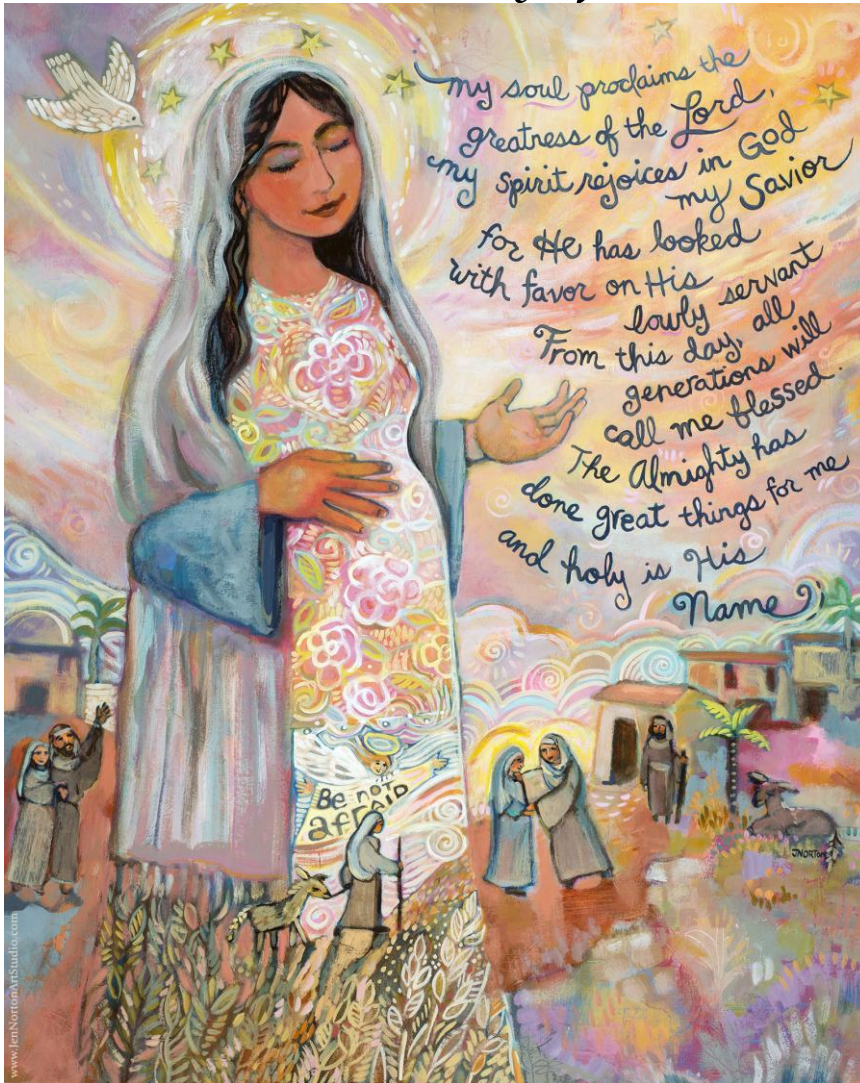


he Holy Eucharist: Rite II  
*The Fourth Sunday of Advent*



Cover art by Jen Norton (Lifetime use under License #958)

*The Episcopal Church of The Holy Innocents  
in the Borough of Beach Haven, New Jersey  
22 December, 2024 ~ 9:30 AM*

*Welcome! In The Episcopal Church all baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Holy Communion. BCP means The Book of Common Prayer (Red Book). You'll find the BCP and Hymnals in the pew rack in front of you. Please join us for Coffee Hour following the service.*

*\* Indicates to stand as you are able*

## **The Parish Notices**

**Prelude** *The Light that Shines in Darkness*

Gerald Peterson

## **THE WORD OF GOD**

**Hymn #56** *O Come, O Come Emmanuel (verses 7 and 8)*

VENI VENI EMMANUEL, plainsong 15<sup>th</sup> C

*O come, Desire of nations, bind in one  
the hearts of all mankind; bid thou our  
sad divisions cease, and be thyself our  
King of Peace.*

*Rejoice! Rejoice!*

*Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

*O come, O Come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.*

*Rejoice! Rejoice!*

*Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

## **THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

*Officiant* Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.

