

# St. Peter's Episcopal Church

## The First Sunday after Christmas

### Sunday, December 28, 2025

### 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!**

## LESSONS AND CAROLS

**9:30 A.M.**

### Prelude

**Opening Hymn**      *Once in royal David's city* (vs 1,2,3,5)      **Hymn #102**

### The Bidding Prayer

*Remain standing*

Dear People of God: in this Christmas Season, let it be our duty and delight to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem, and see the Son of God lying in the manger. Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy child Jesus; and let us make this place glad with our carols of praise. But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this city.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and the helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ. Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore.

The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of

everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**The First Lesson**

**Isaiah 9:2,6-7**

*Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness -- on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn**

*Come, thou long expected Jesus*

**Hymn #66**

**The Second Lesson**

**Isaiah 11:1-3a,4a,6-9**

*The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown*

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. With righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Hear what the Spirit is saying....**Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn**

*Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming, (vs 1,2)*

**Hymn #81**

## The Third Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-3a,4a,6-9

*The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Hear what the Spirit is saying....**Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

*The angel Gabriel from heaven came*

Hymn #265

## The Fourth Lesson

Luke 2:1, 37

*St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus*

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying....**Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

*What child is this, who, laid to rest*

Hymn #115

## The Fifth Lesson

Luke 2:8-16

*The shepherds to go the manger*

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying....**Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn**

*Hark! The herald angels sing*

**Hymn #87**

**The Sixth Lesson**

**Luke 2:8-16**

*The wisemen are led by the star to Jesus*

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him,

"In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

`And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;

for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen



*Priest* Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and to be born of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **The Peace**

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

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

## **Announcements and Birthdays**

*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!*

**Offertory Hymn**

*Good Christian friends, rejoice*

**Hymn #107**

**Offertory Response**

*Joy to the World*

**Hymn #100**

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

## **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.**

### **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.*

### **Post Communion Prayer (Standing or kneeling)**

*Presider:* Let us pray.

**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**

The triune God,  
glorious Mystery,  
holy Incarnate One,  
abiding Comforter,

✠ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy. **Amen.**

### **Closing Hymn**

*Angels from the realms of glory*

**Hymn #93**

### **The Dismissal**

*Presider:* Glory to God in the highest!

*People:* **And peace to God's people on earth!**

*Presider:* Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.

*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., Valerie Y. B., A & N., Eduardo C., Rosie C., Peter D., Susan D., LaVerne D., Cathlen D., Dallis F-N., Gail F-S., Catherine F., Bert & Cheryl F., Cal G., E.&S. H., M. H., Iris, Francis I., Ken I., Sue J., Judy & Maurice, Jonathan, Elise K., Hilary K., Roland K., Gerald K., Mel K., A.&S.K., Cynthia L., Loretta L., Charles L., Pauline L., Bill McK., Lea M., M.&T., D.N., Dara N., Ralph P., Franklin P., Rodney P., Sherri P-H., Monica P., Sharon P., Janet P., Peter, Patricia S., Ho-Min S., Ediza T., Dan T., Stan T., Regina T., S.T., D.T., Bertha U., Stuart U., Jackson VM., Janet VM., Roy W. & family, Al W., Ian W., Roland W., Steve Y., Tim Y., Lynette Y.*

### EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES THIS MORNING!

**Adult Forum held between services is on break and resumes on January 11.**

**Children's Christian Adventure will be on break** between now and January 4, 2026 and will resume on January 11.

**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](http://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

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE.....** Mahalo Nui Loa to everyone who has turned in their pledge cards for 2026. According to the budget team, we are still waiting for some of our Ohana to let us know their intentions for the coming year. We realize that with inflation on the rise and economic uncertainty this is a difficult time for many. However, we are asking for your kokua: if you have not filled out and turned in your pledge for 2026 yet, please do so. The vestry

cannot plan for ministry for 2026 until the budget is prepared.

**The deadline for end of year giving needs to be received or postmarked by 12/31** in order to appear on your 2025 Giving Statement. We appreciate your support of St. Peter's throughout the year!

**Delicious St. Peter's chicken soup for the soul available for those in need of nourishment.** The Soul Food Ministry group made a large batch of chicken jook and is in the Parish Hall kitchen freezer.

**Special Youth Gathering, July 28-31, 2026.** Registration needed by Dec. 31. Speak with Pastor Ruth for information.

**Non-perishable food is still needed!** Please bring canned goods to the church on Sundays, and they'll be delivered to the Hawaii Foodbank.

**A Moment with Music:** Immerse yourself in scripture readings and hymns. This week focuses on *Christmas*. Available by 6 AM, you can enjoy this 7-minute meditation at your convenience on our Facebook page or website. You can also find it on YouTube at @dreppink.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Wed. Dec. 31, 10:00am – No Bible Study. Weekly Bible Study by Zoom resumes on Jan. 7.** Contact Pr. Ruth at [stpetershonolulu@stpetershonolulu.org](mailto:stpetershonolulu@stpetershonolulu.org) for the link

**Thurs. Dec. 31 - Jazz Vespers on hiatus and resumes on Jan. 8, 2026**

**Lectionary readings for next Sunday:**

Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:1-9

*The Book of Common Prayer (BCP) can be found online at [www.bcponline.org](http://www.bcponline.org)*

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## TODAY'S MINISTERS

<b>Presider</b>		The Rev. Ruth M. Peterson
<b>Deacon</b>		The Rev. Dcn. Peter Wu
<b>Pianist</b>	(9:30am)	Manny Dayao
<b>Lector</b>	(9:30am)	Catie Wiecking, Justin Deloss, Stephanie Wight
<b>Intercessor</b>	(9:30am)	Chucky Nakoa
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	(9:30am)	Velma Lee
<b>Live-streaming</b>	(9:30am)	Manny Dayao, Terry Dang
<b>Ushers/Greeters</b>	(9:30am))	Maiesha Stovall-Nakoa, Randall Chun
<b>Altar Guild</b>		Nancy Rowe, Willis & Jan Yap
<b>Cashiers</b>		Cheryl Saito, Rosa Dayao, Sim Kau
		Robert Wight, Haroldwyn Chang, Liana Kanuha
		Beth Cox, Maiesha Stovall-Nakoa
		Haroldwyn Chang, Velma Lee

## STAFF

<b>Priest-in-Charge</b>	The Rev. Ruth M. Peterson
<b>Assisting Priest</b>	The Rev. Dr. William Heran
<b>Director of Music</b>	Dr. Joseph Eppink
<b>Lay Associate for Worship and Music</b>	Manny Dayao
<b>Office Manager</b>	Susan Sugiyama
<b>Bookkeeper</b>	Richert Au Hoy
<b>Sexton</b>	Oriel Agcaoili
<b>Custodians</b>	Oriel and Caridad Agcaoili

## Next week's Coffee Hour hosts:

7:30am – Lori Yee, Janet Kim

10:00am – Maiesha Stovall-Nakoa, Margaret Chun, Haroldwyn Chang

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## CONTACT US

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