

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

1317 Queen Emma Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

December 25, 2025

9:30am

"I am bringing
you good news
of great joy
for all the
people."

Luke 2:10, NRSV



CONTACT US

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the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. The Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, "See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him." They shall be called, "The Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord"; and you shall be called, "Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Joy to the world

Hymnal 1982, #100

Second Reading

Titus 3:4-7

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

All stand and sing.

Hymn

Good Christian friends rejoice

Hymnal 1982, #107

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!**

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss; Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door, and we are blest for evermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!**

The Christmas Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of

David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Hymn *Good Christian friends rejoice* **Hymnal 1982, #107**
Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

The Sermon

Pastor Ruth

Music Meditation

How Far is it to Bethlehem?
Chancel Choir

Wilcocks

The Nicene Creed *All stand and say:*

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

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

Through him all things were made.

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

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

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

**he ascended into heaven and is seated
at the right hand of the Father.**

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

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

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

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

After each prayer petition, the people are invited to respond “hear our prayer.”

The Peace *Please greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Offering

Presider: O Lord our God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power; because you have created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being. (*Revelation 4:11*)

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 bowl so that we can extend a personal welcome to you. We are glad you're here!



QR code for electronic giving

Offertory Music *The snow lay on the ground* **Hymnal 1982, #110**

All stand as the gifts are brought forward.

Offertory Response *The first Nowell (vs 1, 6)* **Hymnal 1982, #109**

**The first Nowell the angels did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields as they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.**

**Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood our life hath bought.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.**

The Great Thanksgiving

(Eucharistic Prayer D, BCP p.372)

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 our thanks and praise.**

Presider It is truly right to glorify you and to give you thanks, O God, for you alone are 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,

**Angels we have heard on high. Singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.**

Glo—ria, in excelsis Deo. Glo—ria, in excelsis Deo.

The presider continues.

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.

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, O God, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them Jesus 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 all people for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

O God, 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, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

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

The Presider continues.

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may 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.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with 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, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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.**

Breaking of the Bread

Presider The Word became flesh and lived among us,
and we have seen his glory.

People **Make yourself known to us, O Christ, in the breaking of
bread and the sharing of the cup.**

The Communion of the People

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.

** 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 *Angels We Have Heard on High* French Carol
Renee Baldovi, Soloist

Post Communion Prayer

Incarnate God, you are among us at this table.

**May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts
the mystery of your presence.**

**Move us to discover the wonders of your love
in the everyday moments of our lives,
through Christ born in us. Amen.**

The Blessing

Sending Forth Hymn *Hark! The herald angels sing* Hymnal #87

**Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem!
Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!**

**Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!**

**Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Risen with healing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,
Hail, the Sun of righteousness! Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace
Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!**

The Dismissal

Presider Filled with the joy of Christ's birth,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Angels We Have Heard on High* Mike Lewis, Trumpet



UPCOMING EVENTS

⌘ **No Jazz Vespers tonight, until Thursday, Jan. 8, 2026**

⌘ **Sunday, December 28, 9:30am—1st Sunday after Christmas**
(NOTE: One service only)

⌘ **No Bible Study on Dec. 31**

⌘ **Sunday, January 4, 7:30am and 10:00am Worship**
(Coffee Hour after both services)

⌘ **Sunday, January 25, 8:45am — St. Peter's Annual Meeting of the
Parish**

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2025 Christmas Dedications

Cheryl Bochentín, Pamela & Colin Leong, Dan & Mei Ching, Laura Ching & Robert Thue In loving memory of Sam & Florence Ching, Daniel & Ethel Ching, Lee-Anne Leong Tagawa, Hans-Gerd Bochentín

Kathleen Chang In loving memory of Doreen Yuen, Ellen Jean Fo

Myron & Beth Chang In loving memory of Warren & Eleanor Chang, Annette Chang, Rita Pound, Jim Collie

Adrienne Ching In thanksgiving and loving memory of Koon Yoy Ching and departed family and loved ones

Dianne Fong In loving memory of Henry W.K. Fong & Nora Fong

Lynda Hino, Dennis Chew, Daryl Chew, Yolanda Griffiths
In loving memory of Clarence & Violet Chew

Sue Jennings In loving memory of Harley Clark, Jennings and Hunt families

Mary Ellen & Colin Johnson In loving memory of Anne Chambless Hawks, Mary Ann & Aubrey Neeley, Anna Young, Ruth Schmeck

Patricia Kim In loving memory of Richard & Pauline Au

Myrna McCarthy In loving memory of John J. McCarthy

Ruth D. Merz In honor and memory of loved ones

2025 Christmas Dedications, cont.

Audrey Mueh, Laurie Ong, Natalie Chu & Nicole Nakamoto

In loving memory of Samuel & Helen Liu, Jerry & Rose Liu, Frederick Liu, & Dr. John Mueh

Ray & Tiare Ono In memory of Lani & Puanani Hanchett,
Stuart Hanchett,

Alfred & Alston Ono. In thanksgiving for all the blessing in our life

Franklin Pang In loving memory of Jane Pang

Ruth Peterson In thanksgiving for and in honor of Duane and
Betty Peterson

Nancy Rowe In loving memory of Chan Rowe

The Family of Cheryl Saito, Velma & Keith Lee, and Franklin Kau and Families In memory and thanksgiving of Benjamin & Jasmine Kau,
Richard & Ethel Saito, Shoo Tsin Tseu, Ruth Kau, Philip Kau, and
Theodore Saito

Dr. Glen & Susan Sugiyama In loving memory of Joso & Miyuki
Uyetake and Masaru & Violet Sugiyama

Stephanie Vlachos With love and gratitude from the family of
Dr. & Mrs. Raymond Kong. In loving memory of Barbara K. Vlachos,
with aloha from her family

Patricia Suzuki In loving memory of Jordan

Ian, Dina, Elyse, Chloe, Jenna, Cindy, Ky, Casey & Becca Wong
In loving memory of Donald & Emily Wong, Jon Wong,
Milton Muraoka and Beatrice Lyen



Ministers at the Service

Presider	The Rev. Ruth Peterson
Organist	Dr. Joseph Eppink
Trumpeter	Mike Lewis
Lector	Sim Kau
Intercessor	Beth Cox
Eucharistic Ministers	Haroldwyn Chang
Acolytes	Devan Pang
Greeters	Keith & Velma Lee, Cheryl Saito

The St. Peter's Staff

Priest-in-Charge	The Rev. Ruth Peterson
Assisting Priest	The Rev. Dr. William Heran
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 & Caridad Agcaoili



A blessed Christmas

to all from

the St. Peter's Staff!