*People* **Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.**

*Officiant* Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved:

*People* **O Lord God of Hosts**

*Officiant* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

*People* **Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.**

*The fourth Advent Candle is now lit.*

*Officiant* Show us your mercy, O Lord:

*Response* **And grant us your salvation.**

**Entrance Hymn #67** *Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*

PSALM 42

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

*People* **And blessed be his 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. *All Amen.*

*Trisagion S-102 (all sing) Holy God*

Alexander Archangelsky

**The Collect of the Day:**

**BCP, p. 212**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you**

*Celebrant* 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. **All Amen.**

**The First Lesson**

**Micah 5:2-5a**

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
    who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
    one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
    from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
    when she who is in labor has brought forth;  
then the rest of his kindred shall return  
    to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,  
    in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great

to the ends of the earth;  
and he shall be the one of peace.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

**Canticle HYMN #437** *Tell Out My Soul*

BIRMINGHAM

**The Epistle**

**Hebrews 10:5-10**

When Christ came into the world, he said,  
"Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,  
but a body you have prepared for me;  
in burnt offerings and sin offerings  
you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God'  
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me)."

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

**Sequence Hymn #265** *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came* GABRIEL'S MESSAGE

**The Holy Gospel**

**Luke 1:39-45(46-55)**

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

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

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

[And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

for the Mighty One has done great things for me,

and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him

from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,

and lifted up the lowly;

he has filled the hungry with good things,

and sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel,

in remembrance of his mercy,

according to the promise he made to our ancestors,

to Abraham and to his descendants forever."]

Optional parts of the readings are set off in square brackets.

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.** (*All are seated*)

**The Sermon**

**The Rev. Peter De Franco**

**\*The Nicene Creed**

**BCP, p. 358**

**\*The Prayers of the People: Form III**

**BCP, p. 387**

*(The people may stand or kneel)*

*Celebrant* In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Leader* Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

*People* **That we all may be one.**

*Leader* Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

*People* **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

*Leader* In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for The Church of the Province of Uganda. We pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; for Sally our Bishop; for Peter, our guest priest; and the clergy that work with us during our transition. We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

*People* **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

*Leader* For Nancy our Mayor, Philip our Governor, Joseph our President and Donald our President-elect. We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

*People* **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

*Leader* Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

*People* **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

*Leader* We pray for the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially remembering all victims of climate change, and for the poor. We also remember all those mentioned in our Parish Prayer List, the sick, the shut-in, and the grieving; those serving in the military and other dangerous professions, and for our enemies, that all hearts may be turned to peace. Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

*People* **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

*Leader* Give to the departed eternal rest.  
*People* **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

*Leader* We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
*People* **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

*Leader* Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.  
*(The People may add their own petitions.)*

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Confession** **BCP, p. 360**

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.*

**Absolution** **BCP, p. 360**

**\*The Peace** (*All stand*)

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

**Offertory Anthem** *Ubi Caritas* Victor C. Johnson

**\*Presentation of the Gifts** (*All stand*)

*All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee*

**\*The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B** **BCP, p. 367**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

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

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

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* 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:

*Sanctus S-130 (all sing) Holy, Holy, Holy Lord*  
*(The People may stand or kneel)*

Franz Peter Schubert

*Celebrant* We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,



*All* **We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*Celebrant* And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. 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. *All: AMEN.*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**BCP, p. 364**

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**

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

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

*Fraction Anthem: S-154 (all sing) Christ Our Passover*

David Hurd

*(All baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Holy Communion.)*

**\*Postcommunion Prayer** *(Please stand)*

**BCP, p. 365**

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.

