

First Sunday in Advent

December 1, 2024

Order of Worship: Holy Communion, Setting Four

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Congregational responses are printed in bold type.

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PRELUDE & BELLS *We observe a moment of silence for prayer and meditation.*

WELCOME

Blessed be the Kingdom...now and forever **and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

We stand OPENING HYMN

#239

“Hark, the Glad Sound!”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

adapted from Compline, p321

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the leader begins.

Make haste, O God, + to deliver me. **O Lord, Make haste to help me.**

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.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and personal confession.

Holy and gracious God,

I confess that I have sinned against you this week and this day. Some of my sin I

know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is

known only to you. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore

me, that I may rest in peace.

By the mercy of God we are united with Jesus Christ, and in him we are forgiven. We rest each night in his peace and rise each morning to serve him. **Amen.**

DIALOG

Blessed is he who comes as king, who comes in the name of the Lord.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say

a voice that speaks for peace.

Peace for all people and for his friends

and those who turn to him in their hearts.

His help is near for those who fear him,

And his glory will live in our land.

Blessed is he who comes as king, who comes in the name of the Lord.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

PROCLAMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the + resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray... Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Next Steps Weekly Memory Verse: LUKE 21:28
Stand up and raise your heads-- your redemption is drawing near.

FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 33:14-16

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

RESPONSE & MEDITATION: PSALM 25:1-9

¹To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

²**Let none who look to you be put to shame;
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**

³Show me your ways, O Lord,
and teach me your paths.

⁴**Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.**

⁵Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.

⁶**Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.**

⁷Gracious and upright is the Lord;
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

⁸**He guides the humble in doing right
and teaches his way to the lowly.**

⁹All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

SECOND READING: 1 THESSALONIANS 3:9-13

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. ¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL READING: LUKE 21:25-36

Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁵ “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” ²⁹ Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³⁴ “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵ like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

The Gospel of the Lord **Praise to You, O Christ!**

HYMN OF THE DAY

#249

“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

We sit. SERMON

Rev. Dave Wendell

OFFERTORY SONG *Giving back to God*



First- and second-time guests are not expected to give a monetary offering; your Connection Card and your presence this morning are your gifts. Safe, secure & easy electronic giving is available on our website stpeterhallettsville.org/giving or by scanning this code.

We stand #284

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

v3 only

3 What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;

if I were a wise man I would do my part;

yet what I can give him--give my heart.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

For the Church, the world, for one another, and for the sake of all people, let us pray to the Lord.

A brief silence

How precious is your love, dear Father, and how vast your mercy! You made promises to Israel, and through them, to the world. In Jesus, your promises find their Yes. Prepare our hearts for his threefold coming among us: As the Babe of Bethlehem, veiled in human flesh. As Head of the Church, veiled in word and sacrament. And as King of the universe, veiled only in robes of light and love, the glorious Yes who fulfills your ancient promises, and our heart's desire.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Fill your Church with your Holy Spirit, so it may instruct sinners in your way. Strengthen it in holiness. Give it boldness to proclaim your eternal Word. Make it abound in love, especially when persecuted, so that its enemies do not exult, but instead repent and believe in the Good News.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the Jews, the flesh and blood kindred of Jesus and our elder brothers and sisters in faith. Banish hatred of them from every heart. Unite us with them in faith toward you and fervent love for one another, under the glorious and gentle rule of the Messiah.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Adorn this congregation with faith, love, mercy, generosity, and holiness. Turn our hearts and hands to adorn with these gifts all who are suffering. We pray for our mission to develop fully devoted followers of Jesus; to support Solid Rock our mission in action; and that you send us adults for baptism.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Teach us to live at peace with each other. Help seek your will, not our own. Let us use whatever power and authority we have for the common good. Give wisdom, integrity, and common sense to our elected and appointed leaders, and to all who risk their lives in defense of liberty, justice, health, and peace.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We plead on behalf of everyone who needs your merciful care and glorious deliverance – especially: {List}. Gladden their hearts, heal their bodies, and uphold their spirits with your own Holy Spirit. Surround them with the love and care of all who hold them dear.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Father, we entrust into your care our beloved dead. We pray for the families of {List}. Comfort those whose grief runs deep. Revive our spirits, direct our days and our deeds in your peace, and make us abound in love and in every good work. Strengthen our hearts with the gift of your Spirit, so that we may be blameless at the coming of Jesus. And gather us, with all the redeemed, into your eternal Kingdom, where we shall rejoice in your goodness and righteousness forever.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all these things; for all we lift before you in the silence of our hearts; and for everything that you know we need, we pray in the name and power of our Lord Jesus Christ, and commend into your mighty and merciful hands. **Amen.**

LORD’S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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, forever and ever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

#246

“Hark! A Thrilling Vice is Sounding”

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

We depart peacefully and quietly.

ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Our mission is Christ's mission – "I will build my church"
by developing fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

*******COFFEE TIME IS OPEN ON DEC 1ST AND DEC 29TH
if you would like to bring snacks*******

NO 5PM WORSHIP ON DEC 1ST

Sunday, Nov 17th -Sunday Dec 15th Annual Poinsettia Donation in honor or memory of someone. We will adorn the church with the flowers beginning on Dec 22nd -29th. The poinsettias will be a \$12 donation to be placed in the white/green pew envelopes designated "Poinsettias" and put in the offering box

Tuesday, Nov 26th Community Thanksgiving Service 7:00 pm *Sacred Heart*

Tuesday, Dec 3rd 5:30 pm Benevolence Meeting (*FH*)

Wednesdays, Dec 4th & 18th Advent Services 6:00 pm Potluck Meal; 7:00 pm Service

SPECIAL ADVENT CONCERT: Wednesday, Dec 11th (*Sponsored by St. Peter & Sacred Heart*) David Kauffman, songwriter, recording artist, and composer of many Acts Retreat Songs is coming to Sacred Heart. Come enjoy an evening of Song and Story for Healing and Hope.

St. Nicholas Ministry is asking for your help again this year. Boxes can be found upstairs by the front door and in the fellowship hall across from the elevator.

Items needed: monetary donations, toys, non-perishable food, Christmas wrapping paper, blankets, quilts, toiletries, books, bibles. They are also asking for help wrapping gifts, picking up items at collection sites, distribution, and deliveries. If you are interested, please call Mimi Richter at 979-877-4544. (*deadline Dec 6th*)

Solid Rock Bingo "Let's Fiesta" One-half Hog Processed Raffle Tickets are available in the office for \$5.00. *Only 500 tickets will be sold, and you have 2 chances to win.*

Sunday, Dec 8th St. Peter & Solid Rock Youth Christmas Program 9:00 am Worship Service. Practice dates are Nov 24th & Dec 1st at 10:30 am

Sunday, Dec 8th LYO Fun Event: Christmas Caroling/hayride/hot chocolate
(*please RSVP on the GroupMe App*)

Solid Rock "Let's Fiesta Bingo" If you would like to donate an item to the Silent Auction, please let Kari know in the office by **Dec 16th**.

YTD (Jan-Oct '24) \$232,627.73; EXPENSES \$256,269.51
DIFFERENCE +/- -\$23,641.78 *(due to increased insurance rate)*

Attendance: Sunday, Nov 24: 9AM 103/5PM 10

Openings for: (2025 Flower/Radio Sponsorships are available)

Serving This Weekend Dec 1

Sunday AM: *Assisting:* Barbara Grindeland

Communion Set Up: NO COMMUNION

Communion Clean Up: NO COMMUNION

Organist: Denise Drozd

Ushers: Wesley McAda, Shannon DeForest, Luther Lorfing, Aaron Henke

Acolytes: Abigail Horton & McKenna Patterson

Power Point Sunday: Summer Leopold

Altar Flowers given by Women in Mission in memory of Larry Stillions

Radio Ministry given by Women in Mission in memory of Evelyn Lishinski

NO 5PM Sunday

First Sunday in Advent

Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-36

This Week @ St. Peter

Sun Dec 1, 9:00 am Worship Service, 10:00 Coffee Time,
10:30 am Adult Christian Learning, & Youth Program Practice,
NO 5:00 pm Worship Service

Mon Dec 2, 1:00 pm Quilting

Tue Dec 3, 9:30 am Nursing Home Service, 5:30 Benevolence, 6:00 pm Learning
Commission, 7:00 pm Prayer Group

Wed Dec 4, 6:00 Advent Meal, 7:00 pm Advent Service

Thu Dec 5, 7:30 pm AA/Al-Anon

Sat Dec 7, FH Rental

Sun Dec 8, 9:00 am Children's Christmas Program, 10:00 am Coffee Time, 10:30 am Adult
Christian Learning, LYO Christmas Caroling/hot chocolate

Serving Next Weekend Dec 8

Sunday AM: *Assisting:* Sophie Teltschik

Communion Set Up: Rida Chovanetz (*Intinction*)

Communion Clean Up: Marilyn McAda

Organist: Carol Drozd & Nathan Sandelovic

Ushers: Wesley McAda, Shannon DeForest, Luther Lorfing, Aaron Henke

Acolytes: Adam Leopold & Finley Poeling

Power Point Sunday: Sharyn Sullivan

Altar Flowers given by

Radio Ministry given by Women in Mission in memory of Evelyn Lishinski

Sunday PM: *Assisting:* Daniel Drozd

Communion Clean Up: Janis Muehr

Organist: Janis Muehr

Our Prayer List:– *Requests listed 4 weeks under **Concerns For** unless otherwise requested.*

Concerns for: L.A. Muehr, Johnny Draper, Amy Schiffrin, Joelle Mihalovich, Leon Koehne, Mark Hopper, Lucille Parker, Lisa Beyer, Jerry Bonewald, the Miller Family, Howard Loewe, Leroy Schroeder, Cheryl Whitley, James Kubecka, Carol Pope

Extended concerns: Jim Brandt, Edmund Koerth, Barbara Tackett, Charlotte Hartmann, Melissa Grice, Michael Drozd, Misty Fletcher Remmers, Cody Rice Jr, William Lane, Brandi Orsak, Jeffrey Morgenroth, Charlie Garmon, Carrie Besetsny, DeWayne Dixon, James Evans, Pr. John Schmidt & family (*Missionary in Ghana*)

Other Concerns: first responders (*military, law enforcement, firefighter, medical*), Safe House Church (*Hallettsville*); San Miguel (*Ft. Worth*) and Houston Oromo Lutheran Churches, President Biden; President-elect Donald Trump, our country; and those facing unrest & unemployment

Grieving Families of: Beverly Green, Larry Stillions, Elroy Tesch, Francis Christ, Bill Drozd, A.J. Kutac, Celia Ann Kruse, Milton Mika, Evelyn Lishinski, Sarah Sralik, Carl Tieken, Dorothy Ehler

SAVE THE DATES IN DECEMBER

Saturday, Dec 14th St. Nicholas Distribution

Saturday, Dec 21st Conaway/Gilliam Wedding

Tuesday, Dec 24th 4:00 pm & 11:00 pm Christmas Eve Services

Wednesday, Dec 25th 9:00 am Christmas Day Service

Sunday, Dec 29th 9:00 am Lessons & Carols Service

ENTRANCE HYMN *Hark, the Glad Sound!* (ELW 239)

Text by Philip Doddridge; Music by Thomas Haweis

**1 Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes,
the Savior promised long;
let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
and ev'ry voice a song.**

**2 He comes the pris'ners to release,
in Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.**

**3 He comes the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of his grace
to enrich the humble poor.**

**4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,
your welcome shall proclaim,
and heav'n's eternal arches ring
with your beloved name.**

Hymn On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry (ELW 249)

Text by Charles Coffin; Music by Michael Praetorius

**1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings!**

**2 Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;
make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare
for Christ to come and enter there.**

**3 We hail you as our Savior, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without your grace we waste away
like flow'rs that wither and decay.**

**4 Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,
and make us rise to fall no more;
oh, let your face upon us shine
and fill the world with love divine.**

**5 All praise to you, eternal Son,
whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Spirit, evermore.**

Sending Hymn *Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!* (ELW 246)

Text by Edward Caswall; Music by William H. Monk

1 Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding!

"Christ is near," we hear it say.

**"Cast away the works of darkness,
all you children of the day!"**

2 Wakened by the solemn warning,

from earth's bondage let us rise;

**Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.**

**3 See the Lamb, so long expected,
come with pardon down from heav'n.**

**Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
one and all, to be forgiv'n;**

4 So, when next he comes in glory

and the world is wrapped in fear,

**he will shield us with his mercy
and with words of love draw near.**

5 Honor, glory, might, and blessing

to the Father and the Son

with the everlasting Spirit

while unending ages run!