



# ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

621 W Belmont Ave, Chicago, IL

## The Fourth Sunday of Advent

*For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; \*  
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.*



## **Welcome to St. Peter's. We are glad you are here!**

Because Christmas occurs on a Monday this year, this is the shortest Advent Season we've seen in a while! Some may feel cheated—Advent is a beautiful season to renew our faith and lives in Christ as we await the celebration of his birth. But our anticipation of Christmas does not grow weak! We hope you will join us again tonight and tomorrow for our celebrations of the Nativity of Our Lord—the very presence of God in Christ in our very midst.

If you are visiting with us today, please feel free to participate as much or as little as you are comfortable. There are visitor cards in the pews, and if you fill one out, we will get in touch with you. Please introduce yourself to us and join us for coffee hour after the service if you have time.

At the time of communion, all baptized Christians are welcome to receive. If you do not want to receive communion, but would like a blessing, come forward at the time of communion and place your arms across your chest to indicate your intention. If you have any questions at all, don't hesitate to ask.

Gluten-free bread for communion is available. Just let the minister know when he or she presents the bread to you.

# THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**Prelude**                      *Lied from 24 Pieces in a Free Style*                      Louis Vierne

**Processional Hymn**              “*Blest be the King whose coming*”                      **Hymn 74**

## The Word of God

*The people standing, the Celebrant may say*

*Celebrant*      Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit  
*People*              **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*The Celebrant says*

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

*Here is sung or said*

*Celebrant*      Lord, have mercy up on us.  
*People*              **Christ, have mercy upon us.**  
*Celebrant*      Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Gloria in Excelsis**              (*see insert for service music*)                      **Hymn S 202**

Glory be to God on high,  
    and on earth peace, good will towards men.  
we praise thee, we bless thee,  
    we worship thee,  
    we glorify thee,  
    we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,  
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.  
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,  
have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy;  
thou only art the Lord;  
thou only, O Christ,  
with the Holy Ghost,  
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## The Collect of the Day

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

*People*        **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant*    Let us pray.

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 for ever. **Amen.**

*All are seated for the lessons.*

## First Reading

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

When the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before

you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

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

### The Psalm

*Read responsively by whole verse.*

Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

Your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing; \*  
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

**For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; \*  
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**

“I have made a covenant with my chosen one; \*  
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

**‘I will establish your line for ever, \*  
and preserve your throne for all generations.’”**

You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people: \*  
“I have set the crown upon a warrior  
and have exalted one chosen out of the people.

**I have found David my servant; \*  
with my holy oil have I anointed him.**

My hand will hold him fast \*  
and my arm will make him strong.

**No enemy shall deceive him, \*  
nor any wicked man bring him down.**

I will crush his foes before him \*  
and strike down those who hate him.

**My faithfulness and love shall be with him, \*  
and he shall be victorious through my Name.**

I shall make his dominion extend \*  
from the Great Sea to the River.

**He will say to me, ‘You are my Father, \*  
my God, and the rock of my salvation.’**

## The Epistle

Romans 16:25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith~ to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Hymn

“O come, O come, Emmanuel”

**Hymn 56 vv. 7-8**

## The Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

*Deacon*        The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

*People*        **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

*Deacon*        The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*        **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

## Sermon

The Rev. Shane Patrick Gormley

## The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father;  
by whom all things were made.  
who for us and for our salvation  
came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered and was buried;  
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;  
and he shall come again, with glory,  
to judge both the quick and the dead;  
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and giver of Life,  
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;  
who spake by the Prophets.  
And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## The Prayers of the People

Form V

*Deacon or other leaders*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People*            **Lord, have mercy.**

For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, for Michael our Presiding Bishop, for Jeff, our own Bishop, for Shane, Ellen, and Nancy our Clergy, and for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People*        **Lord, have mercy.**

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People*        **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith, that they may receive the light of the Gospel, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People*        **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People*        **Lord, have mercy.**

For those in positions of public trust, especially Donald, President of the United States, and Bruce, Governor of Illinois, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People*        **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who live and work in this community, especially Rahm, our Mayor, and Tom our Alderman, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People*        **Lord, have mercy.**

For a blessing upon all human labor, and for the right use of the riches of creation, that the world may be freed from poverty, famine, and disaster, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People*        **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer, especially NN.; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People*        **Lord, have mercy.**

For this congregation, for those who are present and those who are absent, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People*        **Lord, have mercy.**

For our enemies and those who wish us harm; and for all those whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People*        **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers, especially NN.; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People*           **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People*           **Lord, have mercy.**

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Peter, and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

*People*           **To you, O Lord our God.**

*The Celebrant concludes the prayers with the following Collect*

Hasten, O Father, the coming of thy kingdom; and grant that we thy servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold thy Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

## **The Confession**

*The Deacon says*

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*Silence is kept.*

*Minister and People*

Almighty God,

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

maker of all things, judge of all people:

We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness,

which we from time to time most grievously have committed,

by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,

provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.

We do earnestly repent,

and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;

the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,

the burden of them is intolerable.

Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,

forgive us all that is past;

and grant that we may ever hereafter  
serve and please thee in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of thy Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and truth faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*A Minister may then say one or more of the following sentences, first saying*

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

This is a true saying, and worthy of all to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1:15*

If anyone sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world.  
*1 John 2:1-2*

## **The Peace**

*All stand. The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*

**And with thy spirit.**

*Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

# The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn

*“How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds”*

Hymn 644

The Great Thanksgiving

*Eucharistic Prayer II*

Sursum Corda

*(if sung, see insert for service music)*

Hymn S 120

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says*

The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

*People* **It is meet and right so to do.**

*The Celebrant proceeds*

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Because thou didst send thy 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 with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying

Sanctus

*(see insert for service music)*

Hymn S 114

*Celebrant and People*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High

Blessed is he that commeth in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*The people kneel or stand.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world;

and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *AMEN.*

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

**The Lord's Prayer**            *(see insert for service music)*

**Hymn S 119**

*People and Celebrant*

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.

**The Breaking of the Bread—Agnus Dei** (*see insert for service music*)

Hymn S 158

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. Immediately the following is sung*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: grant us thy peace.

*The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this prayer*

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.  
Amen.

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*As the Celebrant consumes the Sacrament in both kinds, a bell is rung, and the people may proceed to the altar rail to receive communion. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [Amen.]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [Amen.]

**Communion Interlude** *Meditations for Christmas*

James Mansfield

**Post Communion Prayer**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*The People may join in saying this prayer*

Almighty and everliving God,



## Parish Announcements

### *Upcoming Events*

- Sunday, Dec. 24      The Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord (Christmas Eve)  
*Holy Eucharist at 9:00pm*
- Monday, Dec. 25      The Nativity of Our Lord (Christmas Day)  
*Holy Eucharist at 10:00am*
- Sunday, Dec. 31      The First Sunday after Christmas  
*Holy Eucharist at 8:00am and 11:00am*

### *Opportunities to Connect*

**Growth Groups** are St. Peter's primary "small groups" or "fellowship groups" that meet regularly to discuss life, faith, and more. To find more information about the growth groups, please feel free to reach out to the following coordinators:

20s/30s Growth Group: Becca Wicker (rgkingman@gmail.com)

40s/50s Growth Group: Qiana Johnson (q-johnson@pobox.com)

60s+ Growth Group: Nancy Fifield (fifielddnancy@gmail.com)

### *Prayer Requests*

*Your prayers are asked for the following members and friends of St. Peters (those in bold are appearing for the first time). To add persons to the prayer list, contact Deacon Nancy (deacon@stpeterschicago.com).*

For those who are sick in body, mind, or soul and those caring for them: Maryann, Carol, Pam, Bruce, Judy, Gary, William, Philip, Mary, John, Tom, Cathy, Betty, George, the Sexton family, Dan, Kate, and **Louis**.

In thanksgiving for Jordan Rutledge (12/28) and Joe Ceh (12/29) who celebrate birthdays this week.

For the repose of the souls of Pete Teschner and Derek Hogg and for their families and friends as they grieve.

For inspiration, perseverance, and insight for Ellen as she works to complete her book, and for Shane as he works on his dissertation.

For Qiana as she continues in parish discernment.



## St. Peter's Episcopal Church

### *Clergy and Staff*

The Rev. Shane Patrick Gormley, *Priest in Charge*

The Rev. Nancy R. Meyer, *Deacon*

The Rev. Ellen Wondra, *Assisting Priest*

Charlie Carpenter, *Organist*

Betsy Lent, *Parish Administrator*

### *Vestry*

Jack Adrian, *Treasurer*

Randall Fearnow, *Interim Warden*

Glenn Charlton, Jarod Couch, Nancy Fifield,

Whitney Michel, Guy Norred, Jordan Rutledge, Becca Wicker

## Regular Sunday Services

8:00 (spoken) and 11:00 (with hymns) Holy Eucharists

Every first Sunday of the Month with Anointing and Prayers for Healing

## Parking

Please note that our Parking garage, PARK ONE, has closed.

We are searching for an alternative option.

**Office Hours:** Monday - Friday, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

**Contact us:** (773) 525-0844 | [administrator@stpeterschicago.com](mailto:administrator@stpeterschicago.com)

[www.stpeterschicago.com](http://www.stpeterschicago.com)