

will build my Church

THE LEAFLET

1712

St. Peter's Church

2023

107 STATE STREET ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207 (518) 434-3502

*THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 3, 2023*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

We light this first candle of Advent to proclaim the coming of the
Light of Christ into the darkness of our lives.

Priest: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Priest: Let us pray.

Priest and People:

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy 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 quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Priest: Our King and Savior draweth nigh.
People: O come, let us adore Him.

ADVENT HYMN #56 (stanza 1)

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!

Thou art Peter & upon this rock I

and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ DECEMBER 3, 2023

8:30 A.M. ~ HOLY COMMUNION AND SERMON

10:30 A.M. ~ HOLY COMMUNION AND SERMON

~ Sunday School and Child Care ~

+ PRELUDE	WACHET AUF, RUFT UNS DIE STIMME	FLOR PEETERS
+ PROCESSIONAL HYMN	59 HARK! A THRILLING VOICE IS SOUNDING	MERTON
LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH		
~ Children are invited to come forward to the “crossing” for the Lighting of the Advent Wreath ~		
OPENING ACCLAMATION		PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 323
+ KYRIE ELEISON	SHORT SERVICE	ADRIAN BATTEN
COLLECT FOR THE DAY		SEE INSERT
THE FIRST LESSON		ISAIAH 64:1-9a
THE PSALM		PSALM 80:1-7
THE EPISTLE		1 CORINTHIANS 1:1-9
+ HYMN	57 LO! HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING	HELMSLEY
+ THE HOLY GOSPEL		MARK 13:24-37
SERMON ~ THE REV. CHRISTINA HUNTER, PRIEST-IN-CHARGE		
+ THE NICENE CREED		PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 327
THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE		PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 328
THE GENERAL CONFESSION		PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 330
ABSOLUTION		PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 332
OFFERTORY ANTHEM	AND THE GLORY (from <i>Messiah</i>)	G. F. HANDEL
+ SANCTUS/BENEDICTUS	BATTEN	PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 334
PRAYER OF CONSECRATION		PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 334
AGNUS DEI	BATTEN	PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 337
PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS		PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 337
COMMUNION HYMN	60 CREATOR OF THE STARS OF NIGHT	CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM
COMMUNION MOTET	ZION HEARS THE WATCHMEN’S VOICES	J. S. BACH
PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING		PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 339
THE BLESSING		
+ RECESSIONAL HYMN	66 COME, THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS	STUTTART
POSTLUDE	FUGUE ON A THEME OF CORELLI, BWV 579	J. S. BACH

(+ All Standing)

THE ADVENT WREATH is given to the **Glory of God**
and in memory of Donald Cramer Martin given by Diana Martin

THE USHERS at the 10:30AM Service are Sharon DeBonis and Catherine Schunk

THE LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTER at the 10:30AM Service is Robin LaPlante

~ **Parish Notes** ~

Coffee Hour: Please join us for coffee hour after the 10:30AM Services. All are welcome.

Pledge Cards: Pledge cards for 2024 have been mailed out to all parishioners. If you did not receive a pledge card please call the church office. It would be greatly appreciated if you could please take a minute to complete your card and return it to the church office or place it in the offering plate during the service. You may also call the church office and we would be more than happy to complete a card for you. Thank you to those that have promptly completed and returned their pledge card.

Advent: Advent begins today. Advent calendars will be distributed and Advent wreaths and candles will be available to the congregation.

Christmas Pageant Rehearsal: Today all children that want to participate in our Annual Christmas Pageant should report to the Sunday School rooms to get your parts, try on costumes and do a little rehearsing. The pageant will be performed during the 10:30AM service next Sunday, December 10th. Please have the children arrive in costume at 10AM on the 10th.

Blessing Bag Assembly: Today, the Daughters of the King will be assembling Blessing Bags following the 10:30AM service. All are welcome to join them in the 2nd floor Meeting Room to help.

HANDEL'S MESSIAH: Today at 3PM the St. Peter's Choir will present a performance of Handel's *Messiah*, accompanied by a chamber orchestra. There is no charge for admission and all are welcome to this performance.

Christmas Giving Tree: This year, St. Peter's Church will be providing Christmas gifts for the children at the South End Children's Café. A Christmas Giving Tree is located in the Pumpelly Room and is decorated with paper ornaments. The ornaments indicate the age and gift you are to buy. The gift should be returned to St. Peter's, wrapped (with gift tag attached), no later than Sunday, December 17th. As always, we thank you for your continued support and your generosity! Questions? Please call Laura Saffares at (518)368-4284.

Advent Early Morning Prayer on Zoom: Beginning tomorrow, Monday, December 4th at 6:30AM, Mtr. Christina will lead Morning Prayer on Zoom, Monday through Friday, ending Friday, December 22nd. The service takes about 20 minutes. Coffee and pajamas are just fine. Bring your Prayer Book and Bible or just come to listen. All are welcome to prepare with prayer for the arrival of the Lord! Zoom Meeting ID: 837 6018 1434. Password: 027098.

Feast of St. Nicholas - Holy Communion: This Wednesday, December 6th, we will observe the Feast of St. Nicholas at 12:05PM with a celebration of the Holy Eucharist in St. Mark's Chapel. Come and learn more about the real saint who was the inspiration for Santa Claus!

