

**ST. PETER'S CHURCH IN ESSEX FELLS**  
A PARISH OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NEWARK  
271 Roseland Avenue, Essex Fells, NJ 07021  
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**The Second Sunday of Advent  
December 8, 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 16 may be found on page 92 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, 'Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland'*

*J.S. Bach*

Entrance Hymn 56 (*stanzas 1,2,3,7,8*) *Hymnal 1982*

*VENI EMMANUEL*

*As the Advent wreath is lit, the Choir sings*

Introit *Populus Sion*

*Tone VII*

*O people of Zion, behold, the Lord is nigh at hand to redeem the nations.*

*and in the gladness of your heart the Lord shall cause his glorious voice to be heard.*

*Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, you that lead Joseph like a flock.*

*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.*

*—Isaiah 30: Psalm 80*

THE WORD OF GOD

A Penitential Order

*BCP, page 351*

*Kyrie*

Collect of the Day

*Hymnal 1982, S-88*  
*Advent 2, BCP, page 211*

*Presider* God be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## THE LESSONS

First Reading

*Malachi 3:1-4*

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the LORD whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 444 *Hymnal 1982*

THORNBURY

*Metrical version of Canticle 16 (Luke 1:68-79); please remain seated*

Second Reading

*Philippians 1:3-11*

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer,

that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 65 *Hymnal 1982*

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

Gospel Reading

*Luke 3:1-6*

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

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

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’ ”

*Deacon* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

*The Rector*

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 Hymn 711 *Hymnal 1982*

SEEK YE FIRST

*Text: Matthew 6:33; 7:7; Tune: Karen Lafferty*

- 1 Seek ye first the kingdom of God  
And its righteousness,  
And all these things shall be added unto you;  
Allelu, Alleluia.  
  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
Alleluia!  
Allelu, Alleluia.
- 2 Ask and it shall be given unto you,  
Seek, and ye shall find,  
Knock, and the door shall be open unto you;  
Allelu, Alleluia.  
  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
Alleluia!  
Allelu, Alleluia.

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer B

*Sanctus*

*BCP, page 367*

*Hymnal 1982, S-130*

Lord's Prayer

*Fraction Anthem*

*BCP, page 364*

*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.*

Communion Anthem

*Michael Weisse, arr. R. Wienhorst*

*Once He came in blessing,  
All our ills redressing;  
Came in likeness lowly,  
Son of God most holy;*

*Bore the cross to save us,  
Hope and freedom gave us.*

*Still He comes within us,  
Still His voice would win us  
From the sins that hurt us;  
Would to truth convert us  
From our foolish errors  
Ere He comes in terrors.*

—Johann Roh, tr. Catherine Winkworth

Postcommunion Prayer

*Please stand and say together*

**ALL** Grant, O almighty and everlasting God: that we, who have received these holy mysteries as spiritual food, may have grace rightly to judge the worth of earthly things and evermore to hold fast to heavenly things; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn 54 *Hymnal 1982*

NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND

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

#### ADVENT CELEBRATION FOR ALL: TODAY

Join us for coffee hour after the 10 am mass *today* to make ornaments to help decorate the Christmas tree in the church narthex. Each family can also make an Advent wreath to take home (suggested \$10 donation for supplies). This celebration is for folks of all ages! Coffee hour will be hosted by SPY (St. Peter's Youth)

## CARE & CONNECT

We meet today directly after the 10 am mass in All Saints' Chapel. All are welcome to join us.

### AN ADVENT BLESSING WITH BR. EPHREM

Join us at 11:30 am on Sunday, December 15 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](mailto:spm.peters@gmail.com) or the Parish Office at [info@stpetersef.org](mailto:info@stpetersef.org). Everyone is welcome!

### LESSONS & CAROLS: DECEMBER 15 AT 4 PM

Our annual Advent Lessons and Carols service will take place on Sunday, December 15 at 4 pm. Please mark your calendars, and bring a friend. A reception will follow.

### 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 Sunday, 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](mailto:laura.n.copeland@gmail.com)), Beth Manfre ([Bethmanfre@gmail.com](mailto:Bethmanfre@gmail.com)), or Mark Trautman ([trautman@stpetersef.org](mailto:trautman@stpetersef.org)). Sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?go=s.signup&urlid=10C0F4EA8AD2CAAFDC70-53459940-stpeters&useFullSite=true#!/>

### USHERS

Grow our St. Peter's community—join the ministry of ushers! This work is important as we are the first impression people have as they arrive at Church. Schedules are flexible and made a month in advance. Contact Wayne Copeland ([waynecopeland@keyconsult.com](mailto:waynecopeland@keyconsult.com)).

### 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*)

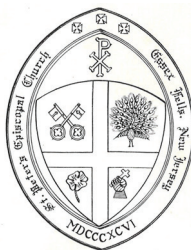
January 5, 2025, Second Sunday after Christmas, 8 am, 10 am, 4 pm

## PRAYER LIST

Laurie Alcott, Stanley Au, Amye Becker, Duffy Bell, Grace Bishop, Nancy Bivona, Murriel Bowness, Kathy Calfe, 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.

## MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

<i>Altar Guild</i>	Alice Samuels, Eloise Monzillo Hiris, Annetta Benedict
<i>Ushers</i>	Jim, Irwin, Ken Carr, Abby Cavanaugh, Josie Lace
<i>Crucifer, Acolytes</i>	Joseph Wolhtmann
<i>Readers</i>	Kellan Cavanaugh, Emery Vonderahe
<i>Intercessor</i>	Aubrey Lace
<i>Element Bearers</i>	Vivian Thompson and Penelope Thompson
<i>Eucharistic Minister</i>	Pat Aliotta
<i>Cantors</i>	Michael Barretti, Giulia Utz
<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

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