

ST. PETER'S CHURCH IN ESSEX FELLS
A PARISH OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NEWARK
271 Roseland Avenue, Essex Fells, NJ 07102
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***The Third Sunday of Advent, 'Gaudete' Sunday
December 15, 2024***

Welcome

We are glad you are here, and we invite you to enter fully into worship today. No matter where you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here. We are a church rooted in Christian tradition, and open to new ideas, committed to service in community and world as part of the world-wide Anglican Communion and the Episcopal Diocese of Newark. The work of worship is shared by all, and we invite you to participate in the said and spoken responses as you are able.

All are welcome to make a gift and offering in thanksgiving to God for the many blessings we have received. To take advantage of our electronic giving options, please follow the QR code with your capable electronic device. Help us to make this a place where God's grace is freely shared by all.



Holy Eucharist at 8 o'clock and 4 o'clock, All Saints' Chapel

The service begins in the Book of Common Prayer (BCP), page 351

The Lessons may be found in the 10 o'clock portion of this worship bulletin (below)

Canticle 9 may be found on page 86 of the BCP

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer B, may be found on page 367 of the BCP

Holy Eucharist at 10 o'clock, Church

Voluntary *Prelude, 'Rorate caeli desuper'*

Jeanne Demessieux

Entrance Hymn 67 *Hymnal 1982*

FREU DICH SEHR

As the Advent wreath is lit, the Choir sings

Introit *Gaudete in Domino*

Tone VII

Rejoice in the Lord, and again I say, rejoice;

Let your moderation be known unto all, the Lord is at hand:

*Be careful for nothing, nor troubled; but in all things, by prayer and supplication,
with prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving,*

let your requests be made known unto God.

And the peace of God, which passes all understanding: shall keep your hearts and minds.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

—Philippians 4:4-5: Psalm 85

THE WORD OF GOD

A Penitential Order

Kyrie

Collect of the Day

BCP, page 351

Hymnal 1982, S-88

Advent 3, BCP, page 212

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever *Amen.*

THE LESSONS

First Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

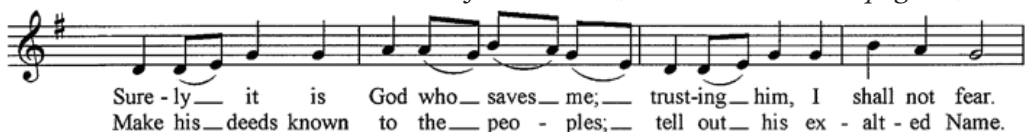
People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

HOLY MANNA

Text: Carl Daw, para. of Isaiah 12:2-6 ; Tune: Southern Harmony, 1835

Please remain seated. Metrical version of Canticle 9 (Isaiah 12:2-6, BCP page 86)



Sure - ly__ it is God who__ saves__ me;__ trust - ing__ him, I shall not fear.
 Make his__ deeds known to the__ peo - ples;__ tell out__ his ex - alt - ed Name.



For the Lord de-fends and shields me and his sav-ing help is near.
Praise the Lord who has done great things; all his works his might pro-claim.

So re-joice as you draw wa-ter from sal-va-tion's liv-ing spring;
Zi-on, lift your voice in sing-ing; for with you has come to dwell,

in the day of your de-liv-'rance thank the Lord his mercies sing.
in your ve-ry midst, the great and Ho-ly One of Is-ra-el.

Second Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 68 *Hymnal 1982*

LLANGLOFFAN

Gospel Reading

Luke 3:7-18

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

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

John [the Baptist] said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone

by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.” As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

Brother Ephrem Archement

Nicene Creed

BCP, page 358

Prayers of the People

Intercessor We sing the praises of the Lord,
People **For the Lord has done great things.**

The prayer concludes: “...the living God through Christ our Lord.”

