

will build my Church

THE LEAFLET

1712 St. Peter's Church 2023

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

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 24, 2023 ~ 8:30AM

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

We light these four candles of Advent to proclaim  
the great humility of God our Savior.

*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 7)

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!

Thou art Peter & upon this rock I

and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it

**THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ DECEMBER 24, 2023**

**8:30 A.M. • HOLY COMMUNION and SERMON**

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<b>+ OPENING ACCLAMATION</b>	<b>PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 323</b>
<b>+ KYRIE ELEISON</b>	<b>PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 324</b>
<b>COLLECT FOR THE DAY</b>	<b>SEE INSERT</b>
<b>THE FIRST LESSON</b>	<b>2 SAMUEL 7:4, 8-16</b>
<b>THE PSALM</b>	<b>PSALM 132:8-15</b>
<b>THE EPISTLE</b>	<b>ROMANS 16:25-27</b>
<b>+ THE HOLY GOSPEL</b>	<b>LUKE 1:26-38</b>

**SERMON: “BEHOLD THE SERVANT OF THE LORD”**

**DR. JOHN DAVIS ~ LAY PREACHER, ST. PETER’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

<b>+ THE NICENE CREED</b>	<b>PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 327</b>
<b>THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE</b>	<b>PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 328</b>
<b>THE GENERAL CONFESSION</b>	<b>PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 330</b>
<b>ABSOLUTION</b>	<b>PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 332</b>
<b>THE PEACE</b>	
<b>OFFERTORY</b>	
<b>SANCTUS/BENEDICTUS</b>	<b>PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 334</b>
<b>PRAYER OF CONSECRATION</b>	<b>PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 334</b>
<b>PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS</b>	<b>PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 337</b>
<b>PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING</b>	<b>PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 339</b>
<b>THE BLESSING</b>	

**(+ All Standing)**

***THE GREENS ON ST. MARK'S ALTAR*** are given to the **Glory of God**  
and in thanksgiving for God's Blessings

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*THE USHER* at the 8:30AM Service is Jeff Russom

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~ **Parish Notes** ~

**Newcomers:** If you are interested in receiving more information about St. Peter's Church please feel free to call the church office or fill out an information card that is located in your pew. If you would like to be added to the church directory please call the church office.

**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. Pledges can also be made on the St. Peter's website at [www.stpeterschurchalbany.org](http://www.stpeterschurchalbany.org) by clicking on the "Get your pledge card" button. 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 or pledged online.

**Guest Preacher:** Today Dr. John Davis will be preaching. John is licensed as a Lay Preacher by the Albany Diocese. We are grateful to John and we thank him for his service today and for his continued dedication to St. Peter's Church and our congregation.

**Christmas Eve Choral / Family Service:** Today, Sunday, December 24th at 4:30PM. All the children of St. Peter's are invited to join in the procession of the Crèche. Each child will carry a piece of the manger to be put together before the service. Meet us in the Pumpelly Room for your piece. Questions? Give Laura Saffares a call at (518)368-4284.

**Christmas Eve Choral Service:** Tonight, Sunday, December 24th at 10PM. Prior to this service the choir will sing a choral prelude at 9:30PM.

**Christmas Day Service:** Tomorrow, Monday, December 25th ~ Holy Communion at 9AM.

**Church Office Closed:** In observance of Christmas and New Year's, the church office will be closed tomorrow, Monday, December 25th, Tuesday, December 26th and on Monday, January 1st, 2024, respectively.

**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](mailto:scdebonis@verizon.net), 518-669-5054 (cell and text).

**Children's Chapel:** Children's Chapel will be held next Sunday, December 31st during the 10:30AM service (and on every 5th Sunday of the month). Please join Mother Christina in the Sunday School Room on the second floor of the Guild House. We hope you will bring your children to participate in this children's ministry. Dr. John Davis will be preaching at both the 8:30AM and 10:30AM services.

**Annual Parish Meeting:** On Sunday, January 28th, 2024 the Annual Parish Meeting will be held immediately following the 10:30AM service. We invite you to grab a cup of coffee and join us in the church.

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

**Birthdays:** 12/30 ~ Liam Connors

**Anniversaries:** 12/27 ~ Dan & Ashley Closson

**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, and Jeff Russom

**STAFF**

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WAYNE HILL, SEXTON

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HISTORIAN AND ARCHIVIST  
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**INTERIM BISHOP OF THE  
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF ALBANY**  
The Rt. Rev. Michael G. Smith

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Sunday, December 24th ~ Advent IV / Christmas Eve**

8:30AM Advent IV Holy Communion and Sermon  
4:30PM Christmas Eve Choral Holy Communion Service with Crèche Procession  
9:30PM Choral Prelude  
10:00PM Christmas Eve Choral Holy Communion

**Monday, December 25th ~ Christmas Day**

9:00AM Holy Communion  
Office Closed

**Tuesday, December 26th**

Office Closed

**Wednesday, December 27th**

No Noonday Prayer Service or Lectionary Lunch

**Thursday, December 28th**

No Choir Rehearsal

**EVENTS FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS**

- **Christmas Eve Choral Holy Communion Service with Crèche:** Today, Sunday, December 24th ~ 4:30PM. All children participating in the Crèche procession should arrive by 4PM.
- **Christmas Eve Choral Holy Communion Service:** Tonight, Sunday, December 24th ~ 10PM  
Prior to this service the choir sings carols beginning at 9:30PM
- **Christmas Day Holy Communion Service:** Tomorrow, Monday, December 25th ~ 9AM
- **Children’s Chapel:** Sunday, December 31st at 10:30AM
- **Annual Parish Meeting:** Sunday, January 28th following the 10:30AM service

**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!**

