

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
November 28, 2021 – 8:00 a.m.
THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

Organ Prelude

THE WORD OF GOD

Lighting of the Advent Candle

stand

Therefore, keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. *Mark 13: 35, 36*

Opening Sentences

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

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

The Collect for Purity

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

Priest: Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One.

People: **Have mercy upon us.**

The Collect of the Day

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: Let us pray.

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

Lector: A Reading from The Book of the Prophet Jeremiah. (33: 14-16)

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

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25: 1-9

Lector: Let us recite, in unison, the appointed portion of Psalm 25.

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

9 **All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

stand

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (21:25-36).

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

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

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

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

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon: The Reverend David Hodges

sit

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

All: **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Lector: In this season of Advent, let us offer our prayers to God, saying: Lord, have mercy.

That our gracious Savior may rouse us from sleep and make us attentive to the nearness of his presence, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Lector: That we may discover God's word in every sound of this world, God's healing in every act of forgiveness, and God's love in every gesture of self-sacrifice among us, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Lector: That we may come to recognize in our holy assembly gathered for prayer that Jesus the Christ is with us here, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Lector: That the leaders of the church, in both word and deed, may show forth God's love for the world, remembering especially Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Deon, our Bishop; and David and Kelly, our clergy, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Lector: That all in any need, in St. Louis and around the world, may receive God's mercy and grace and be served by human hands, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Lector: That all who suffer from sickness of body, mind or spirit may know the power of God's love, especially Paul Hmiel and Howard Grimmett, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Lector: That all who have died may find eternal life in God's loving presence, remembering especially Jean Walker let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Lector: That God's coming into the days and years of our human history may be always new, always brimming with light to drive all darkness away, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Priest: Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace. Receive our prayers, accept our thanks and praise for all your gifts so generously given, and make ready our hearts for the coming of your Son, our Savior, Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

The Confession

Priest: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *kneel*

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.**

The Absolution

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

stand

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

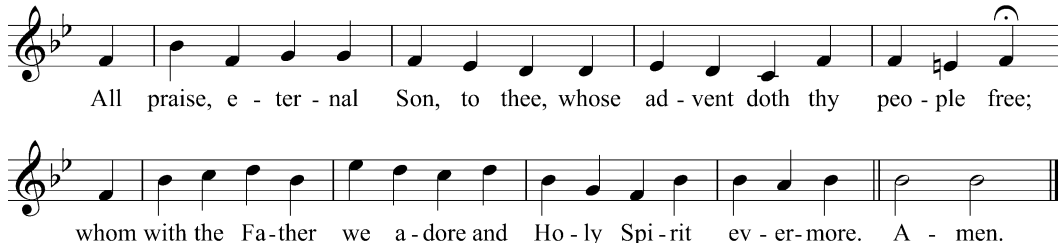
Announcements

sit

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Presentation (*Hymn 76, stanza 5*)

Winchester New, *stand*



The musical notation consists of two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are: "All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more. A - men."

– *Charles Coffin, tr. C. W. Douglas*

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A

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 God thanks and praise.**

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

For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Sanctus et Benedictus

All: **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Priest: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: **Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Priest: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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 forever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven,**

hallowed be thy Name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those

who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Priest: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

Priest: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,

and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Administration of the Sacrament

sit

While we celebrate the Eucharist with both bread and wine, currently we receive in bread only, which is full participation. Please tell the clergy if you require gluten-free bread.

To receive without physical contact, place one hand on top of the other, palms open.

Crossing your arms over your chest will let the clergy know you would like to receive a blessing but not the sacrament.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

stand

Priest: Let us pray.

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

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

The Dismissal

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Organ Voluntary

*We hope you can stay for a cup of coffee and to catch up with friends
and fellow worshippers in the undercroft following the service.*

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God
in loving memory of Florence N. Baur, by the Baur Family*

THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY:

Preaching: The Rev. David Hodges

Presiding: The Rev. Kelly Carlson

Organ: David Sinden

Lectors: Jane Gilbert, Ann Babington

Ushers: Dick & Nancy Gulick

Altar Guild: Frances Gay, Amy & Mike Maranto

PRAYER LIST

For Parishioners: Paul Hmiel.

For Family and Friends: Howard Grimmett.

For the Faithful Departed: Jean Walker.

For the Men and Women of the Armed Forces: Zach Greata and Matt Robinson.