People **To you, O Lord our God.**

The Peace

BCP, page 360

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

*Christians, we are met to worship
And adore the Lord our God;
Will you pray with all your power,
While we try to preach the Word.
All is vain unless the Spirit
Of the Holy One come down;
Let us pray, and holy manna
Will be showered all around.*

traditional, arr. Kenneth Lowenberg

*Let us love our God supremely,
Let us love each other too,
Let us love and pray for sinners,
Till our God makes all things new:
Then he'll call us home to heaven,
At his table we'll sit down;
Christ will gird himself and serve us
With sweet manna all around.*

—Spiritual folksong from Columbian Harmony, 1835

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer B

BCP, page 367

Sanctus

Hymnal 1982, S-130

Lord's Prayer

BCP, page 364

Fraction Anthem

Hymnal 1982, S-154

Invitation

Presider The gifts of God for the People of God.
All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Bread and Cup to be in communion with God and each other. You may receive only the bread by placing your hands together flat in front of you (Gluten-free wafers are available upon request). Afterwards you may drink wine from the chalice. If you would rather have the bread intincted (dipped) in the wine, you may hand the bread to the person administering the chalice and they will intinct and hand it back to you. If you (or your child) would rather not receive the Sacrament, you may come to the altar rail during Communion and cross your arms on your chest for a blessing.

Hymn 75 *Hymnal 1982*

ASCENSION

Postcommunion Prayer

Please stand and say together

ALL Have mercy upon us, O Lord, and by the help of your grace you have bestowed upon us in these holy mysteries, keep us free from sin: that with joyful hearts we may celebrate the birth of our redeemer, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn 76 *Hymnal 1982*

WINCHESTER NEW

Blessing and Dismissal

People **Thanks be to God.**

Organ Voluntary and Procession

This Week's Parish Notices

STEWARDSHIP 2025

This year's theme is *Walk in Love*, taken from the Letter to the Ephesians: "Walk in love as Christ has loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God (Ephesians 5:2). Make your pledge online at <https://stpetersef.org/donate/pledge-form>. Contact a member of the Vestry or Father Nate to find out more about how you can *Walk in Love* at St. Peter's.

CALENDARS FOR THE NEW YEAR

Thanks to the generosity of the Shook-Farmer Funeral Home, 2025 Episcopal Calendars are available. Sundays, Holy Days, and Feast Days are listed as well as the contact information for St. Peter's Church. Please take one home--they are available in the narthex of the church and on the back table of All Saints' Chapel

AN ADVENT BLESSING WITH BR. EPHREM

Join us at 11:30 am *today* in the Upper Room as we welcome Brother Ephrem Archement from Holy Cross Monastery for *The Wonder of the Incarnation: Discovering the Radical Nearness of God in our Daily Lives* Check out the poster just outside the Upper Room. To RSVP and for more information, email spm.peters@gmail.com or the Parish Office at info@stpetersef.org. Everyone is welcome!

LESSONS & CAROLS: TODAY AT 4 PM

Join us for our annual Advent Lessons and Carols Service, *today at 4 pm*. Lessons and Carols was developed by Dean Eric Milner-White for King's College Cambridge, England at the end of the First World War. He wrote: "The main theme is the development of the loving purposes of God ... seen through the windows and the words of the Bible." The service will be followed by a Dessert Reception in the Upper Room. The Parish Choir will present music by Melissa Dunphy, Stanley Glarum, André Thomas, and more. Everyone is welcome—invite a friend to this festive community even

THE CENTER FOR FAMILY SERVICES

While the holiday season is a wonderful time, there are many that find this time a challenge. The children from The Center for Family Services/The Patch (ranging from birth to 21) and their parents and caregivers are involved in receiving counseling and services to strengthen the family and make them more independent. The children from The Patch program are kids that have at least one incarcerated parent. You can help to make the holidays a little bit better by providing them with a gift. All gifts must be delivered to church by today, December 15. Contact Christine DiGiovanni (973-618-9345) for information. Thanks in advance for your kindness and generosity!

NATIVITY PAGEANT

Calling all children interested in participating in this year's Nativity Pageant. The rehearsal will be on Saturday, December 21 from 9:30-11:30. Snacks will be provided, and a pizza lunch will follow. The Nativity Pageant will be present the Christmas Gospel story at the Christmas Eve 4 o'clock service. There is enough room for all our children from different ages, abilities and talents. The children will also learn a special song for Christmas. To find out more, reach out to Laura Copeland (laura.n.copeland@gmail.com), Beth Manfre (Bethmanfre@gmail.com), or Mark Trautman (trautman@stpetersef.org). Sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?go=s.signup&urlid=10C0F4EA8AD2CAAFDC70-53459940-stpeters&useFullSite=true#/>

'SOFT SPACE' FOR CHILDREN

We now have a 'Soft Space' for children in the north transept of the church (by the pulpit). You are welcome to use this space when your children are restive during the 10 am service; however, please remain with your children in the space. Please speak to Father Nate with any questions or concerns. *Thank you!*



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

December 24, Nativity Pageant and Eucharist, 4 pm

December 24, Festal Choral Eucharist at 10 pm

December 25, Christmas Day Eucharist at 10 am

December 29, First Sunday after Christmas, 10 am (*only one service this day*)

January 5, 2025, Second Sunday after Christmas, 8 am, 10 am, 4 pm

PRAYER LIST

Laurie Alcott, Stanley Au, Amye Becker, Duffy Bell, Grace Bishop, Nancy Bivona, Murriel Bowness, Kathy Calfee, Martha Capel, Adele Corcoran, Gabriel Cowell, Mark Cowell, Wayne Hill, Bunny Jenkins, Tania Jenkins, Sheila & Norman Johnson, Eddie K., Jeffrey Kamel, Katherine Kamen, Ed Kamper, Colin Kelley, Katie King, Lauren L., Laurieann, Sally L., Mark Lewis, Marino Family, Tom Marriott, Mike, Nicholas Nunno, Lisa & Gary Pyne, Richardson & Dickhaus families, Craig Roper, Ruth Ann, Sarah, Jean Whiting Smith, Kathy Stanton, Marge Vere, Frank Zupa.



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS
CHRISTMAS MUSIC

Poinsettias and special music adorn our worship every Christmas. If you wish to write a check, please mark “Poinsettias” or “Music” (or both) in the memo line. Please let the Parish Office know if you are giving your gift in thanksgiving or in memory of loved ones, and clearly print or type each name or intention. Send names to info@stpetersef.org or send via regular mail to the Parish Office. Please make sure to deliver your gift and names to the Parish Office by Friday, December 20.

Poinsettias, greens, and special music are cherished traditions at St. Peter’s and remind us of the joy of the birth of Jesus. Gifts to the Music Fund will fund a string quartet for the late Christmas eve service. Thank you for your generosity!

Name _____

Circle one: Poinsettias Music Both

In memory of/in thanksgiving for _____

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

<i>Altar Guild</i>	Nancy Connor, Karen Mosher, Diane Waitts
<i>Ushers</i>	Wayne Copeland
<i>Acolytes</i>	Andrew Stern
<i>Readers</i>	Cynthia Ziegler Jonathan Lace
<i>Eucharistic Minister</i>	Eloise Monzillo Hiris
<i>Cantor</i>	Michael Barretti
<i>Director of Music</i>	Mark A. Trautman
<i>Presiding</i>	The Reverend Nathaniel Darville



THE VESTRY OF ST. PETER'S CHURCH

Mary Shearin and Wayne Copeland, *Wardens*
Valerie Felix, Jim Irwin, Christine Albano, Eloise Monzillo Hiris,
David Cowell, Kurt Vonderahe, *Vestry Members*

STAFF

The Rev. Nathaniel K.M. Darville, *Rector*
darville@stpetersef.org
Mark A. Trautman, *Director of Music and Administrator*
trautman@stpetersef.org
Dana Leach, *Care and Connect*
leach@stpetersef.org
Debra Jean Elmore, *Bookkeeper*
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