



**St. Peter's Episcopal Church
The Second Sunday in Advent
December 7th, 2025
Holy Eucharist Rite 1, 8 a.m.**

Holy Eucharist Rite 1~ 8:00 a.m.

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

People: And blessed be his kingdom now and forever. Amen

Advent Wreath Lighting

Second Sunday of Advent: Peace

Reader: Last Sunday we lit the first candle in our Advent wreath, the candle of Hope. We light it again as we remember that Christ will come again to fulfill all of God's promises to us. The second candle of Advent is the candle of Peace. Peace is a gift that we must be prepared for. God gives us the gift of peace when we turn to him in faith.

The Candle of Peace is lit

Let us pray (*in unison*): Loving God, we thank you for the peace you give us. Help us prepare our hearts for the Lord's coming. ***Amen***

The Kyrie

BCP page 324

The Gloria

BCP page 324

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Collect of the Day: Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10

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.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

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. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Reader: The Word of the Lord ***People: Thanks be to God***

The Psalm: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;**
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;**
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,*
and the little hills bring righteousness.**
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.**
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.**
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.**
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace
till the moon shall be no more.**
- 18 Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!**
- 19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. Amen.**

The Second Lesson: Romans 15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of

the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name"; and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the
Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

*Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.***

Reader: The Word of the Lord ***People: Thanks be to God***

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,
“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume 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.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord ***People: Praise to thee, O Christ***

The Sermon

Fr. Ron Kolanowski

The Nicene Creed

BCP, page 326

Prayers of the People

BCP page 328

Confession of Sin

BCP page 330

The Peace

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you

People: And with thy spirit

The Holy Communion

Offertory

The Great Thanksgiving

BCP page 333

The Sanctus

BCP page 334

The Lord's Prayer

BCP page 336

The Breaking of the bread

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia

Agnus Dei

BCP page 337

Prayer before Communion (in unison)

BCP page 337

Communion

Post-Communion Prayer

BCP page 339

The Blessing



Parish Family Remembrances and Thanksgivings for Dec. 7, 2024

Advent/Christmas Memorial card, with which you can memorialize loved ones who are no longer with you and support our Advent and Christmas services is available at the back of the church. The card can be returned in the accompanying envelope by mail or placed in the offertory box. We would like to have the names to be remembered as soon as possible so we can prepare our memorial list for the Christmas bulletins.

We pray for our clergy: Sean, the Presiding Bishop; Jeff & Laura, the Bishops of Connecticut; for our priest Fr. Ron; for our Seminarian Doug, for our deacons Marge & Donna; and for all bishops, priests and deacons;

In the **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer** we pray for Christ Church, Bethany; St. Thomas', Bethel; Old St. Andrew's, Bloomfield; Ministries for the unhoused, for parishes that offer temporary or permanent shelter; for Chapel on the Green, New Haven & Church by the Pond, Hartford. For the Homelessness & Housing Ministry Network; *The Church of Bangladesh*.

We pray for the sick, the suffering, and those in distress of any kind especially Jordan, April Trujillo, Charlene Neylon, Ellen B. and Family, Chris B., Bonnie R., Bob ManWarren, John Viklinetz and those in our Continuing Prayers list; that you would heal all injuries, comfort all grief, and settle all wrongs.

We pray for those who rejoice this week as they celebrate their birthdays especially Cynthia Lynn Anderson 12/8; Melissa Nosal 12/9, Peter Celio 12/10; Edward Nelson 12/10; Betsey Downey

12/11; Jeff Woods 12/12; Joshua Woods 12/12; Grace Downey 12/13; Hannah Mangiafico 12/13 and for those celebrating anniversaries, that they might obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing might flee away.

We pray for the deceased.

