

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 15, 2019 – 10:30 A.M.
THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

The Service begins on page 355 of The Book of Common Prayer.

Prelude: Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

Nikolaus Bruhns (1665–1697)

THE WORD OF GOD

The Advent wreath is lit as the Choir sings the Introit.

Introit *Gaudete*

Plainsong

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, rejoice; let your forbearance be known to all, for the Lord is near at hand; have no anxiety about anything, but in all things, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.

– *Philippians 4; Psalm 85*

Hymn 640: “Watchman, tell us of the night”

Aberystwyth, *stand*

Opening Sentences

Priest: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

Priest: 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.**

Trisagion

David Sinden (b. 1982)

Organ: *All:*

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and
Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy u - pon us.
Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im -
mor - tal One, Have mer - cy u - pon us.
Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy u - pon us.

The Collect of the Day

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever.

People: **Amen.**

The Lessons

Lector: A Reading from The Book of the prophet Isaiah. (35: 1-10) *sit*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 146: 4-9

- 4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help!
whose hope is in the Lord their God;
- 5 **Who made heaven and earth, the seas,
and all that is in them;
who keeps his promise for ever;**
- 6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed,
and food to those who hunger.
- 7 **The Lord sets the prisoners free;
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;**

8 The Lord loves the righteous;
 the Lord cares for the stranger;
 he sustains the orphan and widow,
 but frustrates the way of the wicked.

9 **The Lord shall reign for ever,
 your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
 Hallelujah!**

All: **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Hymn 76: “On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry” (*omit st. 5*) Winchester New, *stand*

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
 (11: 2-11)

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

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.” As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon: The Reverend Luke Jernagan

sit

The Nicene Creed

p. 358, *stand*

Prayers of the People

Lector: In this season of Advent, let us offer our prayers to God, saying: Lord, have mercy.

kneel

That our gracious Savior may rouse us from sleep and make us attentive to the nearness of his presence, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Lector: That we may discover God's word in every sound of this world, God's healing in every act of forgiveness, and God's love in every gesture of self-sacrifice among us, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Lector: That we may come to recognize in our holy assembly gathered for prayer that Jesus the Christ is with us here, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Lector: That the leaders of the church, in both word and deed, may show forth God's love for the world, remembering especially Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Wayne, our Bishop; Deon, our Bishop-elect; and Luke, Kelly and Joseph, our clergy, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Lector: That all in any need, especially those served by our ministry partners Beyond Housing, Bravely, Episcopal City Mission, The Haven of Grace and Outreach Haiti, may receive God's mercy and grace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Lector: That all who suffer from sickness of body, mind or spirit may know the power of God's love, especially Kathryn Dewein, Greg Evans, Carol Fisher, Bryan Miller, Holly Parks, Kathy Sheehan and Rolla Wetzels, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Lector: That all who have died may find eternal life in God's loving presence, remembering especially Scott Peterson, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Lector: That God's coming into the days and years of our human history may be always new, always brimming with light to drive all darkness away, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Priest: Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace. And accept our thanks and praise for all your gifts so generously given, make ready our hearts for your coming, and receive our prayers in the name of the one who comes, your Son, our Savior, Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

Priest: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Absolution

Priest: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

All: **Amen.**

Exchanging the Peace

p. 360, *stand*

The children join the Service from their Sunday School classes.

Announcements

sit

THE HOLY COMMUNION

All baptized persons are invited to receive Communion.

If you would like to receive gluten-free bread, let the priest know at the altar rail.

The Offertory Anthem

Trad. German Carol, arr. David Nield (b. 1941)

Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen,
Aus einer Wurzel zart.
Wie uns die Alten sungen,
Von Jesse war die Art.
Und hat ein Blüm'lein 'bracht;
Mitten im kalten Winter,
Wohl zu der halben Nacht.

*A rose has sprung up
From a tender root.
As men of old have sung to us,
It came from Jesse's line.
And it has brought forth a little blossom;
In the midst of cold winter,
Right upon midnight.*

Das Röslein, das ich meine,
Da von Jesaia sagt:
Hat uns gebracht alleine
Marie die reine Magd.
Aus Gottes ew'gem Rat,
Hat sie ein Kind geboren,
Und blieb ein' reine Magd.

*The rosebud that I mean,
Of which Isaiah told,
Mary alone bore for us,
the pure maid.
From God's eternal decree,
She bore a child
And remained a pure maid.*

O Jesu, bis zum Scheiden
Aus diesem Jammertal.
Laß Dein Hilf uns geleiten
Hin in den Freudenthal,
In Deines Vaters Reich,
Da wir Dich ewig loben,
O Gott, uns das verleihe.

