



**The First Sunday of Advent,
Year A
Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Sunday, November 30, 2025, 10:00 am**

**The Rev. Dr. Pamela Stevens
The Rev. Dcn. Skip Bushee**

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Redwood City
178 Clinton Street, Redwood City, CA 94062
www.stpetersrwc.org

Prelude

Fantasia in a minor
William Byrd (1543-1623)

The Processional hymn

O Come o come Emmanuel
Verses 1-3
Revised Lyrics by Cunningham & Metz

For the processional hymn, the people stand and face the back of the sanctuary as the service begins, gradually turning their bodies to face the cross as it moves to the chancel.

Traditionally, the people bow to the cross as it passes.

The service continues on the following page.

A word about the Advent Wreath:

Our modern Advent wreath tradition began in 1839 with German Lutheran pastor Johann Hinrich Wichern, who used a cartwheel with 24 small red candles and four large white candles to help children at a mission school count the days until Christmas. The custom of a smaller evergreen wreath with four or five candles spread among German Protestant and Catholic churches by the early 20th century, reaching North America by the 1930s.

While the candles originally just marked the passage of time, different churches and church supply houses began assigning specific themes (such as hope, faith, joy, peace, love, etc.) to the four Sundays of Advent based on lectionary readings by the mid-20th century. This was not a single, formal decree by one central church authority, but rather an organic development of devotional practice.

The most common sequence of meanings used in many traditions today is:

- **First Candle (Purple): Hope** (the "Prophecy Candle")
- **Second Candle (Purple): Peace** (the "Bethlehem Candle")
- **Third Candle (Rose/Pink): Joy** (the "Shepherd's Candle," lit on Gaudete Sunday)
- **Fourth Candle (Purple): Love** (the "Angel's Candle")
- **Fifth Candle (white) The Christ Candle**, is placed in the center and lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, representing the arrival and purity of Christ.

While the specific assigned meanings can vary slightly by denomination or even individual parish, the core virtues of hope, peace, joy, and love are now a widely recognized and cherished part of the Advent tradition

The service continues on the following page.



1. O come, O come, E - man - - - u - el and
 2. O come, Re - deem - er of _____ the slave, The
 3. O come, O God's re - veal - - - ing Word, your



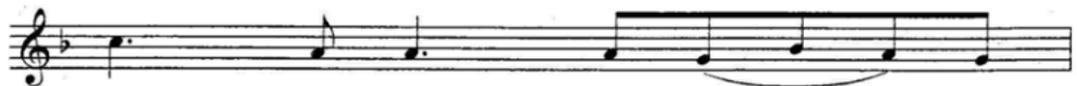
1. With your peo - ple al - - - ways dwell who
 2. Shack - led He - brews you _____ did save. And
 3. Voice the He brew pro _____ phets heard. They



1. Mourn in mor - tal ex - - - ile here un -
 2. Then your co ve nant _____ was sealed, The
 3. Saw that one day war _____ will cease, And



1. til the Lord of Life _____ ap - pear. Re -
 2. Tor - ah on the Mount _____ re - vealed.
 3. All cre - a - tion be _____ at peace.



joice! Re - joice! Em - man - - - - u -



el shall come a - gain and with us e - ver dwell.

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

THE FIRST CANDLE: HOPE

The first candle symbolizes hope and is called the “Prophet’s Candle.” The prophets of the Old Testament, especially Isaiah, waited in hope for the Messiah’s arrival.

Those designated to light the Advent candle will offer the following prayer once the candle has been lit:

Advent Wreath Intercessor

Dear God, your great offering of Jesus is our hope in a world that can be dark and frightening. As we begin our time of preparation this Advent season, amid pressures and many things to do, we ask for your help to slow down, to listen for your voice. Please help us to place our hope in you, to seek a light in the dark sky, as we prepare our hearts to celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus, your gift to us, at Christmas. **Amen.**

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant

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

People

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

Celebrant

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.**

The Kyrie

Lord, have mercy upon us

S-91, *Hymnal 1982*

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

The Collect of the Day

a "Collect" (CALLect) is a prayer said on behalf of a gathered assembly

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Liturgy of the Word

Celebrant

Let us be seated for the lessons

The Lesson from the Old Testament

Isaiah 2:1-5

Lector

A reading from the book of Isaiah

In days to come
the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.
Many peoples shall come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.
O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord!

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Response

Psalm 122

God language without Gender

The First Song of Isaiah

*The Lector and the People will read responsively (marked by an asterisk *).*

1 I was glad when they said to me, *
"Let us go to the house of the Lord."

2 Now our feet are standing *
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

3 Jerusalem is built as a city *
that is at unity with itself;

4 To which the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord, *
**the assembly of Israel,
to praise the Name of the Lord.**

5 For there are the thrones of judgment, *
the thrones of the house of David.

6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: *
"May they prosper who love you.

7 Peace be within your walls *
and quietness within your towers.

8 For my brethren and companions' sake, *
I pray for your prosperity.

9 Because of the house of the Lord our God, *
I will seek to do you good."

The Lesson from the Epistles:

Romans 13:11-14

Lector:

A reading from the second letter to the Romans

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual Hymn

Wait for the Lord
6 times
Taizé Chant/Jacques Berthier

The People stand for the Gradual hymn. A member of the clergy carries the Gospel among the People for the Proclamation. The People turn to face the Gospel.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The first system has the lyrics "Wait for the Lord, whose day is near." The second system has the lyrics "Wait for the Lord, be strong take heart." The music is written in a simple, accessible style with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C).

The Gospel

Matthew 24:36-44

Traditionally, as the clergy member says "The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ" at the beginning of the proclamation, the people may make three small crosses over the forehead, lips, and heart.

Clergy:

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew

People:

Glory to you, Lord Christ

Clergy:

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking,

marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The People remain standing until they are invited to be seated by the preacher.

The Sermon
The Nicene Creed

The Rev. Dr. Pamela Stevens
The People stand.

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made [human].
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son [She] is worshiped and glorified.
[She]* has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

A moment of silence begins this time of prayer.

Intercessor
Let us pray.

Dear God, today we walk in the hope which Advent brings for the creation of new visions, expectations, and possibilities for us and our world.

People
We pray with faith in the power of your hope.

Intercessor
We dare to dream of peace in the world; we pray for the welfare and safety of all your people, nations, and religions, living with tolerance, respect, and equality of freedom for all.

People
We pray with faith in the power of your care for all nations.

Intercessor
God, we lift up to you all those who minister through their baptism, and those ordained to serve us: Skip our Deacon, Pamela our Priest, Austin our, Bishop, and Sean our Presiding Bishop. We give thanks for all of your communities of worship and ask for your guidance.

People
We pray with faith in the power of your call to serve.

*why the "She" pronoun here? In Hebrew the term "Holy Spirit" or breath of God, is ruach ha-kodesh (רוח הקודש), is feminine. In the Greek, *Pneuma Hagios* is neuter. Only in Latin, *Spiritus Sanctus*, is the term masculine. Using "She" honors the generative birthing action of the Holy Spirit in our Scriptures.

Intercessor

In our daily life, we thank you for nourishing our souls, energizing our minds, and feeding our bodies; so that we may listen for your call in our lives and serve others in your name. We thank you for giving us each unique gifts and vocations to use with loving purpose, following the examples of your Son Jesus, and of St. Mary and St. Peter and all the saints.

People

O God, we pray with faith in the power of your presence.

Intercessor

We pray for healing, for those seeking housing, care, support, and employment; for those living with fear, whose liberty is threatened or taken; for those who suffer with illness of mind or body, especially Claire Wright, Tony and Bridget, Marge Holland, Gia Pacheco, Kathy Runyeon, Ken Spira, Rita Spira, Linda Mickelson, Irene Z, Pat G., Shannon Walker, members of the Stellamos Youth Chorus, the children in the Kumu Ola youth choir, Jenny Cornell, Karina, Ellen Berning, , Jim Redman, Joanne Runyeon, Eva Mejia, Jerry Berning, David Elms, Joan Brumleve, and those who name now, silently or aloud...

Intercessor

May all in need turn to God for help.

People

O God, we pray with faith in your healing power.

Intercessor

We pray for those who have died, those whom we hold in our hearts who have gone before us to your heavenly joy, especially Wendy Dickman, Joe Mickelson, Jeannie & Peter Ferber, Nancy Stevens, and those whom we name now, silently or aloud...

Intercessor

May flights of angels see them to their rest.

People

O God, we pray with faith in the power of your kingdom in heaven.

Intercessor

In the diocesan cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Religious Orders in this diocese – The sisters at the Community of St. Francis; the brothers at the Society of St. Francis at San Damiano Friary; and those who belong to the Brotherhood of Saint Gregory

People

O God, we pray with faith in your call to be a community of believers.

Celebrant

We thank you Lord for your constant presence in our lives and hearts. Help us to allow space in our lives for your abundant guidance and blessings. Keep us, not on our agenda, but on yours, as that is the joy we seek.

Open our hearts to this new advent, this new beginning, this new opportunity to hear your will for our lives O, God, to rest in the unconditional love of our Creator. We thank you in the name of our savior, Jesus Christ.

People

Amen.

The Confession and Absolution

(the people remain standing)

Celebrant

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A moment of silence follows.

Celebrant and People

**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.**

Celebrant

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. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The People exchange a sign of the peace, typically hands in prayer position with a small bow saying, "Peace," or some other greeting such as "May the Peace of the Lord be with you."

Observances of Life Events

The Celebrant will invite the congregation to offer prayers for blessings of those with birthdays and anniversaries with the following prayers.

For Birthdays

Watch over your *children*, O Lord, as *their* days increase; bless and guide *them* wherever they may be. Strengthen *them* when *they* stand; comfort *them* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *them* up if *they* fall; and in *their* heart may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of *their* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Marriage Anniversaries

O God, You have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church; Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants N. and N., that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

For Travelers

O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel [in particular _____]; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

News and Announcements

The Sr. Warden will share the news of the day and upcoming events.

The Offertory Sentence

Celebrant

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. (*Ephesians 5:2*)

Ushers will pass the plate for an optional offering to the church for its mission and ministry. Thank you for



your generosity. Electronic donations are welcome

The Offertory Hymn

Hark the glad sound

Hymnal 1982 #72

Hymnal 1982 # 636

*The People remain seated for the hymn, then stand at its conclusion
as the musician begins the Doxology and the gifts are presented at the altar.*

The Offertory Hymn continues on the following page.



1 Hark! the glad sound! the Sa - vior comes, the Sa - vior
 2 He comes, the pris - oners to re - lease in Sa - tan's
 3 He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - ery heart pre -
 bond - age held; the gates of brass be -
 soul to cure; and with the trea - sures
 shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

pare a throne, and ev - ery voice a song.
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.

The Doxology and the Presentation of Gifts

The People stand and sing the Doxology, which appears on the following page.

*3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise

God all crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye

heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men



The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A, BCP

The People stand.

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

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 God thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

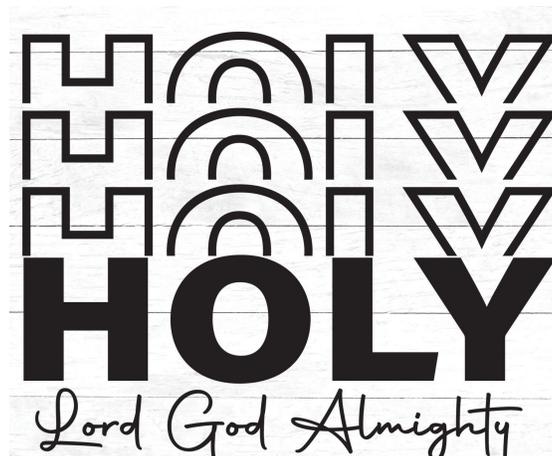
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your 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 we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus

Holy, holy holy, Hymnal 1982 # S-125



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand or may kneel. The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

**Christ has died.
 Christ is risen.
 Christ will come again.**

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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 lead us not into temptation,

And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Fraction

Jesus, Lamb of God
Hymnal 1982 #S-164



Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

Celebrant	Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world.
People	Have mercy on us.
Celebrant	Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world.
People	Have mercy on us.
Celebrant	Lamb of God you take away the sins of the word.
People	Grant us peace.

Celebrant
 The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Administration of Communion

At St. Peter's it is our practice is to receive the host, then dip (intinct) it into the wine before consuming it. Wine and grape juice are available, as is gluten-free host.

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.]

The Communion Hymn

Comfort, comfort ye my people
Hymnal 1982 #67



1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus
 2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert
 3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er



saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness
 far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance
 pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -
 since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing
 as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry



ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
 cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
 of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;



tell her that her sins I cov - er,
 let the val - leys rise to meet him
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken



and her war - fare now is o - ver.
 and the hills bow down to greet him.
 that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

The Prayer After Communion

Celebrant

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**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.**

The Blessing

Celebrant

.....and may the blessing of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and always. **Amen.**

The Recessional Hymn

Come thou long expected Jesus
Hymnal 1982 #66

The altar party will recess, following the cross. The People, following the cross, turn to face the back of the sanctuary. The dismissal follows the hymn.

The service continues on the following page.

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
 2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
 3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
 4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
 dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
 born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

The Dismissal

Clergy Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.
 People: Thanks be to God Alleluia, Alleluia.

Postlude

Te deum
 Marc-Antoine Charpentier (1643-1704), arr. J. Sanborn

Please join us in the Parish Hall for our Advent study and reflective craft series, “Why do we do that??”

Today we will learn about and craft wreaths!

ADVENT
WREATH CRAFT



REFLECTION ACTIVITY

Upcoming Events at St. Peter's Redwood City

Through November 2025: Yumraising with See's Candy

ONE WEEK LEFT!!

Chocolates Are Back!

See's Candy is available online for you, your neighbors, relatives & friends, even in other states; their orders will also help St. Peter's!

- You can also buy GIFT CARDS, and St. Peter's gets the profit!
- (Gift Cards are not included in the \$75 total for free shipping.)
- Delivery via UPS; — do not use P. O. boxes.
- No sales tax in California, but may apply in other states.
- If less amount is ordered, shipping charges will apply. So combine your order with others to add up to \$75 or more!

Final date for this campaign is **Thursday, December 4, 2025.**

Click the following to place your order:

[Yumraising for St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Redwood City](#)

Through December 19th, Sign up to volunteer for the St. Peter's Bake Sale



-
- Sign up now using the above link to bake, decorate, and sell at our upcoming bake sale fundraiser.
- Part 1 will be before church and during coffee hour on Sunday, December 21, 2025.
- Part 2 will be at the reception following the Stellamos concert, in the parish hall at 4:30 pm.

December 5, 2025, Friday: Ragazzi Continuo Holiday Concert "Gaudete!"

- 7:30 pm at St. Peter's in the Sanctuary
- Ragazzi Continuo will collaborate with Five of a Kind, a brass Quintet!
- Get tickets at www.ragazzicontinuo.org

- \$25.00 or ask Rev. Pamela about a St. Peter's block

December 11, Thursday: Reswick Studios Children's Christmas Concert and Recital

- 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm at St. Peter's in the Sanctuary
- Ticket sales open soon, \$20 donation to St. Peter's
- Come enjoy children playing and singing your favorite Christmas music at this concert-style recital intended to share holiday cheer!
- Donations collected will benefit St. Peter's.
- Reception in the parish hall after the concert.

December 14, 2025, Sunday: Service of Lessons and Carols

- 10:00 am worship service
- The entire church service, right up to Communion, will be lessons and carols. Enjoy a time of Advent music and preparation for the great gift of new birth at Christmas.

December 21, 2025, Saturday: Stellamos Youth Chorus Winter Concert at St. Peter's

- An evening of enchanting holiday music from these amazing youth choristers!
- Timing and ticket sale information is here, \$20.00 per ticket or volunteer your time.
- Reception directly following the concert.
- Christmas caroling in the neighborhood, promoted on Nextdoor.com



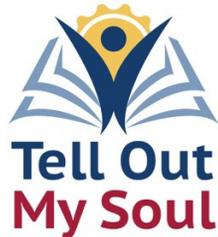
December 24, 2025, Wednesday: Christmas Eve All-ages Service

- 5:00 pm in the sanctuary
- An evening of music from all ages.
- Candle-light hymns and and Christmas Nativity
- Christmas pizza party in the Parish hall following the service.

January 11, 2026, Sunday: Join us to Assemble Care Kits during Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall. This project is a partnership with Bayview Mission Ministry with care kits distributed to unhoused neighbors by the LifeMoves Homeless Outreach Team. Kits are also available for St. Peter's members to share with neighbors in need.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

178 Clinton St., Redwood City, CA 94062



*And Mary said,
"My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior..."*
Luke 1:46-47, NRSV

Dear Beloved Family of God,

As Christians we are story tellers. We have an ancient narrative, one that describes the beginning of time and the relationship between God and God's Creation. We see this story grow through the prophetic tradition until our story recounts the life and gifts of the Son of God. But the story doesn't end with the Resurrection just as it did not end with the Cross. It continues on in each of us today as we encounter and are transformed by the Good News.

Luke's Gospel is bookended by the animated story-telling of two women named Mary. Early in the Gospel, Mary the mother of Jesus, tells us of her encounter with the Divine who informs her that she will bear a child who will change the world. She proclaims her joy: "Tell out my soul! The Greatness of the Lord!" At the end of the Gospel, another Mary, Mary Magdalene, visits the tomb to discover it empty and receives instructions from the Risen Christ to go tell the others. She carries this Good News with jubilation to the Disciples.

What is your Good News—the idea, dream, and challenge placed in your heart by God, that needs to be shared? Think about how God is calling you to tell out your soul, to spread the Good News far and wide. During this special time of Stewardship, discern how you will share the Good News of your transformative creativity and abundance with us and with our neighbors. Each hour spent volunteering, each good idea that you have, each dollar that you donate is transformed through prayer and Grace into ministry and mission. We could not be an example of love and compassion in our community without your many and various gifts.

Tell out my soul! The Greatness of the Lord!

Please return your pledge pages by our Ingathering Sunday, November 30 so that we may give them a special blessing.

With Love and Prayers,

Rev. Dr. Pamela Stevens
Rector of St. Peter's

Nancy Oliver
Senior Warden
& Stewardship Chair

Paul Berning
Junior Warden



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Pledge Form for 2026

Ingathering: **November 30, 2025**

Name(s) _____

As part of "Telling Out My Soul," I/we pledge a total of \$_____ for the 2026 Church ministry. I/we plan to fulfill this promise: \$___ weekly; \$___ monthly; \$_____ semiannually; \$___ annually

For our Church Roster:

Family name(s):	phone(s)	email(s)	B'day	Anniv.
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Address: _____
and/or apt. Street City ZIP

Using Our Time and Talents

There are many ministries at St. Peter's (Altar Guild, Eucharistic Ministers, Readers, Coffee Hour, Work Days, Serving on the Vestry, Deanery Representative, office work, event planning, etc.)

• I / my family would like to volunteer: _____

• I / my family would like to learn more about these ministries or opportunities:

• I / my family have skills and interests we would like to share or teach to others.

It takes more than money to operate ministry in our church. With gratitude we accept the many gifts of our members as volunteers, servers, ambassadors, and friends in and outside our community. Thank you for all you contribute toward our goals!