

# ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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## THE EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD



DECEMBER 24, 2025  
HOLY EUCHARIST  
4:00 P.M.



# The Holy Communion

**Preludes: Harpist Jason Castonguay**

**Brass Quintet**

**Choir: “Mary did you know?”**

**Welcome – *Please stand as you are able***

Celebrant: The word became flesh and dwelt among us:

***People: And we beheld his glory.***

Celebrant: Almighty and everliving God, you have given us a new revelation of your loving providence in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ to be born of the Virgin Mary: Grant that as he shared our mortality, so we may share his eternity in the glory of your kingdom; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**Opening Hymn: #83 “O Come All Ye Faithful” (vs. 1, 2, 3, 6)**

1. O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to  
Bethlehem;  
come, and behold him,  
born the King of angels;

***Refrain: O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.***

2 God from God,  
Light from Light eternal,  
lo! he abhors not the Virgin’s  
womb;  
only-begotten Son of God  
the Father;

***Refrain***

3 Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of  
heaven above;  
glory to God,  
glory in the highest;

***Refrain***

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory  
given;  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing;

***Refrain***



*Celebrant:* Alleluia! The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light!

***People:*** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

**Gloria: #96 "Angels we have heard on high" (vs. 1 & 3)**

*The congregation is invited to joyfully ring bells during the singing*

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

*Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

3. Come to Bethlehem and see  
him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee  
Christ, the Lord, the  
newborn King.

*Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

**Collect of the Day:** O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

**First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7**

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. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing



plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. 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.

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

**The Psalm: Psalm 96 (*prayed in unison*)**

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song; \***  
**sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.**
- 2 Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; \***  
**proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.**
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations \***  
**and his wonders among all peoples.**
- 4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; \***  
**he is more to be feared than all gods.**
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; \***  
**but it is the Lord who made the heavens.**
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! \***  
**Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!**



- 7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; \*  
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.**
- 8 Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; \*  
bring offerings and come into his courts.**
- 9 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; \*  
let the whole earth tremble before him.**
- 10 Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! \*  
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;  
he will judge the peoples with equity."**
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; \*  
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.**
- 12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy  
before the Lord when he comes, \*  
when he comes to judge the earth.**
- 13 He will judge the world with righteousness \*  
and the peoples with his truth.**

**The Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14**

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

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



## Sequence Anthem: "On a Night of Wonder"

### The Holy Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

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

***People:* 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.

*Priest:* The Gospel of the Lord. ***People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

**Sermon**

**The Rev. Ronald J. Kolanowski**

**The Peace**

*Celebrant:* The peace of Jesus Christ, born this night,  
be always with you.

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

**Announcements**



# Holy Communion

## Offertory

Offertory Hymn: #87 "Hark! the Herald Angels sing"

- 1 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!

*Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing  
glory to the newborn King!*

- 2 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 man to dwell;  
Jesus, our Emmanuel!

*Refrain*

- 3 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!

*Refrain*

*The Doxology is sung while the offering is brought to the altar.*

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

### **Eucharistic Prayer B**

**BCP p. 367**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

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

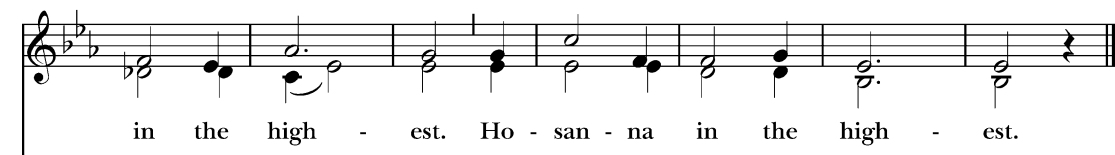
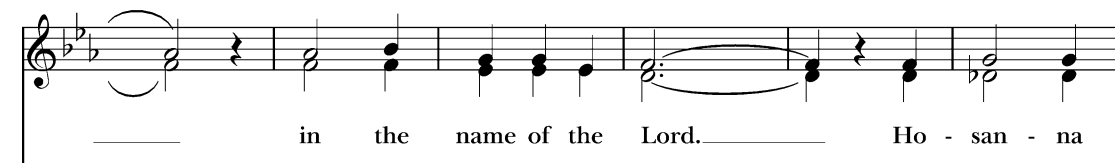
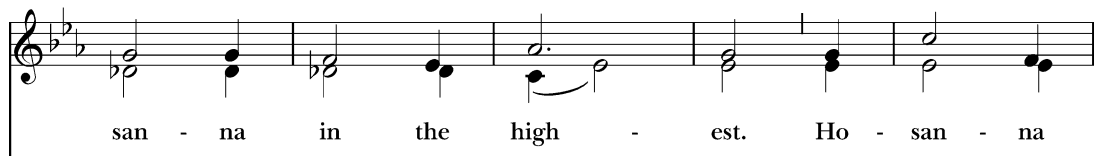
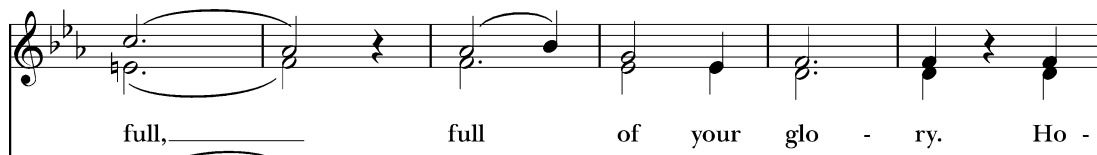
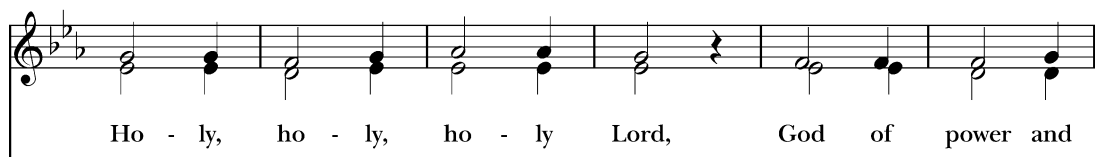
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.***



