

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2024 7:30am, 10:00am

Aloha and Welcome!

Whoever you are, whatever your story, you are welcome here. We pray that your soul is nourished through worship, the beauty of this sacred space, and the presence of God's love within this community.

We are blessed to have you join us for worship today!

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Prelude

(Take this time to center your hearts for worship.)

Welcome

Hymn

Lo! He comes, with clouds descending

Hymnal 1982, #57

The Word of God

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

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Presider 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.**

Kyrie

Lord have mercy

Joseph A. Eppink



The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you

People **And also with you**

Presider Let us pray.

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.**

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

Hymn

O come, O come, Emmanuel

Hymnal 1982 #56

**O come, thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel**

The 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

Canticle 9 Page 86, BCP

Read responsively by whole verse. Congregation reads the verses in bold.

Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid.

**For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
and he will be my Savior.**

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation.

**And on that day you shall say,
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;**

Make his deeds known among the peoples;
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

**Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,
and this is known in all the world.**

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

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

The 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Hymnal 1982, #66

Before the Gospel we sing:

After the Gospel we sing:

Verse 1:

**Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in thee.**

Verse 4:

**By thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to thy glorious throne.**

The Holy Gospel

Luke 3:7-18

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

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

John 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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. David Gierlach

Music Meditation

(7:30am)

Manny Dayao

(10:00am)

Dr. Joseph Eppink

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,

**eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,**

of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate

from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven and is seated

at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Form I, BCP, pg. 383

After each petition, the response is "Lord, have mercy."

Confession of Sin and Absolution

BCP, pg. 360

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Give a nod, a wave, or a peace sign to those around you. The sharing of The Peace takes place as we prepare to receive communion. It is a sign of reconciliation, of the forgiveness we receive in Christ and that which we extend to one another with God's help.

Announcements and Birthdays (pg. 830, #50)

Welcome to those of you who are visiting with us today! Please take a moment to sign a pew card and place it in the offering plate so that we can extend a personal welcome to you. We are glad you're here!

Offering

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. (Eph. 5:2)

Offertory Hymn

Thou didst leave thy throne

See pg. 13

Offertory Response

tune: O bless the Lord, my soul

**The advent of our King
Our thoughts must now employ;
Then let us meet him on the road
With songs of holy joy.**

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. By Robert Campbell, 1814-1868, alt. Music: Aaron Williams, 1731-1776.

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer B

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus (*sung*)

Hymnal S130

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, (2x)

heaven and earth are full of your glory

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior 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 Jesus 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, according to his command, O God,
We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. Amen.

And now as our savior Christ has taught us we are bold to say:

The Lord's Prayer

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

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; **have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; **have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; **grant us peace.**

Communion Distribution

All baptized are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood. Those who are not baptized are encouraged to come forward for a blessing, signaling this by crossing your arms over one's chest.

** Communion may be received by kneeling or standing at the altar rail.*

** Gluten free wafers are available upon request of the server.*

** You may partake from the cup by drinking or by intinction (dipping a small portion of the bread, being careful not to touch the wine with your fingers).*

** If you wish to receive communion in the pew, please let an usher know.*

For those joining by live-stream or watching online at a later time, although you are not physically receiving communion, you are invited to spend this time in prayer, acknowledging your desire to be wholly united with Jesus and for your soul to never be separated from him.

Communion Music *There is a Longing in our Hearts* Quigley
Chancel Choir and Congregation (with refrain)

Refrain

**There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal yourself to us.
There is a longing in our hearts for love we only find in you, our God.**

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of Christ, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Sending Forth Hymn *Hark! The glad sound!* Hymnal 1982, #72

The Dismissal

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Organ Postlude

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Please call or email Tiare Ono, tiare.h.ono@gmail.com if you have a prayer request.

Always ask permission of the person first if you want to add someone's name other than your own. Be sure to provide the church office with updates. Names added by members will remain on our prayer list for one month. After that time, the names will be cycled off the list, unless there is a request for the name to be added for another month.

Joe & Kathleen C., Sim K., Natalia P., Helena W., Ediza T., Dennis C., Rosie C., Colleen C. Brian D., Peter D., Erin E., Ron E., Catherine F., Iris, Sue J., Judy & Maurice, Suzanne K., Hilary K., Gary K., Gerald K., Gerald L., Judy M., Gilbert M., Damon N., Dara N., Kelly N., Keith O., Ralph P., Franklin P., Monica P., Sherri P-H., Janet P., Cynthia R., Patricia S., Jim T., Stuart U., David, Charity & Jackson V., Barbara V., Ian W., Roland W., Tim Y. and those impacted by the Maui wildfires.

We pray for the repose of the soul of Tane Hamada

If you are interested in providing intentional prayers for those on our prayer list and others for whom we pray, become part of the Prayer Circle. Please contact Tiare Ono or the church office.

TODAY

Mahalo Fr. David for leading us in worship this morning!

Help everyone get to know one another– wear a name tag! Name tags are on the board in the Ewa Makai corner, alphabetized by first name. If you don't have a nametag yet, please add your name to the clipboard on the table at the back door, and we will create one for you. Thank you for contributing to the welcoming atmosphere of this church! If you are visiting, welcome! We hope this will help us get to know each other.

Assistive Listening Devices are available to assist those who would like a boost in the volume of sound. These are small, over the ear devices with individual volume controls. Please see one of the ushers if you would like to use one of these devices.

Children's Christian Adventure (Sunday School) is held between the 7:30am and 10:00am services in the Adventure Room - See ushers for directions. Coffee and cookies are served after the 7:30am service and parents are welcome to fellowship and to mingle while your children are learning about God's Word. During services, we have a bookcase with "worship kits" and books along the back mauka wall under the AED red "heart" for children to use.

Children are welcome to exchange items throughout the service. The Bell Tower (the little room by the children's bookcase) is available for younger ones who need room to move around and play. Feel free to get up and move around throughout the service (likewise, those of you who have bad backs and need to stretch!)

Electronic Giving - You can give to St. Peter's Church electronically with this QR code or schedule your pledge for automatic withdrawal by going to the church's website, www.stpetershonolulu.org, and clicking on "Donate." You may also mail your offerings and pledges to the church office. Thank you for your part in making this ministry possible.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sing for Christmas Eve! If you'd like to sing with the choir for Christmas Eve, rehearsals will be on Tuesday, Dec. 17 at 5:30pm. Contact Joseph for more information: josepheppink@gmail.com

Advent resource for families available –Pamphlets from The Episcopal Church are available for families to take home and use during the Advent season to help create space for faithful conversations and experiences together. Pick one up at the back of the sanctuary.

Windows Book Revision! We are thrilled to announce that the book "Windows of Light, Windows of Hope" will soon undergo a revision! This is an exciting opportunity for you to enhance the book by adding new pictures or helping to refine the content through identifying typos or necessary corrections. If you have ideas or contributions, we encourage you to reach out to Joseph at josepheppink@gmail.com by mid-January. Your participation will not only improve the quality of the book but also ensure that future readers enjoy the best possible experience. Don't miss your chance to make a meaningful impact on this wonderful publication!

Christmas Flower Dedications – today is the last day. If you'd like to make a floral dedication for the Christmas services, please fill out the flower dedication form on pg. 14 and place it in the offering bowl or return it to the church office.

On Feb 2, 2025, join us for Evensong and a Celebration of Chinese New Year! We are thrilled to announce a festive celebration in honor of the Year of

the Snake! Join us for a culturally enriching experience brimming with creativity, joy, and a sense of community. We'll kick off the festivities with an engaging service, followed by a celebration featuring delicious delicacies that will make this event unforgettable. If you'd like to assist us in planning this occasion, please reach out to Joseph at josepheppink@gmail.com!

Healing chicken jook is available in the Parish Hall freezer. The Soul Food Ministry gathered to replenish a supply of nourishing chicken jook for those in need of healing and comfort food. Check with the church office.

Stewardship Pledge Cards-If you haven't already done so, please turn in your 2025 pledge cards. The information will help the budget committee plan for 2025. You may mail it or drop it into a collection bowl. Thank you! If you have misplaced your card or did not receive one, please find one on the table at the back of the church.

For those experiencing grief, Dr. Joseph Eppink offers his counseling services to the St. Peter's family. You can reach him at josepheppink@gmail.com.

There are many different ways you can support our ministry – by reading the lessons on Sundays to helping with small projects around the grounds, and a whole lot more! If you're led to pitch in, please complete the Time & Talent form and drop it in the collection bowl OR follow the QR code and respond electronically, You can also go to: <http://bit.ly/timeandtalent2024>. For more information about any of these ministries, please contact the church office.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Wed. Dec. 18, 10:00am- ZOOM Bible study class. We discuss the readings for the coming Sunday. Contact Konstantinos Karampakakis at cost-kar@hotmail.com for the link.

Thur. Dec. 19, 6:00pm - Jazz Vespers “in person” and on church Facebook page and website

Sat. Dec. 21: 8:30-11:00am. Part I = Help decorate the church with some of the decorations by putting together Christmas trees with lights, place twinkling lights and holly on the ledges, putting up the Christmas wreaths on the doors (4), gates (2), foyer (lg), pulpit (lg).

Sun. Dec. 22: After the second service for Part 2: Help decorate the Christmas trees with red bulbs (ornaments), bring up the small poinsettia plants from the Aloha Rm for the chancel area.

Mon. Dec. 23: From about 8:30 - 10:30am Part 3: Putting up the candles down the middle aisle, and large poinsettia plants on the altar

Tue. Dec. 24, 8:00pm – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, a wonderful time to sing favorite Christmas hymns and for praying. The Rev. Ruth Peterson will preside as we await the birth of Jesus.

Wed. Dec. 25, 9:30am – Christmas Day Service. The Rev. Ruth Peterson will preside as we celebrate Jesus' birth.

Sat. Jan. 11, 2025, 9:30am – K2P2 Knitting Ministry. Sun/Son Room

Lectionary readings for next Sunday:

Micah 5:2-5a; Psalm 80:1-7; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-55

The Book of Common Prayer (BCP) can be found online at www.bcponline.org

Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne



1. Thou didst leave Thy throne and Thy king - ly crown When Thou
2. Heav - ens arch - es rang when the an - gels sang, Pro -
3. Thou cam - est, O Lord, with the liv - ing Word That should
4. When the heav - ens shall ring, and the an - gels sing, At Thy



cam - est to earth for me; But in Beth - le - hem's home was there
claim - ing Thy roy - al de - gree; But of low - ly birth didst Thou
set Thy peo - ple free; But with mock - ing scorn, and with
com - ing to vic - to - ry, Let Thy voice call me home, say - ing,



found no room For Thy ho - ly na - tiv - i - ty. O
come to earth, And in great hu - mil - i - ty. O
crown of thorn, They bore Thee to Cal - va - ry. O
"Yet there is room, There is room at My side for thee." My



come to my heart Lord Je - sus! There is room in my heart for Thee.
come to my heart Lord Je - sus! There is room in my heart for Thee.
come to my heart Lord Je - sus! There is room in my heart for Thee.
heart shall re - joice, Lord Je - sus! When Thou com - est and call - est for me.

Text: Emily E. S. Elliott, 1836-1897

Tune: Margaret, irregular with refrain; Timothy R. Matthews, 1826-1910



Offerings made for your dedication request will go to the altar flower fund to provide flowers throughout the year.

Name (PRINT) _____

Address _____

Given in Memory Thanksgiving Other (please specify)

******PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY******

Please place this form in the offering plate or mail to the church office. For publishing in the service bulletins, please submit your request by Sunday, December 15, 2024.

**St Peter's Episcopal Church. 1317 Queen Emma Street.
Honolulu HI 96813**

FOR OFFICE USE: Date: _____

Received: \$ _____ Check # _____ Cash _____

TODAY'S MINISTERS

Presider		The Rev. David Gierlach
Deacon		The Rev. Dcn. Peter Wu
Organist		Dr. Joseph Eppink
Pianist	(7:30am)	Manny Dayao
Lectors	(7:30am)	Chucky Nakoa, Beth Chang
	(10:00am)	Peter Diamond
Eucharistic Ministers	(7:30am)	Ashlyn Kim
	(10:00am)	Cheryl Bochentin
Intercessor	(7:30am)	Stephanie Wight
	(10:00am)	Leila Diamond
Live-streaming	(7:30am)	Manny Dayao, Terry Dang, Ron Kim
		Konstantinos Karampakakis, Maiesha Stovall-Nakoa
Greeters	(7:30am)	Nancy Rowe, Willis & Jan Yap
Ushers	(7:30am)	Sue Jennings & Harley Clark
Greeters/Ushers	(10:00am)	Velma & Keith Lee, Haroldwyn Chang
		Cheryl Saito, Bryan Matsumoto, Barry Wood
Altar Guild		Dorothy Grimm, Jan Yap, Nani Ho
		Rae Gorman, Janet Kim
Bread for Communion		Barton & Beth Cox
Next week's Celebrant		The Rev. David Gierlach

STAFF

Director of Music	Dr. Joseph Eppink
Lay Associate for Worship and Music	Manny Dayao
Office Manager	Susan Sugiyama
Bookkeeper	Richert Au Hoy
Sexton	Oriel Agcaoili
Custodians	Oriel and Caridad Agcaoili

CONTACT US

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Office Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs., 9am-3pm; Fri., 9am-1pm; Closed Wednesdays.
On the Web: www.stpetershonolulu.org

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