*O Jesu, until our parting
Out of this vale of misery;
Let your help escort us
There to the hall of joy,
In your Father's kingdom.
There may we ever praise you;
O God, bestow this upon us.*

— 15th century German

The Presentation (Hymn 76, stanza 5)

Winchester New, stand

All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free;

whom with the Fa-ther we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more. A - men.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A	p. 361
Sanctus and Benedictus (<i>Hymnal S 129</i>)	p. 362 <i>kneel</i>
The Lord's Prayer	p. 364
Breaking of the Bread	p. 364
Administration of the Sacrament	<i>sit</i>

Carol arr. George Guest (1924–2002)

When came in flesh the Incarnate Word, The heedless world slept on, And only simple shepherds heard That God had sent his Son.	Then shall the pure of heart be blest; As mild He comes to them, As when upon the virgin's breast, He lay at Bethlehem.
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When comes the Savior at the last, From east to west shall shine. The awful pomp, and earth aghast Shall tremble at the sign.	Lord, who could dare see Thee descend In state, unless he knew Thou art the sorrowing sinner's friend, The gracious and the true.
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Dwell in our hearts, O Savior blest,
So shall Thine Advent's dawn
'Twixt us and thee, our bosom guest,
Be but the veil withdrawn.

– Joseph Anstice

Hymn 75: "There's a voice in the wilderness crying" Ascension

A Prayer of Thanksgiving p. 365, *kneel*

The Blessing

Hymn 59: "Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding" Merton, *stand*

The Dismissal

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary: Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 661 J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

For the anthem, the choir is joined by Jessica Knopf, saxophone.

MUSIC NOTES: David Nield (b. 1941) is an English organist, choirmaster, who taught at the Tiffin School in Kingston upon Thames, Surrey and was director of the Children's Music Theatre, London. He has composed two settings of traditional German chorales with soprano saxophone, both of which we have sung here at St. Peter's. The juxtaposition of the free saxophone line (which includes some improvisation) with the rhythmic stability of the chorale is as compelling as it is unusual. • George Guest (1924–2002) was a Welsh organist and conductor who was the Director of Music at St. John's College, Cambridge from 1951 to 1991.

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by parishioners.

Lector/Eucharistic Ministers:	Carrie Burroughs, Page Melton Ivie
Ushers:	Allan Ivie, Hal Burroughs, Bill Hausman, Jeff Yount
Acolytes:	Bailey Mathews, Grant Nicholson, John Rich Mateo Sanchez, Audrey Stockwell, Madison Stockwell
Acolyte Master:	Julie Ferrie
Hospitality:	Sarah Souza, Deidre Daniels
Altar Guild:	Annie Vogt, Connie Lohr, Frances Gay, Claudia McMillan Nancy Grimes, DeWayne Trainer
Counters:	Lisa Acker, Tosca Schaberg

PRAYER LIST

For Parishioners: Greg Evans, Bryan Miller, Holly Parks and Rolla Wetzel.

For Family and Friends: Kathryn Dewein, Carol Fisher and Kathy Sheehan.

For the Faithful Departed: Scott Peterson.

For the Men and Women of the Armed Forces: Zach Greated.

For those Committed to Our Ongoing Prayers: Michelle Arthur, Donna Brookman, Arlene Burnham, Elizabeth Clarke, Samantha Forsko, Karen Goddard, Patty Hecker, Laney Johnson, Bob Kenny, Susan Kerkerling, Madelyn Lane, Emelie Liebendorfer, Ann McDonald, Bill McMahon, Elizabeth Mendoza, Cheryl Meyer, Signe Myles, Louisa Rix, Jeffrey Rixleben, Sarah Roberts, Molly Robinson, Patricia Sorter, Wayne Spohr, Jane St. John, Julie Stephenson and Dick Williams.

TODAY...

FAMILIES – Children are always welcome in church! Childcare is available in the Little Building from 9-11:45. If your child needs a break, the service is live-streamed in the Undercroft. A baby-changing station is available in the middle Undercroft restroom.

CHILDREN’S CHAPEL – All ages, please join us in Grace Chapel, 10:15 to 10:25 a.m. each Sunday before Sunday School.

PARISH BREAKFAST – Come enjoy a hot breakfast in the Undercroft today, served from 8:45 until 10:00. The cost is \$5 per person or \$20 per family.

RECTOR’S FORUM meets each Sunday morning, 9:15-10:00 a.m. in the Undercroft. The topic for December is “God is with Us—what this means and why it matters.”

ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN – During this season of joy and giving, many of us make charitable contributions. We invite you to consider a gift to St. Peter’s in thanksgiving for all the ways God lives through us in this spirit-filled community. Thank you to the 217 families who have pledged your support for a total of \$814,815. If you have not yet pledged, please do so by returning your pledge card via mail or the Sunday offering, or you can pledge online at www.stpetersepiscope.org. **Thank you!**

THIS WEEK...

NEWS DEADLINE – Please submit news to the Church Office by noon on Tuesdays.

