

# ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The First Sunday after Christmas  
December 29, 2024 9:30am

## 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**                    *Good Christian friends*                    **Hymnal 1982 #107**

## 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.**

## The Collect of the Day

*Presider*            The Lord be with you

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

*Presider*            Let us pray.

*Presider*            Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise**    *Angels from the realms of glory (vs 1,4)*    **Hymnal 1982, #93**

## **The First Reading**

**Isaiah 61:10-62:3**

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **The Psalm**

**Psalm 147**

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

1 Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!  
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

**2 The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; he gathers the exiles of Israel.**

3 He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

**4 He counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.**

5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; there is no limit to his wisdom.

**6 The Lord lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground.**

7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make music to our God upon the harp.

**8 He covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth;**

9 He makes grass to grow upon the mountains  
and green plants to serve mankind.

**10 He provides food for flocks and herds  
and for the young ravens when they cry.**

11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse;  
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;

**12 But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him,  
in those who await his gracious favor.**

13 Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion;

**14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates;  
he has blessed your children within you.**

15 He has established peace on your borders;  
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

**16 He sends out his command to the earth,  
and his word runs very swiftly.**

17 He gives snow like wool; he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

**18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs;  
who can stand against his cold?**

19 He sends forth his word and melts them;  
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.

**20 He declares his word to Jacob,  
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.**

21 He has not done so to any other nation;  
to them he has not revealed his judgments. Hallelujah!

### **The Second Reading**

**Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7**

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Hymn**

*Go tell it on the mountain (vs. 1,2)*

**Hymnal 1982, #99**

*Sung before the Gospel we sing:*

### **The Holy Gospel**

**John 1:1-18**

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

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Hymn**  
*Sung after the Gospel*

*Go tell it on the mountain (vs. 3)*

**Hymnal 1982, #99**

**The Sermon**

**The Rev. David Gierlach**

**Music Meditation**

**Manny Dayao**

**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**                    *Love came down at Christmas*                    **Hymnal 1082, #84**

**Offertory Response**                    *What child is this (vs 1,3)*                    **Hymnal 1082, #115**

**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**                    *Angels we have heard on high (vs 1)*                    **Hymnal 1982, #93**

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**

### **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**

*Joy to the World*

**Hymnal 1982, #100**

### **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 Laurel Ann Shim, Doreen Yuen and Youngsun Lee*

*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! Thank you for your service and ministry to St. Peter's!**

**Dr. Joseph Eppink, Dir. of Music,** is away today. Mahalo Maiesha Stovall-Nakoa for the organ music in his absence.

**Children's Christian Adventure on hiatus.** The adventure resumes on Sun. Jan. 12!

**Help Pastor Ruth get to know one another– wear a name tag!** 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. If you are visiting, please make a temporary one for yourself. Nametags are on the standing board in the Ewa Makai corner, alphabetized by first name.

**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.

**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**

**Sun. Jan. 5 - Welcome Pr. Ruth Peterson to both the 7:30am and 10:00am service on January 5,** her first official Sunday as the Priest-in-

Charge of St. Peter's! Coffee Hour after each service: 7:30am in the Parish Hall; 10:00am in the church foyer

**Thank you for your generosity!** \$600.00 was collected for Parents and Children Together (PACT) at The Towers at Kuhio Park for the holidays.

**Planning ahead to Sun., Feb. 2, 2025:** Please plan on joining us at 4:00 p.m. for the Installation of Pastor Ruth as the Priest-in-Charge for St. Peter's Church. We are also having an Evensong and a celebration of the Chinese New Year, honoring the Year of the Snake. More details are forthcoming. If you'd like to assist us in planning this occasion, please reach out to Joseph at josepheppink@gmail.com, or Velma at [vklee2014@gmail.com](mailto:vklee2014@gmail.com)!

**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!

**Stewardship Pledge Cards** - If you haven't already done so, please turn in your 2025 pledge cards. This 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.

**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.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Wed. Jan. 1, No Bible study.** Bible study resumes on Jan. 8, 10:00am by ZOOM.

**Wed. Jan. 1-Fri. Jan. 2 – Church office closed** for the New Year's holiday and sanctuary beam repair with full electrical shut off.

**Thur. Jan. 2, – No Jazz Vespers services.** Jazz Vespers will resume “in person” and on church Facebook page and website on Jan. 9.

**Sun. Jan. 12, 11:30am** – Vestry meeting, Parish Hall

**Sun. Jan. 19, 8:45-9:45am,** Discussion of the Budget 2025 in the Sanctuary

**Sun. Jan. 26, 8:45-9:45am,** Annual Meeting in the Sanctuary

**Lectionary readings for next Sunday:**

Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7,10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12

*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. David Gierlach
<b>Deacon</b>		The Rev. Dcn. Peter Wu
<b>Organist</b>		Maiesha Stovall-Nakoa
<b>Pianist</b>	(9:30am)	Manny Dayao
<b>Lectors</b>	(9:30am)	Beth Cox, Peter Diamond
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	(9:30am)	Haroldwyn Chang
<b>Intercessor</b>	(9:30am)	Leila Diamond
<b>Live-streaming</b>	(9:30am)	Manny Dayao, Terry Dang, Ron Kim Konstantinos Karampakakis, Maiesha Stovall-Nakoa
<b>Greeters</b>	(9:30am)	Nancy Rowe, Willis & Jan Yap
<b>Ushers</b>	(9:30am)	Sue Jennings & Harley Clark
<b>Altar Guild</b>		Haroldwyn Chang, Janet Kim, Velma Lee
<b>Bread for Communion</b>		Barton & Beth Cox
<b>Next Sunday's Celebrant</b>		Rev. Ruth Peterson

## STAFF

<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**

### Contact Us

Church Office: 808-533-1943 Fax 808-531-9904  
Office Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs., 9am-3pm; Fri., 9am-1pm; Closed Wednesdays.  
On the Web: [www.stpetershonolulu.org](http://www.stpetershonolulu.org)