## **Blessing**

**Hymn (Insert)**

*People Look East*

**Dismissal**

**BCP, p. 366**

**Postlude**

*Raise Now Your Song on High*

Camille Saint-Saëns

*Coffee Hour is held EVERY SUNDAY and we would LOVE IT if you would join us in Martin Hall following the service!*

## **Serving Today**

**Crucifer** ~ John Wall    **Lector** ~ Gail Jacobsen

**Ushers** ~ Bob Weidmann, Mike DeCicco    **Chalice Bearer** ~ Leila Sullivan

**WELCOME The Rev. Peter De Franco**  
**We are happy you are with us today ☺**

## **Parish Prayer List – December 22, 2024**

**PLEASE NOTE:** *If you need to add or remove a name, please contact Lisa Halpin, our Parish Administrator by Monday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>.*

Lara Sparks Deitz  
Dennis  
Bob Hendricks  
Ron & Kenny  
Joan & Linda Kelly  
Barry Longenbach  
Gia  
Ray M.  
Ann White  
Pierro Family  
Connie  
Dcn. Judy

Joan Connolly  
Connie Anderson  
Christine Hendricks  
Jeannine  
Chris C.  
Warren Lamon  
Cora  
Joey  
George & Linda Huggler  
Lovas Family  
Joe  
Jim Hanley

Mary Ann Crewdson  
Christian Balint  
Kathy & Walter  
Judy & Al  
David D'Ambrosia  
Teri Keller  
Frank M.  
Sue P.  
Cindy Wood  
Debbie & Joe Reising  
Peg Appleget  
Fran

|                                    |                  |                                     |
|------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Lynne Weidmann                     | Alicia Magarelli | Jennifer                            |
| Keith Moore                        | Alycia Mullin    | Diane                               |
| Florence Welharticky               | Meg Neff         | Rob Meyer                           |
| Chuck Hall                         | Leila Sullivan   | Rob Greer                           |
| Tino                               | Florence Lamon   | Debbie Lamon                        |
| Shirley                            | Pat              | Jessie                              |
| Bob & Barb Senst                   | Vince Contreras  | Rich                                |
| Charles Sullivan                   | Doug Hunter      | Marie Kleber                        |
| Family & Friends of Gerry Lutz     |                  |                                     |
| Family & Friends of Cynthia Clarke |                  | Family & Friends of Louise Muth     |
| Family & Friends of Mimi Dodson    |                  | Family & Friends of Suzette Whiting |

**Those serving in the military and other dangerous professions:**

Paul Bailey, Justin A. Dumhart, Joseph Alexander, Danny Melega, Andrew Wall, Brandan White

**Birthdays:** Florence Boulden (12/26), Curtis Logan (12/26)

**WEEKLY CALENDAR December 23-27**

|            |   |                 |
|------------|---|-----------------|
| 23 – Mon   | Morning Prayer (FB)                           | 9:00 AM         |
|            | Altar & Flower Guild prepare for Christmas    | 9:30 AM         |
| 24 – Tues  | <b>Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist</b>           | <b>4:30 PM</b>  |
|            | <b>Caroling in the Church</b>                 | <b>6:30 PM</b>  |
|            | <b>Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist</b>           | <b>7:00 PM</b>  |
| 25 – Wed   | <i>Parish Office Closed ~ Merry Christmas</i> |                 |
|            | <b>Christmas Day Morning Prayer</b>           | <b>10:00 AM</b> |
| 26 – Thurs | <i>Parish Office Closed</i>                   |                 |
|            | “Clam-Diggers” AA Group                       | 7:30 PM         |
|            | Compline (FB)                                 | 9:00 PM         |
| 27 – Fri   | <i>Parish Office Closed</i>                   |                 |

**SAVE THE DATE:**

Jan. 12 – Annual Meeting of the Parish



**Donate your way.**

Give one time, anytime or  
set up a recurring donation.

**THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS**

Pearl & Marine Streets, Beach Haven, New Jersey 08008

609-492-7571 [www.hiecbh.com](http://www.hiecbh.com)

**OFFICE HOURS – Monday through Thursday 9 AM to 2 PM**

**STAFF & CLERGY**

Mrs. Lisa Halpin, Parish Administrator ~ [hichurch08008@gmail.com](mailto:hichurch08008@gmail.com)

Mrs. Ellen J. Dondero, Minister of Music & Organist ~ [ejdondero@comcast.net](mailto:ejdondero@comcast.net)

**VESTRY & WARDENS**

Dave White, Senior Warden

Pat Peacock, Junior Warden

**Vestry Class of 2024**

Diane Carter

Vince Contreras

Matt Starr

**Vestry Class of 2025**

Judy Contreras

Bruce Hillyer

Bill Kehr

**Vestry Class of 2026**

Larry Peacock

Barbara Wheeler

Leila Sullivan