE, TX 78028



UNITED THANK OFFERING

Psalms 100:4 (NRSV)
Enter His gates with
thanksgiving, and His
courts with praise.
Give thanks to Him,
bless His name.



FALL IN-GATHERING
DECEMBER 18, 2022

If you are new to the Episcopal Church and unfamiliar with the “Blue Box”, the “In-Gatherings” and UTO, perhaps the following will shed some light on what they mean.

What is the United Thank Offering?

The United Thank Offering is a way for each of us to express tangible thanks to God for all our many blessings. United with other Episcopalians in offering prayers and money, we reach out to our neighbors around the world.

What is the story of United Thank Offering (U.T.O)?

For over 100 years the prayers and coins in the “Blue Boxes” have grown into millions of dollars to help many people. UTO is very different from other groups. We are not fund-raisers and we do not collect contributions or donations. These thank offerings are gathered in twice a year in the Spring and Fall when we are called to “In-Gather” the “Blue Boxes”.

What do we do?

What we do in the United Thank Offering is first offer our prayers of thanks to God. This is the major difference between us and other groups; we are prayer-oriented. Then, we give tangible thanks for the blessing. This money is an offering, not a donation, and that is the word we always use; an “offering”. We do this every day because we receive blessings every day, not just once in a while. United Thank Offering is not just for the women of the church. It is for every communicant nationwide.

If you do not have a Blue Box, you will find some on the table in the narthex, or on the table in the Parish Hall. United Thank Offering Envelopes are also available.

Please remember Our Fall United Thank Offering (UTO) In-Gathering Sunday December 18, 2022.

Margaret Galloway
United Thank Offering Chair

FLY FISHING AND SPIRITUALITY

The Rev. Bert Baetz and Dr. Mike Attas

THURSDAY DECEMBER 15, 2022
AT 2 PM IN TUCKER HALL

Anyone who's picked up a fly rod has likely experienced the "harmony" of fly fishing, its beauty, its sense of destiny and calm, its healing magic. In a collaboration with Rabbi Eric Eisenkramer, Episcopalian and cardiologist Dr. Mike Attas posits that fly fishing is a spiritual practice that informs the natural world of its awe and miracles, with the holy benefits of solitude, the unique blessing of community and the human search for the Divine.

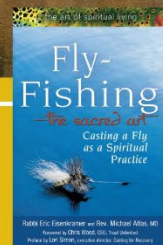
In this program, Dr. Mike and Father Bert will also discuss, among other ideas, their ministry in Colorado called "Fishers of Men."

Please join us for this interesting presentation. Bring a guest!

RECOMMENDED READING:

Fly Fishing - The Sacred Art: Casting a Fly as Spiritual Practice

By Dr. Mike Attas and Rabbi Eric Eisenkramer





DECEMBER SERVICE SCHEDULE



December 4th, 11th, and 18th

Sunday Services at 8, 9:15, and 11:15 am

December 18th

Lessons and Carols Service at 5:30

December 24th

Christmas Eve Services at 5:30 and 10:30 pm

December 25th

Christmas Day Service at 10 am



LESSONS AND CAROLS

Join us Sunday, December 18th, at 5:30 pm for the
Service of Nine Lessons and Carols in the Church*

The first Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols was held on Christmas Eve, 1918. Eric Milener-White, who at the age of thirty-four had just been appointed Dean of King's College, planned this service after an experience as an army chaplain which had convinced him the Church of England needed more imaginative worship. A revision of the Order of Service was made in 1919, involving a rearrangement of the Lessons, and from that date the service has always begun with the singing of the hymn, "Once in royal David's city."

Almost immediately other churches adapted the service for their own use. A wider frame began to grow when the service was first broadcast in 1928 and, with the exception of 1930, it has been broadcast annually, even during the Second World War. Sometime in the early 1930's, the BBC began broadcasting the service on overseas programs. It is estimated that there are millions of listeners worldwide.

Wherever the service is heard and however it is adapted, whether the music is provided by choir or congregation, the pattern and strength of the service derive from the Lessons and not the music. As Dean Milener-White stated, "The main theme is the development of the loving purposes of God..." seen "through the windows and words of the Bible". The center of the service is still found by those who "go in heart and mind" and consent to follow where the story leads.

**It was previously communicated that the service would be in our courtyard. The service will be in the church.*



ANNOUNCEMENT:



INTRODUCING A NEW MINISTRY!

We are excited to share the news of a new ministry: St. Peter's Handy Helpers Services. This group of volunteer parishioners aims to help fellow parishioners with household projects that they cannot do themselves.

Examples include: replacing light bulbs, replace toilet tank parts, replace light fixtures, dust or replace ceiling fans, replace faulty outlets or switches, install smoke alarms, replace smoke alarm batteries, repair leaking faucets, etc...

Services will initiate on December 5!

HOW TO REQUEST SERVICES:

- Fill out our online form on the website:
<https://www.stpeterskerrville.com/handyhelpers>
- Scan the QR code (right)
- Print the form from our website (copies also available in the church office)
- Call the office at (830) 257-8162



ST. PETER'S
HANDY HELPERS

Did You Know?

There is a men's group similar to the women's Daughters of the King!



THE BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW

We are called Brotherhood of St. Andrew or Brothers Andrew. Men need Men's support: physically, emotionally and Spiritually. Come join us. Talk to James Horne, Carter Crain, Mickey Horany, Tom Murray or other Brothers. We presently meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 1:00 after PFF.

We meet the 1st & 3rd
TUESDAYS
@1PM

BENEFITS ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL!

Giving Tree

The Giving Tree has gone digital this year! Brighten our teachers' holiday when you purchase from our school wish list! You may also donate through our online giving select the school fund and add the memo, "Giving Tree."



<https://www.stpeterskerrville.com/schoolgive>

View the wishlist through the link above, or you can scan the QR code to the left. When you purchase through this link, the gifts will be delivered directly to teachers' classrooms.

FROM THE

LABYRINTH GUILD



Welcome!

We are thrilled to introduce our new Labyrinth Coordinator, Anne King. Anne will be at our December Solstice Labyrinth Walk, as well as at our next quarterly meeting. Please come by and say hello!

The Labyrinth Guild meets quarterly. Our next meeting is January 10th at 3 PM in the Multi Purpose Room.

WINTER SOLSTICE LABYRINTH WALK



**DECEMBER 21
12:30-1:30 PM**

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

It's time to order thanksgiving and memorial Christmas poinsettias for our altar. These beautiful plants will be on display on the altar during Christmas week services. Poinsettias are \$15 each and are wrapped in colorful foil paper.

Fill out the order form below, then drop it off, along with payment, to the front desk in the church office. OR, place it in the offering plate on Sunday!



<https://forms.gle/5D7ijrdh7fUt4Bft6>

Deadline for inclusion in Christmas bulletins is Friday December 16th.



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Order Form

Name: _____

Phone: _____

	# of plants:	Total Cost:
TOTAL (# of plants x\$15.00)	_____	\$ _____

PLEASE COMPLETE BELOW:

In memory of:

In Thanksgiving for:

