

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday
after Pentecost

THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 15, 2020

Our weekly Sunday worship service will be available beginning at 8:00 a.m. each Sunday, at www.stpetersepiscopal.org or via our Facebook page, facebook.com/specstl.

Words of Welcome

*While our buildings are closed, our hearts remain open.
We thank you for inviting us into your homes
and more importantly,
we thank you for inviting the Spirit of God
into your hearts, minds, and lives.*

*As we begin our worship,
we invite you to remember those who typically sit beside you
and those who sit in front of and behind you
and those who come into your mind as you remember.*

*Remember also that as we worship we join with the whole communion of saints,
with those who have gone before us,
those present with us in gatherings around the world
and those saints yet to come.*

*Let us join with all the saints and the whole company of heaven
and worship our God, who makes all things new.*

Stewardship Thought: Not Everything is What it Seems

The Gospel for today is the well-known "Parable of the Talents." While seemingly simple on first reading it is actually very complex and open to wide interpretation. The first question to ask is: "What is the God Image?" It would appear that the God image is the Master, who is a tyrant, who gathers wherever he wants, and violently punishes anyone who does not pursue his greed-based goals.

If your image of God is likewise a tyrant, you will interpret the punishment of the fearful slave with one talent as totally appropriate. On the other hand, is this the character of God that Jesus revealed? No! If your image of God is loving then you will find that this whole Gospel story is Jesus at his paradoxical best and the slave with one talent is to be affirmed for being willing to be severely punished for refusing to be an agent of his tyrannical master.

We can apply this parable to our understanding of making a pledge for the coming year. If our God is tyrannical then we would make our pledge because we are afraid of God's punishment. On the other hand, when our God is loving and generous, we will make a financial pledge because we are grateful for what God has given us. And in keeping with our God's generosity, our pledge is an expression of our generosity. I am grateful that we worship a loving God, and not a tyrannical God, at St. Peter's, and for the generosity of parishioners who have made a pledge for 2021.

Rob+

THE WORD OF GOD

The Service begins on page 355 of The Book of Common Prayer.

Introit *Ego clamavi*

Plainchant, Mode 7

I have called upon thee, O God, for thou shalt hear me: incline thine ear unto me and hearken unto my words: Keep me, O Lord, as the apple of an eye. Hide me under the shadow of thy wings. Hear the right, O Lord: consider my complaint.

– Ps. 17: 6, 8 & 1

Hymn 598: “Lord Christ, when first thou cam’st to earth”

Newnham

Opening Sentences

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

People: **Amen.**

Gloria in excelsis (*Hymnal S 280*)

Robert Powell (b. 1932)

All: **Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Priest: The Risen Lord is with us.
Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People: **Amen.**

The Lessons

Lector: A Reading from Book of the Prophet Zephaniah. (1:7,12-18)

Wisdom is their paths, Be silent before the Lord GOD!

For the day of the LORD is at hand;

the LORD has prepared a sacrifice,
he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people

who rest complacently on their dregs,
those who say in their hearts,

“The LORD will not do good,
nor will he do harm.”
Their wealth shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.
The great day of the LORD is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there.
That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.
I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the LORD,
their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.
Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed;
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.
Thanks be to God for this holy word.

Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12

- 1 Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born,
from age to age you are God.
- 3 You turn us back to the dust and say,
"Go back, O child of earth."
- 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past
and like a watch in the night.

- 5 You sweep us away like a dream;
we fade away suddenly like the grass.
- 6 In the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
- 7 For we consume away in your displeasure;
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.
- 8 Our iniquities you have set before you,
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
- 12 So teach us to number our days
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

**All: 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.**

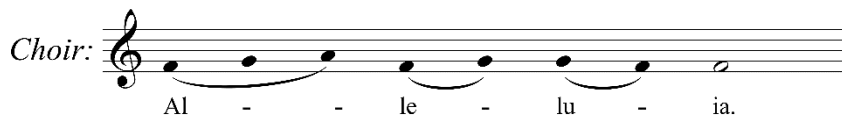
Lector: A Reading from The First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians. (5:1-11)

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Thanks be to God for this holy word.

Alleluia *Lauda anima mea*

Plainsong, Mode 6



Choir: Praise the Lord, O my soul: while I live I will praise the Lord; yea, as long as I have any being, I will sing praises unto my God.



– Psalm 146:1

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. (24:14-30)

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who

had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

Praise to you our living Gospel, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Sermon: Shug Goodlow

To allow for your personal reflection, a time of silence will be kept following the sermon.

The Nicene Creed

People: **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.**

Litany for the Season of Thanksgiving

Lector: Almighty God, rooted in our faith in your son Jesus, and with gratitude in our hearts, we pray to you the Source of our Being.

Silence is kept

For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea. For sunrises and sunsets, for awesome vistas, the varied colors of the seasons, for animals and birds, for reptiles and fish, for all that you created and proclaimed as very good.

People: **We thank you, Lord.**

Lector: For the abundance and providence of your earth that provides us with nourishment. For the men and women who grow, harvest, package, and prepare the food that sustains our bodies.

People: **We thank you, Lord.**

Lector: For our health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play. For doctors, nurses, medical technicians, orderlies, and first responders who put their lives at risk to care for us when we are ill or in need.

People: **We thank you, Lord.**

Lector: For scientists and laboratories working to create a cure for covid-19 and for all people in our society who have creatively and compassionately made sacrifices in reducing their social contact and wearing masks in public to minimize the risk for our fellow citizens.

People: **We thank you, Lord.**

Lector: For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ that is within us. For minds to think, and hearts to love, voices to sing, hands to serve.

People: **We thank you, Lord.**

Lector: For our community of St. Peter's that has been here for us. For our founders and all who have made St. Peter's their spiritual home in years past, and for their generosity of time, talent, and treasure to ensure that St. Peter's is here today.

People: **We thank you, Lord.**

Lector: For parishioners who during this time of pandemic have made a financial pledge for 2021 to ensure that we can move forward into the new year with your hope in our collective heart.

People: **We thank you, Lord.**

Lector: And we pause and remember those moments of grace and love when we personally have felt and known your presence at St. Peter's... *silence is kept for people to reflect and give thanks...* For St. Peter's, our spiritual home.

People: **We thank you, Lord.**

Priest: God of infinite blessing, when you fashioned the world the morning stars sang together and the host of heaven shouted for joy: open our eyes to behold the wonders of your creation and how you have blessed us with talents and capabilities beyond the imagination of our finite minds. Help us,

not to take these blessings for granted, but to use them, as we meet the challenges of our times, become a blessing for our neighbors, and bring glory to you and your son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

Lector: We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.
Silence is kept.

All: **Almighty God, giver of good things and lover of souls,
Forgive us where we have failed to serve you
as faithful stewards of all that you have given us.**

**Forgive us where we have failed to confront the evils of our day
and protect the vulnerable in our world.**

**Forgive us where we have failed to support one another
and be the community that is always here for you.**

**Forgive us, root us afresh in your heart,
and set us free to be your love in the world.**

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.

All: **Amen.**

Exchanging the Peace

Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

*We invite you to take a moment and extend the peace of God to members of your household
and then to people in the world whom you love and struggle to love.*

Announcements

Please Stay Connected

Please continue to check our website www.stpetersepiscopal.org and News from the Rock for our virtual programming and updates on our work as a church in the world when our doors are closed but our hearts remain open.

*Each Sunday we will also be hosting a live adult forum on Zoom at 9:15 a.m. followed by
a live Children's Chapel on Zoom at 10:15 a.m.*

Please check your email updates and News from the Rock for the Zoom access information.

THE SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Priest: Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us an offering and sacrifice to God.

The Offertory Anthem

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

Lord, thou hast been our refuge from one generation to another.

Before the mountains were brought forth or ever the earth and the world were made,
thou art God from everlasting

and world without end. Thou turnest man to destruction; again thou sayest: Come again, ye children of men.

For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday; seeing that is past as a watch in the night.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.

As soon as thou scatterest them they are even as a sleep and fade away suddenly like the grass.
In the morning it is green, and groweth up, but in the evening it is cut down, dried up and withered.
For we consume away in thy displeasure, and are afraid at thy wrathful indignation.
For when thou art angry all our days are gone; we bring our years to an end, as a tale that is told.
The years of our age are three-score years and ten,
and though men be so strong that they come to four-score years,
yet is their strength but labour and sorrow.
So passeth it away, and we are gone. Turn thee again, O Lord, at the last.
Be gracious unto thy servants. O satisfy us with thy mercy and that soon.
So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

Lord, thou hast been our refuge from one generation to another.
Before the mountains were brought forth or ever the earth and the world were made,
thou art God from everlasting and world without end.
And the glorious majesty of the Lord be upon us.
Prosper thou, O prosper thou the work of our hands, O prosper thou our handywork.

– Psalm 90; Isaac Watts

*As we gather with all the saints, past, present and future at this altar
we remember the people who are ill and pray for their recovery.*

*We remember especially the people in the medical profession,
doctors, nurses, technicians, emergency workers, and others
who are putting their lives on the line to care for those who are sick.*

*We offer our worship to the glory of God with gratitude for their courage and service
and with our prayers for their safety.*

The Great Thanksgiving: Adapted from Eucharistic Prayer D

p. 372

Priest: The Lord is present with us.
We lift our hearts to the Lord and give God thanks and praise.

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

Sanctus and Benedictus

Robert Powell (b. 1932)

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: We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, ourselves, our souls and bodies as a living sacrifice, we praise you and we bless you.

All: **We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Priest: Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit descends upon us, that we become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember, Lord, Michael our Presiding Bishop, Deon our Bishop, and the people of our diocese and all who minister in your Church.

Remember, Lord, all who are in need of your healing, especially Doc Brookman, Janine Brown, Paul Hmiel, Steve Kohlbry, Bryan Miller, Linda Morotz, Ted Noland, Ann Randazzo, Jen Schafer, Carl Schuldt, John Walters, and Rolla Wetzel, and the people on our hearts today.

Remember, Lord, all who have died in the peace of Christ, especially Gloria Borndez, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

And grant that we find our inheritance with Blessed Mary, St. Peter and patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

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

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

Fraction Anthem (*Hymnal S 152*)

Plainsong

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

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

Spiritual Communion

Priest: Remember O people of God, who Jesus was, and is, and will be forevermore.
Behold in him his Body and Blood, broken and shed for us all.
Let us feed on him in our hearts, by faith with thanksgiving.

*While we are unable to physically partake of the sacrament,
we invite you to make your communion by praying the following prayer,
adapted from the prayer of St. Alphonsus de Liguori:*

People: **Beloved Jesus,
We believe that you are truly present in the sacrament of the altar.
We long for you in our souls,
to know that we are in you and that you are in us.
Though physically isolated from your altar
and the sacrament of your Body and Blood,
We receive you into our hearts and the depths of our being.
United with you, help us know
that our lives are hid with you O Christ in the heart of God. Amen.**

A moment of silence is kept.

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

Priest: Let us pray.

People: **O God of the high heavens,
O Christ of the deep earth,
O Spirit of the soaring mountains and flowing waters,
O Trinity of love, you have fed us with your love,
in this holy sacrament, and here we pledge our love to you.**

**Set the risen light of Christ, as your center for our souls,
that together we will go forward in hope,
with your love in our hearts,
your truth in our minds,
your strength in our wills,
until, at the end of our journey,
we know the joy of our homecoming and the welcome of your embrace,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing

Priest: Almighty God, the source of our being, grant you that sustaining joy which none can take from you, that comes from knowing that you are loved and are rooted with Christ in the heart of God, with a life to live and love to share. And the blessing of God Almighty, the love at our beginning and at our end, be with you and all those whom you love and struggle to love, now and forever.
Amen.

The Dismissal

Priest: Go with gratitude to love and enjoy the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 541: "Come, labor on"

Ora Labora

MUSIC NOTES:

The Introit is sung for this service by Christina Kruger, alto; the Alleluia is sung by Samantha Arten, soprano.

The remaining music in this service comes from archival recordings made at St. Peter's. The opening hymn, "Lord Christ, when first thou cam'st to earth" is sung to the tune Newnham by Herbert Howells (1892–1983), published by Novello & Co., Ltd. This hymn was sung on the Second Sunday of Advent, 2019.

The Anthem, "Lord, thou hast been our refuge" by Ralph Vaughan Williams is an extended setting of the words of today's psalm and includes a metrical paraphrase of this same psalm by Isaac Watts. This anthem was sung on St. Peter's Day, 2019 but that recording cannot be used because of a persistent electronic hum in the audio (one of many problems we have experienced with our recording system since 2018). This recording comes from the St. Peter's Choir's concert performance on June 2, 2019.

The final hymn, "Come, labor on" was sung on the Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost, 2016.

The Fraction Anthem was recorded at this same service when the cantor was Holley Sherwood, soprano.

PRAYER LIST

For Parishioners: Janine Brown, Paul Hmiel, Steve Kohlbry, Bryan Miller, Linda Morotz, Ted Noland, Ann Randazzo, Jen Schafer, Carl Schuldt, John Walters, and Rolla Wetzel.

For Family and Friends: Doc Brookman.

For the Faithful Departed: Gloria Borndez

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

For those Committed to Our Ongoing Prayers: Donna Brookman, Arlene Burnham, Elizabeth Clarke, Devon Corbett, Kathryn Dewein, Greg Evans, Samantha Forsko, Patty Hecker, Taffy Hoos, Laney Johnson, Fran Kempton, Ann Lilly, Ann McDonald, Bill McMahon, Elizabeth Mendoza, Cheryl Meyer, Steven Minton, Signe Myles, Louisa Rix, Jeffrey Rixleben, Sarah Roberts, Jane St. John, Greyson Schnoebelen, Julie Stephenson, Henry Thompson, Scott Weaver, Dick Williams, Joey Wilson, and Susie Yoder.

TODAY...

2021 ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN

We are nearing the end of our formal stewardship campaign. Next Sunday, we will bless the pledge cards during our worship services. To date, we have received pledges totaling **\$553,183**, or **40%** of our \$1.4M goal. Of our 520 households, **132 (or 25%)** have pledged their support.

This is a wonderful beginning. Now, we need to secure a level of financial commitments that will cover our 2021 operating expenses. St. Peter's relies on the faithfulness and generosity of all parishioners. Our goal is to increase our participation to 400 households this year. If you have not yet pledged, we ask that you complete your pledge card and return it via mail, the Sunday offering plate, or you may pledge online at www.stpetersepiscopal.org/give. **Thank you!**

COFFEE WITH THE RECTOR: FOLLOW-UP CONVERSATIONS ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE – Brew your cup of joe and join us at **9:15 a.m.** on Zoom (the link to the meeting can be found in Friday's *News from the Rock*). Last month we had some really great conversation about the book and film *Just Mercy*, followed by an excellent presentation by Blake Strode from Arch City Defenders. Many parishioners were not able to participate in these conversations and expressed a desire to have some further discussion about the subject. The inward-facing anti-racism core group has heard you and is offering two follow-up opportunities during Coffee with the Rector, today and next Sunday. All are welcome to join the conversation!

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION – A weekly series of music in the church at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays. All are welcome with masks and social distancing.

Today: Music by Samuel Barber, Phil Kline, and Zachary Wadsworth.

Next Sunday: Music celebrating the 325th birthday of Henry Purcell.

Nov. 29: Music for Advent Sunday

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL – Join us online at 10:15 on Sunday mornings for our beloved Sunday morning Children's Chapel! You can find instructions for joining us via Zoom in Friday's *News from the Rock*.

VESTRY NOMINATIONS – The Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for potential Vestry members to fill four available spots. We are actively seeking parishioners who make an annual pledge commitment, and actively participate through Sunday worship and parish life, as much as is possible during these challenging times. The deadline to submit names is **Monday, November 30th**. To nominate someone, write or call Senior Warden Jeanie Davis (maryjean.davis@me.com, 636-448-2906) or contact Laurie Haffenreffer (jhaff12@gmail.com, 314-703-9234).

THIS WEEK...

MORNING PRAYER – Join via Zoom at 8:00 each morning, Monday through Friday, as we pray with and for one another, the community, and the world. The link is provided in Friday's *News from the Rock*, and can also be viewed live on our Facebook page. This will also give you the opportunity to view our new Morning Prayer app, *Prayer from the Rock!*

WOMAN'S GUILD – Set aside some time for a bit of laughter and to catch up with one another! Join us each Tuesday for great conversation via Zoom at 2:00 p.m. The link is provided in your weekly Guild email and Friday's *News from the Rock*.

CHURCH IS OPEN FOR PERSONAL PRAYER – Come to St. Peter's on Wednesday mornings to soak up the beauty and peace provided by our main sanctuary. The hour from 9:00 to 10:00 is dedicated to parishioners

at higher risk for suffering serious complications from COVID-19, and then the church is open to everyone from 10:00 a.m. to Noon. The wearing of masks and social distancing are observed.

FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY – Please join in the study of Genesis on Fridays at 7:00 a.m. via Zoom. Email Kelly for the link at kcarlson@stpetersepicopal.org, or look for it in Friday's *News from the Rock*.

PRAYER GROUP – The prayer group is scheduled to meet on Fridays at 10:00-11:30 a.m. If you are interested in attending, please contact Sally Lemkemeier at 314-614-4321.

YOU'VE GOT MAIL! – *The Cornerstone*, St. Peter's Stewardship Magazine, is on its way to your mailbox! We hope you enjoy reading about all that has been going on at St. Peter's this past year. Can't wait to see? A PDF version is now available on our website at stpetersepicopal.org/news/2021-magazine

UPCOMING EVENTS...

ADVENT WREATHS! – It is true, Advent is almost here. One tradition that helps us prepare to receive the light of Christ into our lives anew each December 25th is the lighting of the Advent Wreath. Advent Wreaths will be included in the children's December Learning at Home kits (if you would like a kit for your child, please contact Annie Knapp) *and* will be available separately for all other households. If you would like to pick up either a December Learning at Home kit or an Advent Wreath for your home, both will be available after worship on Sunday, November 22 and 29, and also when the church is open for personal prayer on Wednesday, November 25, 9:00 a.m. to Noon. Let your light shine in the season of expectant waiting!

OUTDOOR WORSHIP AS OF NOV. 29 – **Beginning the first Sunday of Advent (Nov. 29) we will be worshipping from the front porch at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday when it is 40 degrees or warmer.** We make these adjustments to our schedule in recognition of the colder weather that is coming, inviting our 8:00 a.m. worshippers to join us at 10:30 a.m. for a slightly abbreviated service. We have set 40 degrees as “the low below which we will not go” – if we cancel the in-person service on a given Sunday due to cold or rainy weather, anyone who has made a reservation will receive notification via email; we will also post a cancellation message on the parish website and Facebook. Our virtual worship service will continue to be available every Sunday. So make a reservation, bundle up, and come celebrate Holy Eucharist in preparation for the Lord's coming whenever you are able. See you at the corner of Warson and Ladue, where a set of handwarmers will be given with every bulletin!

VIRTUAL KIRKIN' OF THE TARTAN – Mark your calendars and be sure to join us for a Virtual Kirkin' of the Tartan! We will gather on Zoom **Monday, November 30** (The Feast of St. Andrew) at 6:00 p.m. All the annual favorites will take place (The History of the Kirkin', the Roll Call of the Clans, and the Reading of “The Tartan”) along with some new festivities. Don your clan's Tartan and join us for a twist on an annual tradition.