# Sanctus #S-130

Schubert, arr. Proulx





We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation...

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...

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**

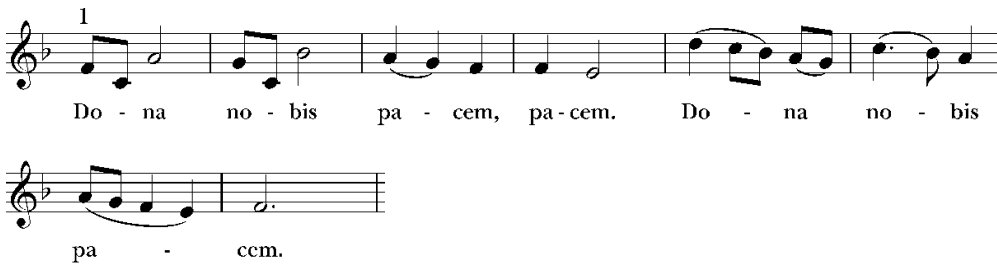
**Breaking of the Bread:**

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

***People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***



## Fraction Anthem: #712 “Dona nobis Pacem”



## Invitation to Communion

Priest: The Gifts of God for the people of God.

*Everyone is welcome at God's table. You are invited to come forward and receive communion. Gluten free wafers are available – please indicate to the priest if you would like one.*

## Communion Music: Instrumental Music

**Anthem: “I Believe” (choir with soloists Hailey Litwin & Ben Engler)**

## Prayer After Communion

BCP, p.365

**All: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**



## **Candle Lighting Hymn #79 O, Little Town of Bethlehem**

- 1 O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by;  
yet in thy dark streets shineth  
the everlasting Light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.**
- 2 For Christ is born of Mary;  
and gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth!  
and praises sing to God the King,  
and peace to men on earth.**
- 3 How silently, how silently,  
the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of his heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming,  
but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him, still  
the dear Christ enters in.**



**4 Where children pure and happy  
pray to the blessèd Child,  
where misery cries out to thee,  
Son of the mother mild;  
where charity stands watching  
and faith holds wide the door,  
the dark night wakes, the glory breaks,  
and Christmas comes once more.**

**5 O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin and enter in,  
be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord Emmanuel!**

*The congregation lights one another's candles during the hymn  
as the chapel lights are dimmed.*



## **Hymn #111 “Silent Night”**

**1 Silent night, holy night,  
all is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace.**

**2 Silent night, holy night,  
shepherds quake at the sight,  
glories stream from heaven afar,  
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;  
Christ, the Savior, is born!**

**3 Silent night, holy night,  
Son of God, love’s pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

**The Blessing**



## Closing Hymn: #100 “Joy to the World!”

- 1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come:  
let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing.
- 2 Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;  
let us our songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,  
repeat the sounding joy.
- 3 No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow  
far as the curse is found.
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness,  
and wonders of his love.

### The Dismissal

*Deacon:* Rejoicing in the Messiah’s birth, let us go forth  
into the world in peace, to love and serve the Lord.  
Alleluia, Alleluia!