Christmas Poinsettia/Hanging of the Greens Donation Form: The deadline to submit your requests is Sunday, **December 17th** (See Insert). The form can also be downloaded from the church website. On the home page of the website click on the "Info Center" tab and when it opens up click on "Special Event Forms" and then "2023 Christmas Poinsettia and Memorial Form".

HANGING OF THE GREENS: The annual Hanging of the Greens in which we decorate the church for Christmas with pine and balsam will take place immediately following the 10:30AM service on Sunday, December 17th. The traditional ham luncheon will be served at 1PM. We ask you to please dress comfortably and bring a side dish or a dessert to share. We are looking for servers, set-up and clean-up help. We hope that you will join us for this long-time festive tradition.

ADVENT IV SUNDAY: On Sunday morning, December 24th, please note that there will only be one morning service offered to celebrate Advent IV. This service will be a regular Sunday morning 8:30AM Holy Communion "said" service. The 10:30AM service will not be held. Christmas Eve services will be held later that day at 4:30PM and 10PM.

Please remember in your prayers: Mari Bennett, Fred Buse, Inga Carpenter, Gina Chenot, Ann Collins, Bill Collins, Morris Daly, Anne deVos, Moriah, Marie Dolan, Hunter Dolbert, Donald Fahd, Donna Hershey, Fred Hershey, Doreen Johnson, Mark Lundberg, Diana Martin, Kevin Mastro, Ed Murphy, Sonya, Lindsay Norville, Grant Ohlman, Donna Ohlman, Deej Patterson, Vicky Pautler, Bill Purdy, Liam, Cyndy Shaffer, The Rev. Dr. Brad Smith, Eileen Smith, Sherrell Smith, Susan Smith, Carol Stafford, Earl Stafford, Dean Tessitore, Carol Tripp, Christina Wright.

Birthdays: 12/5 ~ Zachary Benson; 12/7 ~ Daniel Romero

OFFICE HOURS

MON. - FRI. 9:00 AM ~ 4:00 PM
 TELEPHONE: 518-434-3502
 FAX: 518-462-4419

ST. PETER'S CHURCH WEBSITE
www.StPetersChurchAlbany.org

VESTRY

James Chenot.....Sr. Warden
 Deborah Spath.....Jr. Warden
 George Scala.....Treasurer
 Christie Gordon.....Clerk

Pete Benson, Ashley Closson,
 Sharon DeBonis, Samuel Hartt,
 Fred Hershey, Maria Holden,
 Mark Lundberg, Malcolm Moran,
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**INTERIM BISHOP OF THE
 EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF ALBANY**

The Rt. Rev. Michael G. Smith

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, December 3rd

8:30AM Holy Communion and Sermon
 10:30AM Holy Communion and Sermon, Sunday School and Child Care
 12:00PM Blessing Bag Assembly
 3:00PM Handel's Messiah

Wednesday, December 6th

12:05PM Holy Communion - Feast of St. Nicholas

Thursday, December 7th

5:30PM - 7:00PM Full Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, December 9th

11:00AM - 1:00PM Angels in Training at St. Francis Mission

CHRISTMAS AT THE DAMIEN CENTER: Thanks to all who signed up early, we have our basic menu for Christmas Day covered. We welcome any additional side dishes or desserts that you may be moved to provide – perhaps something that is special to you. There are disposable pans available in the back of the church to make your presentation and delivery as easy as possible. Please take what you need. We will be collecting and delivering dishes for Christmas Day after each service on Christmas Eve – if you could put your dish in the Pumpelly Room refrigerator, or just hand it off to Laura Saffares (4:30) or me (10:00) at one of the services, we will make sure it is at the Damien Center on Christmas Day. If it's easier to bring your dish in before Christmas Eve, just let us know. Thank you for your ongoing support. Sharon DeBonis scdebonis@verizon.net, 518-669-5054 (cell and text).

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Advent Calendars, Wreaths & Candles:** Available today, December 3rd
- **Handel's Messiah:** Today, Sunday, December 3rd at 3PM
- **Angels in Training:** Saturday, December 9th & 16th ~ 11AM to 1PM at St. Francis Mission
- **Christmas Pageant:** Sunday, December 10th during the 10:30AM service
- **Vestry Meeting:** Tuesday, December 12th at 5:15PM
- **Lessons and Carols:** Sunday, December 17th during the 10:30AM service
- **Hanging of the Greens:** Sunday, December 17th following the 10:30AM service with ham luncheon served at 1PM.
- **Advent IV Service:** Sunday, December 24th at 8:30AM
- **Christmas Eve Service with Crèche:** Sunday, December 24th at 4:30PM
 All children participating in the Crèche procession should arrive by 4PM
- **Christmas Eve Choral Holy Communion Service:** Sunday, December 24th at 10PM
 Prior to this service the choir sings carols beginning at 9:30PM
- **Christmas Day:** Monday, December 25th ~ 9AM Holy Communion

Scan here to give to St. Peter's Church. This will bring you to our website and you will then need to click on "Donate". Any amount is appreciated. May God bless you for your generosity!