LIVING TRADITION – Perhaps no liturgical tradition has been so widely associated with the Anglican Choral Tradition than the service of Lessons and Carols. The next Living Tradition virtual conversation on December 13 at 1:30 p.m. will explore this tradition. With special guest **Jessica Nelson**, Organist and Choirmaster of St. Andrew's Cathedral, Jackson, Miss., we will trace the development of this form of worship from a wooden shed in 1880 to a service heard live by millions worldwide. We will also note the recent tradition of St. Peter's Carol services for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany (returning in full, God willing, in 2021!).

BOOK GROUP: What if the Book of Common Prayer is for more than just worship within the church building? What if it is really “a map to a deeper relationship with God, a framework for developing a more intentional and rewarding life of faith?” As part of the Living Tradition series, David Sinden will lead a discussion of the book *Inwardly Digest: The Prayer Book as a Guide to a Spiritual Life* by **Derek Olsen**. Discussions will be held on Sundays, Jan. 17, Feb. 7, Feb. 21, and March 7. The author will join the final discussion.

GET INVOLVED, STAY CONNECTED...

SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE – PARISH PROFILE – The Rector Search Committee is pleased to announce the completion our Parish Profile, which is now live on our website at stpetersepiscopal.org/parish-profile/. Completing this first phase signals the beginning of the application and review process for calling our next rector. We are eager, as we know that you are, to move into Phase 2. Search Committee Members are available to answer any questions parishioners may have! Please reach out with any questions, concerns, or hopes for the future.

Search Committee Members:

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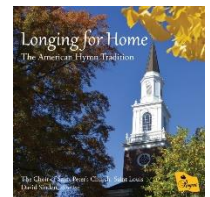
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SONGS AND STORIES – All young people (around age 7 and up) are warmly invited to take part in Songs and Stories, St. Peter's virtual Chorister training program for the year. The latest episode of Songs and Stories is called **"O come, O come, Emmanuel"** and now available to view at <http://songsandstories.online>

David Sinden has also begun to convene young singers online via Zoom. For more information, please email dsinden@stpetersepiscopal.org

HEAR THE CHOIR'S RECENT RECORDING – The St. Peter's Choir is very proud to announce the release of **Longing for Home**, a recording of hymn texts set to music by American composers. The selections on this disc range from simple hymn arrangements to hymn-anthems. Some of the hymns are very familiar to the St. Peter's congregation, "O love of God, how strong and true" to the Calvin Hampton hymn tune *de Tar*, and "Shall we gather at the river" arranged by John Ferguson. One of the pieces, "God is ascended" by Gerre Hancock, has never before been recorded. **Thanks to a generous donor, copies of this CD have been purchased for every St. Peter's member household that desires one.** To request a CD please visit stpetersepiscopal.org/longingforhome



ST. PETER'S CARES – Need a ride, a meal or a prayer? St. Peter's has a ministry that can help – that's St. Peter's Cares! Leave a voicemail or email (314-993-2306, ext. 125 or shepherd@stpetersepiscopal.org) and a Shepherd will contact you within 24 hours.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATES – [Register](#) to receive a box of Learning at Home materials each month this fall! You will receive crafts, games, Bible stories, and other activities to explore with your family at your own pace each month. These kits are designed to be inter-generational (for children, youth, and adults) and will have a different theme each month. There is no charge for these resources.

Households may sign up to receive all three monthly kits up front, or opt to register for only particular months. Households may also choose to either pick up the kit at St. Peter's at the start of the month or have the kit delivered directly to their home.

Questions? Contact Annie Knapp at aknapp@stpetersepiscopal.org

ANTI-RACISM RESOURCES – There are numerous books and films on anti-racism to spark good conversation with children of all ages, as well as adults. A list of resources, as well as steps for action are posted to our website. Go to stpetersepiscopal.org/antiracism.