For those Committed to Our Ongoing Prayers: Scott Adderton, Angela Birkeland, Donna Brookman, Elizabeth Cawns, Elizabeth Clarke, Jim Corbett, Dixie Daniels, Kathryn Dewein, Mary Beth Engler, Rylin Forde, Pat Gilbert, Mia Hennessey, Jobie Hereford, Trey Kirtian, Guy Knapp, Cheryl Meyer, Steven Minton, Linda Morotz, Signe Myles, Fin Nayler (Mighty Fin), Jeffrey Rixleben, Jane St. John, Greyson Schnoebelen, Carl Schuldt, Kate Skinner, Julie Stephenson, Annie Vogt, Dan Weas, Scott Weaver, Rolla Wetzell, Sarina White, Cathie Wille, Joey Wilson, Susie Yoder, and Helen Yount.

TODAY...

THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPPING WITH US! – Whether you are worshipping from the nave or from home, we are glad you are with us to offer thanks and praise to God.

SUNDAY SCHOOL & NURSERY – Here is today's schedule:

- The Nursery on the lower level of the Little Building opens at 10:00 a.m.
- Sunday School for Kindergarten thru 5th Grade begins at 10:30 a.m.

THE GIVING TREE IS UP! – Each ornament on the Giving Tree contains all the information you need to help make a Christmas wish come true for neighbors served by Episcopal City Mission, Trinity Food Pantry, and the Urban League's Peter H. Bunce Campus. Place your unwrapped gift, with its ornament attached, under the tree in the narthex by Thursday, December 9.

FOOD DRIVE – As you leave church this morning, ushers will be handing out grocery bags with a list of needed pantry items attached. As you shop for groceries this week, please take the food list with you for our December 5th food collection for Trinity (CWE) food pantry. The groceries and toiletries most needed for December are: chili with beans; 1 qt. packets powdered milk; peanut butter; toothbrushes and toothpaste; and toilet tissue.

ADVENT WREATH-MAKING – Everything you need to make a lovely Advent Wreath for your family table is waiting for you in the undercroft. Come down after worship to either make your wreath or pick up everything you need to create your masterpiece at home.

POP UP BOUTIQUE – During Coffee Hour, if you want to take a few minutes to shop for a good cause, the Woman’s Guild will have live Christmas wreaths to order and Christmas ornaments and other offerings for sale in the undercroft, with all proceeds going to support the 2022 St. Peter’s Youth Mission Trip to Kentucky. An exciting update on the trip: it is now a joint trip for the youth of St. Peter’s and the Church of St. Michael & St. George! Christmas wreath orders must be received by December 4.

ORGAN VESPERS – This evening at 5:00 p.m., this service of candlelight, chant, and music promises to be an extraordinary way to enter into the Advent season. During the service, David Sinden will perform various pieces written for Advent on our Mander organ, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary this season.

THIS WEEK . . .

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY – “Draw Near to the Manger“ continues on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. in the Elliot Room.

FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY – We meet every Friday at 7:00 a.m. via Zoom. Find the link in Friday’s *News from the Rock*. This week: The Letter to the Hebrews!

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP – The Prayer Group is now meeting on Fridays at 2:00 p.m. If you are interested in attending, please contact Sally Lemkemeier at (314) 614-4321.

COOKIE DECORATING PARTY – Come to the undercroft this Saturday at 10:00 a.m. for a morning of family fun! While children decorate Christmas cookies under the tutelage of St. Peter’s youth, with entertainment provided by a classic holiday offering from Charlie Brown and the Peanuts gang, parents will have a chance to visit over coffee and shop the live wreaths and other holiday offerings of the Woman’s Guild Pop Up Boutique.

VESTRY NOMINATIONS – If you are interested in nominating someone (including yourself!) to serve as a Vestry member or a Delegate to Diocesan Convention, look for information on the Welcome Table in the undercroft and on the parish website. **Nominations must be received by next Sunday, Dec. 5.**

LOOKING AHEAD . . .

POINSETTIA DELIVERERS NEEDED – St. Peter’s has a pastoral tradition of delivering poinsettias during the season of Advent to “mostly-at-home” parishioners and those who have lost a loved one in the past year. If you would like to serve in this ministry of caring, we are asking all deliverers to pick up poinsettias between 9:00 a.m. and Noon on Wednesday, December 8. Pick up is easy – drive up to the front steps of the church, pop your trunk, and a trusty soul will put your poinsettias in your trunk and hand you your delivery list. You don’t have to get out of your car! If you cannot pick up in that timeframe, let Kelly know when you sign up, and we’ll come up with a plan. We ask that you deliver your plants within a day of picking them up. This is a ministry perfect to do as a family (employing the safeguards of masks and hand sanitizer)! **If you can help deliver a bit of love and joy, let Kelly know at kcarlson@spectl.org by Monday, December 6.**

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE – A Service of Lessons and Carols for Advent will be held on Sunday, December 12 at 5:00 p.m. This service reflects the Advent season’s growing anticipation. Sung by the St. Peter’s Choir, the music includes works by Josquin des Prez, Elizabeth Poston, Paul Manz, and Judith Weir. The service will be preceded by an Organ Recital beginning at 4:30 p.m. (*see below*).