ST. PETER’S CARES – Need a ride, a meal or a prayer? St. Peter’s has a ministry that can help – that’s St. Peter’s Cares! Leave a voicemail or email (314-993-2306, ext. 125 or shepherd@stpetersepiscope.org) and a Shepherd will contact you within 24 hours.

ST. PETER’S CARES NEEDS SUNDAY DRIVERS – A vital gift our Transportation Ministry Team provides each week is bringing parishioners to Sunday worship and programs. If St. Peter’s is an important part of your Sundays, can you help make the same true for a fellow parishioner by joining in this ministry? Contact the Rev. Kelly Carlson for more information.

WOMAN’S GUILD – We are enjoying a break for the holidays and will resume on Tuesday, January 7th with Yoga, lunch and our program. Plan to join us then!

SEARCHING FOR GOD IN THE DAILY NEWS – We are taking a holiday break until January 8th. Plan to join us in the new year on Wednesdays at 1:00.

BIBLE STUDY – Join us at 7:00 on Thursday mornings in the Elliot Room.

CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT – St. Peter's annual joyous Christmas Pageant will be on Christmas Eve at 4:00 pm. Children age 4 to Grade 7 will play the many wonderful parts in the Pageant. **Our one and only rehearsal is this Saturday, December 21st in the Sanctuary, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.,** and is required for participation in the Pageant. Please let Ann Babington know (annbabington@gmail.com) if your child will participate.

UPCOMING EVENTS...

CHRISTMAS SERVICES – Please note the service times:

Tuesday, Christmas Eve 4:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist/Pageant
 6:00 p.m. Choral Holy Eucharist with strings
 11:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist with choir

Wednesday, Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

FOOD DRIVE – As you shop for groceries in the coming days, please take the food list with you for our January 5th food collection for Trinity (CWE) food pantry. The groceries and toiletries most needed for January are: canned pasta with meat; peanut butter; Ramen noodles; bar soap and toilet tissue.

YEAR-END OFFERINGS – The Church Office will close at Noon on Christmas Eve and will remain closed the rest of the week. The Finance Office will be open on Monday, December 30th and until Noon on Tuesday, December 31st to receive your contributions. Please note that **all offerings for 2019 must be postmarked on or before Tuesday, December 31, 2019.** For stock transactions, the “date of gift” must be on or before December 31, 2019. Contributions for 2019 may be made by credit card online through 11:59 pm CST on Tuesday, December 31, at www.stpetersepiscope.org/give.

SPECIAL CHILDREN’S CHAPEL – Next Sunday’s Chapel will be a special telling of the Christmas story, with a living nativity! Bring your little ones at **10:00 a.m.** on December 22nd to hear the Good News.

CHRISTMAS LESSONS AND CAROLS – Christmas continues! Celebrate the season at 10:30 a.m. on January 5th (aka the 12th day of Christmas). Come hear the Good News of Christmas, sing Christmas carols, and join in a joyful celebration of Holy Eucharist!

CAROLS AND COCOA – On the 12th day of Christmas, after Lessons and Carols, come down to the Undercroft for a “Cookies and Cocoa” Coffee Hour; the choir may just have a caroling surprise to share! All are welcome to join in joyful fellowship.

MEN’S RETREAT – On January 11th, the men of St. Peter’s are invited to a one-day retreat at the Marianist Retreat Center. Register at <http://stpetersepiscope.org/news/st-peters-mens-retreat/> or mail your check for \$50 to the Church Office.

EPIPHANY LESSONS AND CAROLS – A candlelit service of music and readings will be sung by the St. Peter’s Singers on Sunday, January 12th at 5:00 p.m. Music by Vaughan Williams, William Walton, Jane Marshall, John Weaver, Nico Muhly, and David Sinden.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP – The 2020 EYC Senior High mission trip will be to the Appalachian region of Kentucky, June 14-20. The cost of the trip will be \$750, with \$50 registration fee due by end of December.

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 15 - 22, 2019

Sunday	12/15		The Third Sunday of Advent
		8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
		8:45-10:00	Parish Breakfast – Undercroft
		9:15 a.m.	Rector’s Forum – Undercroft
		10:15 a.m.	Children’s Chapel
		10:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
Tuesday	12/17	4:15 p.m.	Choristers
Wednesday	12/18	5:30 p.m.	Holy Eucharist
Thursday	12/19	7:00 a.m.	Bible Study
		11:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist – The Gatesworth
		5:15 p.m.	Probationers
		6:00 p.m.	Choristers
		7:15 p.m.	Parish Choir
Friday	12/20	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Group
Saturday	12/21	10:00 a.m.	Pageant Rehearsal
Sunday	12/22		The Fourth Sunday of Advent
		8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
		8:45-10:00	Parish Breakfast – Undercroft
		9:15 a.m.	Rector’s Forum – Undercroft
		10:00 a.m.	Children’s Chapel
		10:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist