



# **St. Peter's Episcopal Church**

**22 N. Union St., Smyrna, Delaware**

[www.stpeters-smyrna.church](http://www.stpeters-smyrna.church)

*A Faith Community Offering Hospitality, Hope and Healing*

## **Bulletin for Sunday, January 11, 2026 First Sunday after The Epiphany The Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ Rite II- Prayer A- 9:00 am**



**Thank you for joining us for Worship!**

Liturgy and Music through rite planning License SB157752, expires 4/30/2026

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Images through Church Online Subscription, Account # 74074931

**Church Office (302) 653-9691 – Hours: Mon & Fri Closed, Tues - Thurs - 9:00AM – 1:00PM**

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Sunday, January 11, 2026

**WORSHIP SERVERS:**

Celebrant: Fr Bruce Lomas, Supply Clergy

Musician: Ms. Bonnie W. Forgacs, Music Minister

<b>Lay Server</b>	<b>9:00AM</b>
Reader	Wayne Burris
Chalicer	Wayne Burris
Ushers	Mike Statham and Kenny Correll

**A special thank you to Father Bruce Lomas for being our Celebrant today.**

**PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK**

*Anglican Cycle of Prayer:* The Anglican Church in the Central Region of America

*Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:* Christ Church, Dover

*Parish Cycle of Prayer:* Carol Binns, Leroy Brown & Stan McIntyre

*Birthdays:* Chalnecia Davies

**Aumbry Candle**

To the Glory of God and in hope that the new year is filled with Love and Joy throughout the world.

**Altar Flowers**

Given to the Glory of God and in Memory or Honor of all those in whom the Christmas flowers were dedicated.

***Search Committee Members:***

Dawn Adams, Vestry Liaison

Terri Anderson, Allison Embert, Allison Gallo, Catherine Huidekoper, Tom Schultz and Linda Slicher, Parish Members.

***Vestry***

***2025 Officers***

Shirley Biddle, Sr. Warden

Wayne Burris, Jr. Warden

Temple Carter, Treasurer

Lisa Embert, Secretary

***Members:***

**2023-2026**

Harold Warnett

Dawn Adams

Wayne Burris

**2024-2027**

Patty Murray

Shirley Biddle

Michael Richards

**2025-2028**

Larry Decker

Ray DePhillis

Dawn Arnold

## SERVICE

**PRELUDE:** *Bagatelle on "We Three Kings"*, John G. Barr. Tune: *KINGS OF ORIENT* by John Henry Hopkins, Jr.

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN:** *Hail to the Lord's Anointed (Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein)*  
(H 616)- -----Sing verses 1 and 5

1 Hail to the Lord's A - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!  
~~2 He comes with sac - er speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,~~  
~~2 He shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth,~~  
~~4 Kings shall bow down be - fore him, and gold and in - cense bring;~~  
5 O'er ev - ery foe vic - to - rious, he on his throne shall rest;

1 Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!  
2 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;  
3 and love, joy, hope, like flow - ers, spring in his path to birth:  
4 all na - tions shall a - dore him, his praise all peo - ple sing;  
5 from age to age more glo - rious, all bless - ing and all - blest:

1 He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free;  
2 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to light,  
3 be - fore him on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald, go;  
4 to him shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows a - scend;  
5 the tide of time shall nev - er his cov - e - nant re - move;

1 to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.  
2 whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, were pre - cious in his sight.  
3 and right - eous - ness in foun - tains from hill to val - ley flow.  
4 his king - dom still in - creas - ing, a king - dom with - out end.  
5 his Name shall stand for ev - er, his change - less Name of Love.

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854); para. of Psalm 72. Music: *Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein*, German folk song; adapt. and harm. *A Student's Hymnal*, 1923, after Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941).

## THE WORD OF GOD

### OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

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

*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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.**

### SONG OF PRAISE

*The following is said, all standing*

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,**

**we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,**

**you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,**

**you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,**

**with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

## The Lessons

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 42:1-9

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>“Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. <sup>2</sup>He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; <sup>3</sup>a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. <sup>4</sup>He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.” <sup>5</sup>Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: <sup>6</sup>“I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, <sup>7</sup>to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. <sup>8</sup>I am the LORD, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. <sup>9</sup>See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.”

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.

*People*           **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM: Psalm 29

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, \* **ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.**

<sup>2</sup>Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; \*  
**worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

<sup>3</sup>The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; \*  
**the LORD is upon the mighty waters.**

<sup>4</sup>The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; \*  
**the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

<sup>5</sup>The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; \*  
**the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;**

<sup>6</sup>he makes Lebanon skip like a calf, \* **and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

<sup>7</sup>The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire; the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; \* **the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

<sup>8</sup>The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe \* **and strips the forests bare.**

<sup>9</sup>And in the temple of the LORD \* **all are crying, “Glory!”**

<sup>10</sup>The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; \*  
**the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

<sup>11</sup>The LORD shall give strength to his people; \*  
**the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.**

## **SECOND READING:** Acts 10:34-43

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

<sup>34</sup>Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and the other Gentiles]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.

*People*           **Thanks be to God.**



SEQUENCE HYMN: *Christ, when for us you were baptized (Caithness)* (H 121)

Sing verses 1 & 4

1 Christ, when for us you were bap - tized, God's Spi - rit on you came,  
~~2 God called you his be - lov - ed Son, called you his ser - vant true,~~  
~~3 Straight way and stead fast un - til death you then o - beyed his call~~  
4 Bap - tize us with your Spi - rit, Lord, your cross on us be signed,

as peace - ful as a dove and yet as ur - gent as a flame.  
sent you his king - dom to pro - claim, his ho - ly will to do.  
free - ly as Son of Man to serve and give your life for all.  
that, like - wise in God's ser - vice we may per - fect free - dom find.

Words: F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984), rev. Music: *Caithness*, melody from *The Psalmes of David in Prose and Meeter*, 1635; harm. The English Hymnal, 1906.

**GOSPEL: Matthew 3:13-17**

*All stand.*

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

<sup>13</sup>Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup>John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” <sup>15</sup>But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. <sup>16</sup>And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup>And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## THE SERMON

### THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

*All stand. Celebrant reads the invitation:*

Dear People of God: through our Baptism into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we have been reborn into new life in him. I call upon you, therefore, as we celebrate his Baptism, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy catholic church.

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Father?

*People* **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

*Celebrant* Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

*People* **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*People* **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

*Celebrant* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*After the Covenant the Celebrant prays the following prayer:*

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hast given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by thy grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Amen.*

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

**That we all may be one.**

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

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

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

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

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

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

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

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

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

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

Give to the departed eternal rest;

**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*The People may add their own petitions.*

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Minister 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.**

*The Priest stands and says*

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 HOLY COMMUNION

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OFFERTORY SENTENCE

**CHOIR ANTHEM:** *Down to the River to Pray*, Traditional Spiritual. Words and Music by Ken Medema. Arranged by Mary McDonald

### OFFERTORY PRESENTATION HYMN FROM ALL THAT DWELL BELOW THE SKIES (OLD 100TH) VERSE 3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People remain standing.*

*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.**

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 in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

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:

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

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.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*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 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, forever and ever. Amen.**

# THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia**

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## COMMUNION HYMN: Shall We Gather at the River (LEVAS 141)

1. Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, Where bright an - gel feet have trod; \_\_\_  
2. On the mar - gin of the riv - er, Wash - ing up its sil - ver spray, \_\_\_  
3. Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, Lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down; \_\_\_  
4. Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, Soon our pil - grim - age will cease, \_\_\_

1. With its crys - tal tide for - ev - er Flow - ing by the throne of God?  
2. We will walk and wor - ship ev - er, All the hap - py gold - en day.  
3. Grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, And pro - vide a robe and crown.  
4. Soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er With the mel - o - dy of peace.

Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, The beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;

Gath - er with the saints at the riv - er That flows by the throne of God.

Words: Robert Lowery (1826-1899) Music: Robert Lowery

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.**

## BLESSING

**RECESSIONAL HYMN: O love, how deep, how broad, how high (Deus tuorum militum) (H 448)—Sing verses 1-3**



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing  
2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly  
3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his  
4 For us to wash - ed hands be - trayed, scourged, mocked, in  
5 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he  
6 All glo - ry to our Lord and God for love so



1 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of  
2 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions  
3 dai - ly works he wrought: by words and signs and  
4 pur - ple robe ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful  
5 went on high to reign; for us he sent his  
6 deep, so high, so broad; the Trin - i - ty whom



1 God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.  
2 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er ov - er - threw.  
3 ac - tions, thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.  
4 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.  
5 Spi - rit here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.  
6 we a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

Words: Latin, 15<sup>th</sup> cent.; re Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), alt. Music: *Deus tuorum militum*, from *Antiphoner*, 1753; adapt. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

**DISMISSAL**

*Celebrant* Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
Alleluia, Alleluia

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**POSTLUDE:** *We Three Kings*, John H. Hopkins, Jr. Arr. by Tim Doran



**HOPE** & *Healing*