*People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!*

### Postlude

*Many thanks to the musicians who have contributed to this  
service with their talents*





# Memorial Giving for Christmas



## Given by

Joyce Agnew

Matt & Jillian Algieri

The Atwood Family:  
Tom, Pam, Tom  
Jr & Charlotte

Judith Banks

Trisha Beatty & George Dagon

Richard & Laura Beaudoin

Carolyn Bouchard

Claire Bracaglia

Cynthia Brinkman

Brien & Terry Brown

Ronald & Joan Churney

Georgette Conrad

Henry & Joyce Dombrowski

Marcia & Chuck Eaton

The Eells Family

## In Loving Memory of

Thomas & Viola O'Reilly, Thomas R.  
O'Reilly, deceased members of the Agnew  
family.

Jolene Drudi

Frost "Nanny" Krist; Dorothy "GMa" Atwood  
and John D Atwood, Jr.

Family and friends who have departed

Susan Beatty and George Dagon, Sr.

Richard Beaudoin, Christopher Beaudoin,  
Napoleon Beaudoin, Omer Beaudoin, John &  
Catherine Flannery, Clifton LeBrec, Constance  
LeBrec, Judith Wolf, Richard LeBrec

Loved Ones

Henry Lindert, Henry Jones, Helen Wason,  
Marge Dill, Nelson Moore

John G. Brinkman

Sarah Brown DuBrava

John & Theresa Churney, John Churney,  
Richard Baron, George Holsten

Clyde Conrad, Jr.

Henry & Elizabeth Dombrowski, John & Angie  
Banulski, Judy, Dave & David Martin

Ethel, Harrison, Harry & John Eaton, Barbara,  
George Potterton, Georgia & Jack Spratt, Lee  
& Pam Potterton

Clarence & Terry Michaud, & Bonnie Eells





Stephen & Victoria Fisk

All family and friends that have already gone back to God.; All in the world who have lost their lives due to lack of refuge, food, medical resources and freedom.

The Forrest Family  
Gayle Porter Kataja

Walter Forrest, George W. Clark  
Peter C. Kataja, Merle N. & E. Earl Porter,  
Kyle P. Buttice, Natalie B. & Claude W. Jones  
Jeanne and Robert Wessman, Paul LeBreton;  
Evangeline and Blanche Kniep

Kathy Kniep

Charless Whitham

Bob Kliminsky and  
Alex Kliminsky

Ron Kolanowski &  
Art Engler

Mel & Helen Hiltabel, Art & Helen  
Kolanowski, Lori Kolanowski.

Curt & Ellen Kraemer

William Gilroy

Mary Latour

Alice Hagenow, Richard J. Hagenow

John Loge

Frances Jeanne Loge, Stuart Edgar Power,  
Beverly Jane Sandefur, Judith Marion Gray

Lynda Majewski

Paul Louis Arruda

John & Sandy Marshall

Howard & Marjorie Marshall, Emmett &  
Marie Hartz

Len & Cindy Matejek

Trent Liseo & Dylan Comstock (grandsons)

The Mondrach Family

Steve & Emmy Lou Mondrach and Robert &  
MaryAnn Siegle

The Myers Family

P. Hamilton & Ruth Myers; Tom and  
Martha Bombaci

Liz & Alex Nelson

Alison Nelson & Julie Sucich

The O'Shea Family

Jean & Ray Baldwin, Carbery & Genevieve  
O'Shea, Genevieve Alexander, Margo  
Fletcher, Christine Morrison, Sean O'Shea,  
Juanita & Jack Alden

Patrcia Opgaard

Kathie Schunck (her sister)





The Osmond Family	Cleo & Doris Wandling, John B. & Mildred Osmond, John C. Osmond
John & Susan Ostrout	Elmer H. Ostrout, Jr., Dorothy R. Ostrout, William J. Murray, Shirley F. Murray, Edward Murray
Barbara Parkyn	Family & friends
Steve Platz	Judy, Ed & Linda Platz
	Henry & Evelyn Dickinson
Chris & Chad Raasumaa-Boots	Their grandparents
Amy Stone	Family, friends, and pets
Lianie Unterzuber	Bob Gorcenski, Dee Urban, Debbie Bell, Mary Jo Keenan, John Romero
	Anastasios Philippou
John Viklinetz	Helen Joy Viklinetz
Stephen Wells	Carol A. Wells
Stephanie Wheeler	Russell H. Wheeler, Jr.
Debbie Wilson & Darlene McDonald	David McDonald, Velma McDonald, Charlene McDonald, Larry McDonald, John Wilson, Anita Wilson, Brian Wilson, Chip Wilson.





# Gifts Given in Honor

Given by

In honor of

Stephen & Victoria Fisk

Jeanette Farren, Liam & Thor

All family, friends, and pets living under  
uncertainty in the world

The Forrest Family

Ryan Clark

Maryann Hickleton

Claire Bracaglia

Steve Konopka

The Konopka family and my church family

*For unto us a Child is Born*



*O, Come let us adore him*