

SAINT PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CHATTANOOGA, IN THE DIOCESE OF EAST TENNESSEE

DECEMBER 17, 2023 – 10:30 A.M.



THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

Welcome to worship at St. Peter's Episcopal Church!

We are glad that you are here.

Prayer for Our Clergy Search

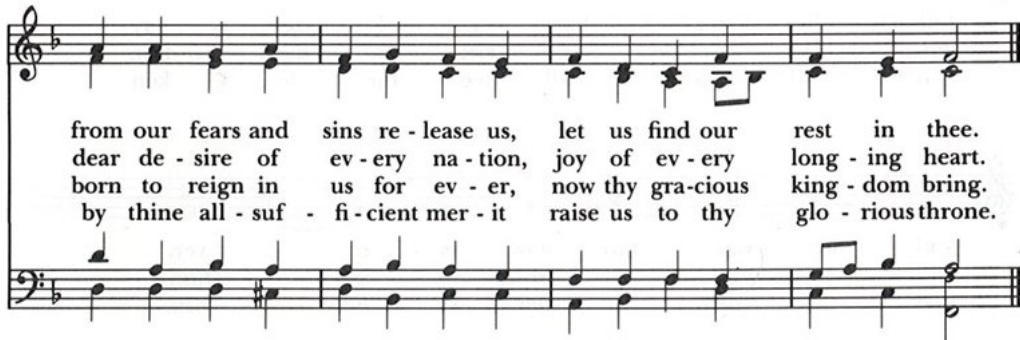
Almighty God, you know the needs of your Church in every place: Look graciously upon us and grant us the guidance of your Holy Spirit as we seek a new priest for this parish. Give us discernment, wisdom, and confidence in your timing. Guide the members of our Vestry, as they labor to be faithful in seeking your will. We pray for the life of our parish that we may continue in our mission to proclaim not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Christ's sake. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

OPENING HYMN: "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" (Hymn 66)



1 Come, thou long - ex - spect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;



from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: Stuttgart, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715;
adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

87. 87

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 355

Priest Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

Priest 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.**

THE TRISAGION (S-102)

Repeated 3 times.

The musical score for the Trisagion is presented in two systems. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: "Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us." The first system covers the first two phrases, and the second system covers the final phrase. The music is written in a simple, homophonic style.

Setting: Ver. Hymnal 1982, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 212

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Let us pray. Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON (Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11)

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion – to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please join the choir in chanting the psalm.

THE PSALM (Psalm 126)

BCP 782

1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.

2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

3 Then they said among the nations, *
"The Lord has done great things for them."

4 The Lord has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.

5 Restore our fortunes, O Lord, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.

6 Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.

7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

THE SECOND LESSON (1 Thessalonians 5:16-24)

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (Hymn 56, v 5-6)



Re - joi - ce! Re - joi - ce!



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!



5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us



5 wide our heav - en - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
 6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of



5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y. Re - joi - ce! Re - joi - ce!
 6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt.

Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, *Processionale*, 15th cent.;
 adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890)

LM with Refrain

THE GOSPEL (John 1:6-8, 19-28)

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

Mark Colbert

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(The people stand or kneel.)*

Intercessor As we wait and watch during this holy season, let us pray for strength to stand with confidence before our Maker and Redeemer. That God's kingdom may come with justice and mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor That God may establish righteousness among all the nations of the world, let us pray to the Lord:

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor That we may seek Christ in the Scriptures and recognize him in the breaking of the bread. For all those whose lives are closely linked to ours, let us pray to the Lord:

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor That God may bind up the brokenhearted, restore the sick, and raise up all who have fallen, let us pray to the Lord:

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor That the light of Christ's coming may dawn on all who live in darkness and the shadow of death, let us pray to the Lord:

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor That, with all the saints in light, we may shine forth as lights for the world. For all those who have died, let us pray to the Lord:

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor We commend ourselves and all for whom we pray to the mercy and protection of God almighty:

Silence. The Priest adds a concluding Collect.