Continuing Prayer List

Ann, Dolores, Michael H, Carolyn Aubin, Eileen, Bonnie R., Renee, Fran, Hannah Janowiak, Sarah, Leslie Vallee, Kelly Johnson, Mario, Maria, John Lumsden, Rosemarie, David Rigby, Roberto Rodegher, Linda Snarski, Len & Kim Begin, Sheila, Peter & Barbara Farren, Peggy Cobb & family, Andrew, Adrian Mandeville, Neal, Loretta, Robin, Brenda, Jim, Richard Taylor, Judy Knox, Star, Norm, Aimee Goodrich, Justin, Derek Anderson, Janet Nixon, Bill D., Steve Dubin, Ryan, Marlin Corbean; Brian; Kathryn & Olivia; Caroline, Ron Lamp, Lou & Heidi Schluntz, Ambrosio Vidal & Family, Jeannette Farren, Rina Bettancourt; Susan Hicks & family

St. Peter's is hosting a Red Cross blood drive from 1-6 on Dec. 17. Please go on their website (redcrossblood.org) or call (tel:1-800-733-2767) and sign up to give this precious Christmas Gift.

Advent and Christmas Services 2025

- **December 14: Third Sunday of Advent** 8a.m. Morning Prayer Rite I and 10:00a.m Morning Prayer Rite 2. Sermon by Deacon Marge Roccoberton. Rehearsal for the Christmas Pageant following the 10 am service
- **December 20: Greening and Decorating the Church 10:00a.m.** Join fellow parishioners as we prepare our church for the Feast of Christmas
- **December 21: Fourth Sunday of Advent – 8 a.m. Service (Rite 1 with no music), Christmas Pageant at the 10 a.m. service.** The Pageant is presented by our children and youth.
- **December 24: Christmas Eve 4:00p.m.** followed by Christmas Toast. Given that fewer and fewer people are comfortable driving at night we will have one large service planned for Christmas Eve with brass, special musicians, and Christmas carols. Please stay afterwards to toast in Christmas with champagne or mimosas, sparkling water, and a few goodies.
- **December 25: Christmas Day,** a single service with carols at 10:00 a.m.
- **December 28: First Sunday of Christmas: One Service of Lessons and Carols at 10 a.m.**
- **January 5: Feast of The Epiphany**
8a.m. Rite I no music and 10:00a.m. Rite II with music;
Sermon by Rev. Ron Kolanowski

Gilead Congregational Church is once again this year offering “A Quiet Christmas” on December 21, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. (672 Gilead Street, Hebron, CT) for those that may find they have trouble feeling “in the spirit”, we hope that you will join in our service which will offer comfort, healing, and hope in a season where those things may be hard to find.

The holidays can be difficult for us all: the stress and strain of trying to offer a time of celebration take their toll. Many people find they have trouble feeling “in the spirit” of things, whether because of the recent (or anticipated) death of a family member or friend, the end of a marriage, the loss of work, or another difficult change. We understand.

This peaceful gathering provides a calm space and time for us to acknowledge our own struggle. It is offered to lift up those who need comfort. With the bustle and energy of this season surrounding us, it is good to know that we are not alone. It may be a blessing to receive words of strength and hope that can provide comfort, even amid difficulty and sorrow. Bring your fears, pain, and grief, and join us for this time of prayer and reflection. Contact the Gilead church office with any questions (860-228-3077 or GCC@gileadchurch.net).



PROUDLY PRESENTS



MUSIC MOVES HARTFORD

**December 13,
2025, 2:30pm
St. Peter's
Episcopal Church,
30 Church St.
Hebron, CT**

The community choir, **Music Moves Hartford** (MMH), was formed in 2018 as a collaborative effort between Christ Church Cathedral in Hartford and Cuatro Puntos, a non-profit organization that works to amplify persecuted, silenced or underrepresented musicians. Marianne Vogel (formerly music director at Gilead Congregational Church in Hebron) now coordinates MMH as part of her role as Music Director at the Episcopal Cathedral in Hartford. She says, “**Music Moves Hartford** is a true community-based choir of people from all walks of life.” The group rehearses at Hands On Hartford, an organization helping hundreds of people receive food, housing, and medical and behavioral health resources. Each week as many as 30-40 people gather to sing and build community. In this concert MMH will perform some of their own pieces of music and lead a carol sing to get us into the spirit of the season. A meet & greet reception follows the concert.

Recommended donation \$20 at the door.

Your donation will support their on-going mission to support singers from all walks of life.

