

Beloved in Christ, in this Christmastide, let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the Angels and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

DECEMBER 31, 2023, 11AM ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Rector: The Rev. Catherine D. Hicks The Rev. Tom Hughes, Rector Emeritus

(BCP—Book of Common Prayer, H-Hymnal 1982)

As you enter this sacred space that has been set aside for time with God, join us in silence as we go to God in prayer.

The Ringing of the Bell

Prelude

Hymn Once in Royal David's City H 102

A Bidding Prayer

The First Lesson: Luke 2:1-7

Jesus is born in Bethlehem.

Hymn O little town of Bethlehem <u>H 79</u>

The Second Lesson: Luke 2:8-14

The angels appear to the shepherds with a joyful announcement.

Hymn Go tell it on the mountain H 99

The Third Lesson: Luke 2:15-16

The shepherds go to Bethlehem and find the baby, lying in a manger.

Hymn Silent night H 111

The Fourth Lesson: Luke 2:17-20

The shepherds tell everyone the good news, and praise God.

Hymn The first Nowell H 109

The Fifth Lesson: Matthew 2:1-2

The wisemen from the East come to Jerusalem.

Hymn As with gladness men of old H 119

The Sixth Lesson: Matthew 2:3-6

The chief priests and scribes report that the Messiah is born in

Bethlehem.

Hymn Earth has many a noble city H 127

The Seventh Lesson: Matthew 2:7-9

The star goes before the wisemen to Bethlehem.

Hymn What star is this <u>H 124</u>

The Eighth Lesson: Matthew 2:10-12

The wisemen, overwhelmed with joy, pay the baby homage.

Hymn We three kings H 128

The Ninth Lesson: John 1:1-18

The Word was made flesh and we have seen His glory.

Hymn Angels, from the realms of glory H 93

Closing Collect and Dismissal

Announcements

Welcome to St Peter's! Our hope is that you will find God's love present with you in this place and that you will return here often.

Our service is not being streamed today since worship is taking place in the Parish House. The furnace in the church must be replaced.

Your contributions keep St Peter's mission and ministry at work in the world as we come to a new year with new possibilities.

Happy Birthday - Samantha Collins (1/1), Theo Key (1/6)

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols is the Christmas Eve service first held in King's College Chapel in 1918. This service was conceived by Eric Milner-White, the Dean of the College, whose experience as an army chaplain had led him to believe that more imaginative worship was needed by the Church of England. The story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus is told in nine short Bible readings from Genesis, the prophetic books, and the Gospels, interspersed with the singing of Christmas carols, hymns and choir music. Today's worship follows this general format. Our celebration this year covers the birth of Jesus and the coming of the wisemen to Bethlehem.

Tonight. Sun, Dec. 31, 5PM, New Year's Eve dinner in the Parish House. Bring a dish and enjoy the last fellowship of 2023!

Bible Study resumes on Wednesday, Jan 3—Praying, studying the upcoming lectionary and enjoying time together—come to the midweek Bible study on Wednesday at 10AM each week. All are welcome. Reading First Sunday after the Epiphany

https://lectionarypage.net/YearB_RCL/Epiphany/BEpi1_RCL.html

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

823 Water Street PO Box 399, Port Royal, VA 22535

Website: www.news.churchsp.org Parish Office: (804) 742-5908

The Vestry

Cookie Davis, Larry Saylor (2024) Elizabeth Heimbach, Helmut Linne von Berg (2025) Linda Upshaw (2026)

Jim Heimbach, Treasurer, Elizabeth Heimbach Registrar
Senior Warden, Elizabeth Heimbach
Junior Warden, Cookie Davis
Brad Volland – Music Director & Organist
The Rev. Catherine D. Hicks, Rector
The Rev. Tom Hughes, Rector Emeritus
(540) 809-7489, (540) 898-1586, stpetersrev@gmail.com
Christ Centered, Biblically Based, Spirit Filled, Caring
Prayer List

Stanley and Cindy Fields, Marion Mahoney, The Wisdoms, The Pogues, Laura Carey, The Pannells, The Linne von Bergs, Brad Volland, Rob Dobson, Lydia O' Neil, John Hess, Charles McGuire, The Segars, The Faibisys, The Felicianos, Thom Guthrie, Vivian McDonald, Bill Wick, Jim Heimbach

Ralph and Diane Powell, Enid and Albert Barnett (Pogue relatives), Pinkie Mayfield (Laura Carey's friend), Kristina Childs, Cy and The Rev Deacon Linda Murphy (Saylor friends), Joe Parker, Dot Wright, Gordon Flesher, Beryl Harrison, Larry Saylor's family, Jesse Clarke's family, Daryl Potter (Hughes friend), Joanne and Herbert Wilkerson, Jimmy and Nancy Davis, Julie Davis, Otis Felts (family and friends of Johnny Davis), Dale Brittle, Ruth Smith, Joyce Smith (Laura Carev's sisters-in-law), Lisa Herbert, John Ryan Kirwin (Jean Devitt's son), Max and Rita Jensen (Duke friends), Barbara Deal, Roberta Rutledge, (Pogue friend), Patterson family, Valerie Leitch, Liz Ruthven, Charlene Schnakenberg, Nathaniel Schnakenberg, (Fisher family), Wayne Cohen (Pogue family), Mrs. Watson, Hyacinth Wallace, Orville Watson, The Glasgows (Feliciano family and friends), Sylvia and Jonathan Coleman (Cleo's daughter and son), Ann Pyle (Carolyn Duke's mother), Harvey Yarus (friend of Tom Kramer), Lois Christie, Rosie Dowdy, Bill Lauck, Anthony Bowman, Dylan Puryear (BJ's grandson), Gloria Jewell, The Hill family (Lydia O'Neil's family), G. Lee Baldwin, Linda Oliver, Pat, Joan **Pemberton** (Brad's family), **Louise Chapman** (Barbara Segar's cousin)

Serving in the Armed Forces

PJ Koons	Scott Estes	Cliff Lance
Steven Lee	Reg Merkl	Grace Grimaldi
Alexis Rye	Michael Hobbs	Alex Long V