Priest For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION

BCP 360

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All **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.**

Priest 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

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The people greet one another in the name of the Risen Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Eucharistic table is set and the ushers collect offerings from the congregation.

If you prefer to make an online donation, please use this QR code:



THE OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY HYMN: "The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns" (Hymn 73)

1 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
 2 Not, as of old, a lit - tle child, to
 3 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
 4 and let the end - less bliss be - gin, by
 5 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and

1 light tri - um - phant breaks; when beau - ty gilds the
 2 bear, and fight, and die, but crowned with glo - ry
 3 earth's dark night is past; O haste the ris - ing
 4 wear - y saints fore - told, when right shall tri - umph
 5 light and beau - ty brings: Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy

1 east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
 2 like the sun that lights the morn - ing sky.
 3 of that morn, the day that e'er shall last;
 4 o - ver wrong, and truth shall be ex - tolled.
 5 peo - ple pray, come quick - ly, King of kings.

Words: Greek; tr. John Brownlie (1859-1925), alt.
 Music: *St. Stephen*, William Jones (1726-1800), alt.

CM

Sursum Corda (S-120)

Celebrant *People*
 The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
 Lift up your hearts. 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.

Priest It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. [*Here a Proper Preface is said.*] 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-129)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
 might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. _____

Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

Priest: 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."

The Memorial Acclamation (S-136)

Celebrant
There - fore, ac - cord - ing to his com - mand, O Fa - ther,

Celebrant and People
We re - mem - ber his death, We pro - claim his re - sur -

rec - tion, We a - wait his com - ing in glo - ry.

Setting: Ambrosian anaphora chant; adapt. Mason Martens (b. 1933)

Priest: 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 the blessed Virgin Mary, St. Peter, and 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. **Amen.**

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

BCP 364

The Priest breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem (S-154)

(Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.)

Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

there - fore let us keep the feast.

(Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.)

Setting: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

Agnus Dei (S-161)

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and homophonic, with lyrics printed below the notes. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace." The score ends with a double bar line.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Setting: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

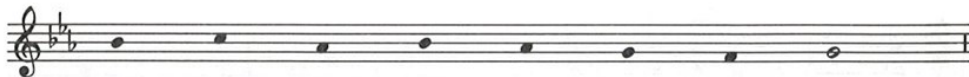
Priest The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All baptized Christians, regardless of age or denomination, are invited to receive the bread and wine. Come up the center aisle to receive the Eucharist at the altar rail. Return to your pew using the side aisle. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please let the clergy know by crossing your arms in front of you at the altar. The chalice will be offered to all. If you prefer not to receive, you may choose to reverently acknowledge the presence of Christ in the wine, while the minister says, "The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation."

COMMUNION HYMN: "Creator of the Stars of Night" (Hymn 60)



1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
 2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse
 3 When this old world drew on toward night,
 4 At your great Name, O Je - sus, now
 5 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray,
 *6 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,



1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,
 2 should doom to death a u - ni - verse,
 3 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,
 4 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow:
 5 re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;
 6 and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,
 2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free
 3 not as a mon - arch, but the child
 4 all things on earth with one ac - cord,
 5 de - fend us while we dwell be - low
 6 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



1 we pray you hear us when we call.
 2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.
 3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.
 4 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.
 5 from all as - saults of our dread foe.
 6 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

Words: Latin, 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt.
 Music: *Conditor alme siderum*, plainsong, Mode 4

LM

SENDING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Deacon We send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body,
People Because we all share one bread and one cup.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 366

All 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.

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN: "Blest Be the King" (Hymn 74)

1 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
2 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
3 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
4 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of

God! For him let doors be o - pened, no hearts a - gainst him
God! By those who tru - ly lis - ten his voice is tru - ly
God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of
God! He of - fers to the bur - dened the rest and grace they

barred! Not robed in roy - al splen - dor, in
 heard; pi - ty the proud and haugh - ty, who
 God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All
 need. Gen - tle is he and hum - ble! And

power and pomp, comes he; but clad as are the
 have not learned to heed the Christ who is the
 things are in his hand, all a - ges and all
 light his yoke shall be, for he would have us

poor - est, such his hu - mil - i - ty!
 Prom - ise, who has a - tone - ment made.
 peo - ples, till time it - self shall end!
 bear it so he can make us free!

Words: Frederico J. Pagura (b. 1923); tr. F. Pratt Green (b. 1903), alt.
 Music: *Valet will ich dir geben*, melody Melchior Teschner (1584-1635) alt.;
 harm. and desc. Ronald Arnatt (b. 1930)

76. 76 D

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THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Lectors: Caroline Johnson (OT), Kevin Huston (NT)
Intercessor: Chassie Long; **Livestream / Audio:** Tony Burgess
Eucharistic Ministers: Susan Self, Kim Kilgore
Acolytes: Madison Wolford, Lorelei Dumitru, Lillian Wolford
Ushers: Ron Abston, David Andreae; **Greeter:** Shanda Schmitt
Healing Altar: Rena Stansbury

We pray for the healing and comfort of:

Alicia, Betty Lamance, Betty Thompson, Bill Kazmier, Bob Hoover, Bryson Tidwell,
Cynthia Millwood, Dianne Stone, Dixie Warren, Donie, Eddie Rodgers, Emmalea Rogers,
Ernestine Rogers, Garnet Johnston, Gene Vredeveld, Jack Rudez, Jimmy McDaniel, John Giles,
John Hickman, Julie Suttles Saunders, Karin Gilstrap, Kelly Snyder, Kevin Blasbery,
Maggie Williams, Mark Northern, Mary Cook, Matt Klinger, Pete Cooper, Richard Rogers,
Robert Carnes, Sawyer Burch, Suzy Marland, Terrell Williams, Terry Arnold, Tony D, Vicki Neff

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Complete the form below, mark your check "Christmas Flowers,"
and drop in the offering plate or mail to the church office
by Sunday, December 17, 2023.

The cost for each Poinsettia is \$10.

Use back of form, if needed, to add more names.

Name _____

Number of flowers _____ Total amount enclosed _____

Flowers in memory of _____

Flowers in honor of _____

Flowers in thanksgiving for _____

Complete the form below, mark your check "Christmas Flowers,"
and drop in the offering plate or mail to the church office
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The cost for each Poinsettia is \$10.

Use back of form, if needed, to add more names.

Name _____

Number of flowers _____ Total amount enclosed _____

Flowers in memory of _____

Flowers in honor of _____

Flowers in thanksgiving for _____

Christmas

S E R V I C E S

CHRISTMAS EVE

4:30PM: HOLY EUCHARIST
W/ PAGEANT

8:00PM: HOLY EUCHARIST
W/CHOIR AND INCENSE


CHRISTMAS DAY

10:30AM* HOLY CHRISTMAS
DAY EUCHARIST W/ FESTIVE
CHRISTMAS MUSIC

1 CHRISTMAS (12/31)

7:30AM: HOLY EUCHARIST
10:30AM: LESSONS AND CAROLS





Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 31
10:30am

St. Peter's Church Staff

Church Office Hours: M-F, 9am to 4pm; 423-877-2428

The Very Rev. John H. Bonner III, Interim Rector

The Rev. John R. Rouser, Deacon; jrrouser@comcast.net

Tim Hinck, Organist & Choirmaster; timhinck@gmail.com

Kelsey Aebi, Director of Youth Ministry & Lay Associate Minister; kelseyaebi@stpeters.org

Morgan Giannotti, Director of Children's Ministry; morgangiannotti@stpeters.org

Jaime McDaniel-Porter, Director of Parish Life; jaimemcdporter@stpeters.org

Gerald Motley, Facilities Manager; geraldmotley@stpeters.org

Tina Chambers, Parish Administrator; parishadmin@stpeters.org