

St. Peter's Episcopal Church
The Fourth Sunday of Advent with Christmas Pageant
December 19, 2021
Holy Eucharist ~ 10:00 a.m.

Prelude



The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Reader: Last Sunday we lit the candle of joy. We light it again as we remember that Christ will come again and bring us everlasting peace and joy. The fourth candle of Advent is the candle of **Love**. Its light is meant to remind us of the love that God has for us.

Let us pray. Loving God, thank you for your gift of love. Help us prepare our hearts to receive Him. Bless our worship. Help us to hear and do your word. Amen

Opening Hymn: #265 "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit

People: And Blessed be his kingdom, now & forever. Amen

Trisagion S-100

BCP page 365

The Collect of the Day: Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



The Nativity Pageant

Introduction: The stage is set for the Christmas Story

Opening Hymn #56 “O come, O come, Emmanuel” (verses 7 & 8)

The cast for the Pageant enters during the singing of the carol.

7. O come, Desire of nations, bind
in one the hearts of all mankind;
bid thou our sad divisions cease,
and be thyself our King of Peace.

Refrain: *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!*

8. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

Scene One: The prophecy of the coming of Christ the King.

Scene Two: The appearance of the Angel Gabriel before the Virgin Mary.

Hymn # 109: “The First Noel” (vs. 1 & 2)

Scene Three: The birth of Christ in Bethlehem

Hymn #96 “Angels we have heard on high” (vs. 1)

Hymn #101 “Away in a manger” (vs. 1 & 2)

Scene Four: The worship by the shepherds

Anthem (sung by the Choir)

Scene Five: The star of Bethlehem appears

Hymn #111 “Silent Night” (Verse 1 sung by children, verse 2 sung by all)

Scene Six: The worship by the three Kings

Hymn #128 “We three kings of Orient are” *(all join in singing)*

Hymn #99 “Go tell it on the mountain”

During the singing of the carol, the pageant participants will move to the back of the church and then join their families for Holy Communion.

The Nicene Creed

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Prayers of the People for Advent

Advent Prayer for Week 4 *(prayed in unison)*

God of Hope we seek you.

We seek you in the crude manger, a child born to save the world.

May your hope be a comfort to all who long for justice.

God of Hope, we seek you.

May your hope fill our hearts and grace our lips

So that we might reflect your hope for all the world. Amen.

The Peace

People’s Response: *Hear our prayer*

Announcements

The Offertory

Offertory Hymn: LEVAS #14 “Soon and very soon”

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving:

Eucharistic Prayer B

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The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, 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 (*Holy, holy Lord*)

Ronald Hughes

Ho- ly, Ho- ly, Ho- ly Lord God of Hosts.
5 Hea- ven and earth are full of your Glo- ry, Ho- san- - - - - na, Ho
8 san- - - - - na, Ho- san- na in the High- est! Bless- ed is He who
12 comes in the name of the Lord, Ho- san- - - - - na, Ho -
15 san- - - - - na, Ho- san- na in the High- est, Ho- san- - - - - na in the
19 High- est, Ho- san- - - - - na in the High- est!

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 the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate

from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you.

In him, 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 Lord 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 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People: We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord 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 to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, 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 Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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.**

Communion Music

Post-Communion Prayer

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Celebrant: Let us pray.

***All:* Almighty God we thank you for feeding us with the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

The Blessing

Closing Hymn: #497 “How bright appears the morning star”

Dismissal

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

Postlude

This week's birthdays (12/19 - 12/25):

Liz Cyr (12/19), John Gerke (12/19), Nathaniel Kowinski (12/21), Cathy Gerke (12/23), Chris Gerke (12/23), Chris Eells (12/25)

PAGEANT CAST

Mary--Charlotte Atwood
Joseph--Anthony Wursthorn
Announcer 1-- JoAnn Osmond
Announcer 2--Sam Forrest
Announcer 3--Amy Forrest
King Herod/Innkeeper--Sam Forrest
Angel Gabriel--Liliana Wursthorn
Angels--Sophia Raasumaa-Boots
Lily Raasumaa-Boots
Arianna Gianoni
Gianna Leone
Zoe Leone
Galilea Garcia
Shepherd--Austin Mola
Lambs--Jaxon Gianoni
Liam Mola
Benson Eells
Charlotte Dombrowski
Kings--Gianni Wursthorn
George Raasumaa-Boots
Joe Mangiafico



Special thanks to
**Backstage Helpers: Candace O'Shea, Barb Parkyn
to Josh Ziemski for our music
and to Allison Forrest for organizing and producing
such a beautiful Pageant this year.**



Prayers for those who have died: Cathie Gerke's mother, Elizabeth McCashland
Continuing Prayer List: Irene Jones; Carroll family [especially Kevin and Shaun], baby Landon Berwick, Pat Kell, Bob, Nelson Moore; Ginny Hellstrom, Sue Denaker, Sandra Whalen & Thomas Murray; Joan Hamilton, Caroline, Ron Lamp, Betty Dombrowski, Louis Schluntz; Susan Hicks & family, Ambrosio Vidal, Jeannette Farren, Robbins, & Ti; Rina Bettancourt; Jessica; Louis Mangiafico; JoAnne Jones; Marcelo Orellana, Patricia Angelou.

2022 Pledge Drive Campaign: If you have not sent in your pledge please do so soon as we are formulating the budget for next year

Collecting Children's Winter Hats, Mittens, Gloves for Andover Youth

Andover Social Services has invited us to collect winter hats, mittens and gloves for youth. There is a basket in the narthex to drop off these items.

Mentoring a Youth Through AHM

As we all are aware the need for increased mental health services among our youth is sorely needed as a result of the two-year pandemic. AHM is working hard to support our young people during this time. One form of support is their mentoring program, whereby an adult is paired with a student. Often these mentoring relationships can last for years. The mentoring takes place during the school day. If you feel called to this form of ministry, please contact AHM exec. director Tressa Giordano at 860-228-9488 ext. 13. She will put you in touch with the mentor coordinator.

On-going Events

***Balance Classes every Monday at 10:00 a.m. \$5 per session.**

***Weekly Coffee Hour Wednesdays 10:00 a.m.** Should you want to join, please email Fr. Ron for the link (ronkol@sbcglobal.net)

Christmastide Services

***Christmas Eve: 4:00 p.m. with brass quintet and choir;
10:00 p.m. with choir and soloists.**

***Christmas Day: One service at 10:00 a.m. (a quiet service).**

***1st Sun. after Christmas (Sun., Dec. 26): One service 9:00 a.m. (no music).**

***2nd Sun. after Christmas, (Sun., Jan. 2) Service of Lessons and Carols 9 a.m.**

***Sun., January 9: The Baptism of our Lord: Services at 8 and 10 a.m.**