ADVENT ORGAN RECITAL – A recital of Advent music for the organ played by Dr. Robert Lehman will precede the Advent Carol Service on Sunday, December 12. The recital, which begins at 4:30 p.m., is about twenty-five minutes in length. Dr. Lehman has served on the staff of several distinguished churches, including the Washington National Cathedral (of which he is a Fellow); the Princeton University Chapel; Saint Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church, New York City; and, most recently, the Church of St. Michael & St. George, Clayton.

A BLUE CHRISTMAS? – Blue Christmas services have become something of a tradition in the Episcopal Church, responding to the needs of those of us who struggle with loss, grief, and other sorrows during this season when we can almost feel an obligation to exhibit good cheer. If you find yourself seeking solace more than celebration, come to St. Peter’s Blue Christmas worship service on Wednesday, December 15, at 6:00 p.m., as we ask God to share our sorrows as well as our joys. This service will be livestreamed.

SAVE THE DATE (January 29!) – The date for our Celebration of New Ministry, when Bishop Johnson will join us to officially welcome David as the 16th Rector of St. Peter’s Episcopal Church and ask God to bless our ministry together, is scheduled for Saturday, January 29, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. Following the service (so long as the pandemic cooperates) the celebration will continue in the undercroft! Watch for details in the coming weeks.

GET INVOLVED, STAY CONNECTED...

END OF YEAR GIVING – We are grateful for the generous gifts parishioners give to St. Peter’s in the final weeks of the year. Thank you! We know that some gifts received in late 2021 are intended to prepay a pledge for 2022. To help us record your gift accurately, if you want to prepay a 2022 pledge, please write “2022 pledge paid in 2021” in the memo line of your check. If you have any questions about end-of-year giving, please contact Janet Rouse, Director of Stewardship and Parish Life at janetr@specstl.org.

WE ARE HIRING! – St. Peter’s has two openings for sexton positions: one full-time day position, 8:00 to 5:00 p.m., \$20 an hour (negotiable) with full benefits; one part-time evening/weekend position; 25 hours a week, \$15 an hour. If you know anyone who might be interested, please have them contact Angela Mahan at angelam@specstl.org.

COFFEE HOUR ASSISTANCE – **Sundays, after the 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. service.** This is a time to reconnect with our community and meet new members. We are in need of parishioners willing to help make the coffee, set-up, and clean-up after the fellowship hour. Training and instructions will be provided. If you would like to help, please contact Janet Rouse at janetr@specstl.org, or call the office at 314-993-2306.

ALTAR FLOWERS – Would you like to donate altar flowers for Sunday worship? To give flowers in memory or honor of loved ones on a Sunday of your choice, with an acknowledgement printed in that morning’s bulletins, go to specstl.org/worship/Sunday-flowers/ or call the Church Office at 314-993-2306. Your flower donation will be confirmed after payment is received by the Church Office.

LOG IN TO REALM – With an active Realm login, you can search the parish directory, check on giving history, and peruse groups to join. If you are having trouble, or have not set up your Realm login yet, contact Jacquelyn at jacquelynv@specstl.org.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

It is time to order flowers and greens to beautify the sanctuary for the Christmas Season. We hope that you will contribute **\$40.00** to the general cost of the decorations and greens. You may order and make your donation through the parish website, at www.speestl.org/give.

Or, you may place your order by completing this form and submitting it to the Church Office with your check, marked for "Christmas Flowers". The address, if you choose to return it by mail, is: 110 N. Warson Rd., St. Louis, MO 63124.

If you wish to have your acknowledgement appear in the Christmas Eve/Day booklet, all orders must be placed **by Monday, December 13th**. Christmas Flowers donations received after that deadline are appreciated and will still be designated for the flowers, but the acknowledgement will not meet the Christmas booklet print deadline.

PLEASE PRINT:

Given by:

In loving memory of:

In honor of/thanksgiving for:
