



POHICK EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The 1774 home church of George Washington and George Mason.
In Christ: Embracing our history, welcoming in the present, transforming for the future.

December 21, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 am

Holy Eucharist: Rite I

The people standing, the Celebrant may say

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

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

COLLECT FOR PURITY

p. 323

SUMMARY OF THE LAW

p. 324

KYRIE

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And with thy spirit.***

Celebrant Let us pray.

COLLECT

Fourth Sunday of Advent, p. 160

We beseech thee, Almighty God, to purify our consciences by thy daily visitation, that when thy Son our Lord cometh he may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 7:10-16

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

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

THE PSALTER (*said seated*)

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

Qui regis Israel

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.

3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

4 O Lord God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?

5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

THE EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People *Thanks be to God.*

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 1:18-25

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

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”
which means, “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord
commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a
son; and he named him Jesus.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People *Praise be to thee, O Christ.*

THE SERMON

The Reverend Daniel M. Cenci

Moment of Silence

THE NICENE CREED p. 326

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE p. 328

THE CONFESSION

THE PEACE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRESENTATION OF THE BREAD AND WINE

THE OFFERTORY

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: *Eucharistic Prayer I* p. 333

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION p. 334-335

THE LORD’S PRAYER p. 336

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD p. 337

THE AGNUS DEI p. 337

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS p. 337

THE INVITATION p. 338

*All baptized Christians are invited to receive Communion (see back page). Please follow the direction of
the ushers to Communion Stations.*

THE MINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING p. 339

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL p. 339-40

❧SERVING TODAY❧

Celebrant and Preacher	The Reverend Daniel M. Cenci
Assistant Rector	The Reverend Ted Renaud
Lay Eucharistic Ministers	Mike Elston and Maria Holmes
Acolyte	Charles Keeney
Ushers	Don Cooke and Chris Hempel
Greeters	Judy and Neil Sunderland

**We warmly welcome all newcomers and visitors and hope you'll introduce yourselves,
receive a gift, and leave us your contact information!**

Blessed Advent! Advent is the season when we intentionally become reflective and await with hope the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Advent Wreath is one way we symbolically remind ourselves that Christ's coming is near. The round shape represents the circle of eternity. Evergreen is the symbol of eternal life through Jesus Christ. Four candles represent each Sunday leading up to Christ's birth.

The theme for this Fourth Sunday of Advent is the Sunday of Joy and Love. Today we light the final purple candle, which reminds us that the coming of Jesus brings us everlasting joy and love in our hearts.

❧PRAYERS, INTERCESSIONS, AND THANKSGIVINGS❧

- **For the special needs and concerns of this congregation**, especially for Craig Floyd, Wren Norwood, Andrea Godwin-Stremmer, Cathie McCall, Alisa Romero, Steve Alfieri, Jennifer Sassin, Becky Wagner, Tanya Reams, Joe Coleman, Andy, Kelly, Nissa D'Andrea, Carol Schiering, Ray Rios, Mickie Krause, Anne Derbes, Bill Hosp, D'Andrea Wooten, Brett Ward, Juan Bernal, Troy Roberson, Ann Carter, Lydia Cepeda, Terry Abrams, Steve & Mari Harding, Tom Mayberry, Jim Murphy, Barb Rader, Margo Singleton, Mary Reilly, David Urbanski, Boatner Howell, Anne Arnhart, Susanne Roberts, Fred and Donna Crawford, Pat DeYoung, Barry Brown, Lara Gore, Larry Mobley, Alexander Clumpkens, Everett Wanko, Maggie Calio, Jack Oates, Anne Sayer, Jan Hover, Cheryl Maddock, Christina Cole, Rob Grant, Judy Sunderland, Sally Hogg, Anne & Tony Marsico, Jim Bartholomew, Nolan Brown, Kelly Godfrey, and Rob Lamb.
- We pray for all the blessings of this life, especially those celebrating birthdays this week: Anne Gailey, Charles Keeney, Zach Smith, Caroline Olmsted, Kathy Kirkland, Susan Mayberry, and Janet Hodges.
- We pray for the soul of Caleb Caesar, who died December 12. He was the grandson of Sandra Caesar.
- We pray for our members who serve our country, particularly those overseas, and their families: Ryan Moatta, Gabby Rolland, and Summer Lancet.
- We pray for the victims of violence and of natural disasters worldwide. We pray for a Peaceful resolution of all global conflicts, and we ask your protection for all innocent people.
- We pray for all Christians who face persecution for their faith.
- In the Diocese of Virginia, we pray for Grace (Cismont).

❧ALTAR FLOWERS❧

*The altar flowers are presented by Charles and Anne Keeney
in honor of their son Charles III's 15th birthday on December 23rd.*

❧ ***TODAY'S EVENTS*** ❧

- **7:45 am to 11:45 am:** The Nursery will be open and an attendant will be on site.
- **Coffee hour/receptions** in the Parish House after the 8 am and 10:30 am services.
- **10:20 am Classroom D: Children's Chapel**, parents can drop off preschool-2nd graders
- **6-7:30 pm:** EYC meeting, meet in the youth trailers

❧ ***UPCOMING EVENTS*** ❧

- **DEC 24: A Colonial Candlelight Christmas Eve**
 - **4:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist: Rite Two**
 - **10:30 p.m. Carols and Midnight Eucharist: Rite One**
- **DEC 25: Christmas Day Service**, 10 am.
- **DEC 25: Christmas Day, Parish Offices Closed**
- **DEC 28: Christmas Lessons and Carols**, 10 am.
- **JANUARY 01, 2026: New Year's Day, Parish Offices Closed**
- **JAN 8 Golden Dove Gift Shop Inventory day** 9 AM-we finish! in the gift shop & Vestry house.
- **JAN 18 Pohick Annual meeting and Vestry Elections**

❧ ***MINISTRIES*** ❧

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY:

- **TODAY: NO Church School, NO Grace Space, Children's Chapel: 10:20 am**
- **DEC 28: NO Church School, NO Grace Space, NO Children's Chapel**
- **JAN 04: Church School, Grace Space and Children's Chapel all resume**
- Susan Pehrsson, Director of Christian Education, 703-282-6574 or spehrsson@pohick.org

YOUTH MINISTRY:

- **TODAY 6-7:30 pm: EYC meeting**, meet in the youth trailers
- **Dec 28: NO meeting**
- The Rev. Ted Renaud, Youth Minister, trenaud@pohick.org

MUSIC MINISTRY:

- Ministry of Music: *Schedule this week*
- **TODAY, The Fourth Sunday of Advent**, 9:45 a.m. Pohick Choir & Handbells meet, Music Room
- **10:30 a.m. The Holy Eucharist: Rite I**, *Pohick Choir, Pohick Handbells, no 11:45 a.m. meeting*
- Tuesday, December 23, St. Francis Choir
- *A Candlelight Colonial Christmas*
- **Wednesday, December 24, The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Christmas Eve**
- **4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist: Rite II**, *St. Francis Choir*
- 10:00 p.m. Pohick Youth Choir & Pohick Choir meets, Music Room
- **10:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Carols and Midnight Eucharist: Rite One**, *Pohick Youth Choir & Pohick Choir*

- **Thursday, December 25, Christmas Day, 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist: Rite I, *no choirs***
- **Sunday, December 28, The First Sunday after Christmas Day, 9:30 a.m., Pohick Youth Choir & Pohick Choir meets, Music Room**
- **10 a.m. Christmas Festival Service of Nine Lessons & Carols, *Pohick Youth Choir & Pohick Choir***
- Ronald Butts Boehmer, Minister of Music, music@pohick.org

❧FOR YOUR INFORMATION❧

- **Volunteers are needed to stream our services to Facebook and YouTube.** We now routinely stream many of our services and need to expand our streaming team. Anyone age 18 or older with some comfort using personal computers is welcome to join our small team for this fun and important ministry. We will teach you everything you need to know, but it's really not hard to do this. Please contact Chris Brown to volunteer (cbrown@pohick.org), or talk to him any time he's around, or stop in the church office when a service is being streamed and speak with whomever is streaming the service at that time.
- **Stewardship Update:** Thank you to those who have returned their pledge cards! If not, this is just a gentle reminder to return your pledge cards. We would like to have as many in as soon as possible. This helps us with our budgeting for 2026.
- **Good News -** We will continue to use **MyEOffering** (the current vendor) into 2026.
- **Don't Forget -** If you increased your pledge for 2026, you will need go online to make the adjustment to your donations.
- If you are not an online giver, please consider this for 2026. If you make your payment through your checking/savings account, the fee is only \$0.30.
- This is a great way to have continuity in your donations and help us budget for expenses. If you would like assistance, please contact me at the office.
Thank you for your continued support of Pohick Church!
Julie Ramacciotti, Finance Administrator

Last chance to do your Christmas shopping at the GOLDEN DOVE gift shop TODAY (12/21) from 11:30AM-12:30PM! Open Dec 28-8:45-10:30AM We still have some handmade Christmas wreaths, tabletop decor, ornaments, olive wood ornaments, books and more!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS and come have some fun while helping w/shop inventory on Thursday, Jan 8th.... anytime between 9AM-we finish! All are welcome; goodies and pizza lunch are provided!

Thank you for your support; all proceeds go toward helping those in need.

- **The Ann Mason Guild** thanks all of you for donating and buying jewelry at our Christmas sale. Your generosity helps us with our many outreach projects, whose recipients thank you too.
- **Education for Ministry (EfM) Classes are Mondays at 7pm in the Vestry House.** Contact: Denise McHugh at 410-300-9867 or dmchugh@umd.edu, or John Egan 703-973-5038 or jjegan3@netscape.net.
- **Coffee N Compline** on-line Wednesdays at 7:00 pm. Fellowship, reflection and worship. Call the Parish Office at 703 339-6572 for the Microsoft Teams link. This same link is used every Wednesday.
- **Our regular Sunday Services** are at 8 am (Rite I Eucharist) and 10:30 am (Rite II Eucharist). Christian Education for all ages begins at 9:15 am. Announcements are on [pohick.org /news/weekly-announcements](http://pohick.org/news/weekly-announcements). Send your email to adminassistant@pohick.org to receive our weekly email.
- **Parish Office hours:** Mon-Thu 9am-3pm, Fridays 9am-noon. (limited office hours Dec 22-Jan. 2)

❧ INSTRUCTIONS FOR RECEIVING COMMUNION ❧

In the Episcopal tradition, all baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Communion at the Lord's Table; simply come to the altar rail and kneel to receive if you are able, or you may stand. If you are unable to come to the rail, please indicate to an usher that you would like communion brought to you.

The options for receiving communion are:

- *You may hold out both hands to receive bread and drink from the cup;*
- *To receive by intinction, please leave the bread in your open palm and the Chalice bearer will dip the bread in the chalice for you and place it back in your hand.*
- *To reduce germ exposure in the chalice medical authorities have suggested, and the Diocese recommends, only the Chalice Bearer intinct the bread in the Common Cup.*
- *If you prefer to receive only bread, simply cross one arm across your chest as you hold out your hand for bread. You may cross your arms over your chest and simply receive a blessing.*

Vestry of Pohick Church

<u>Member</u>	<u>Elected Position and Commissions</u>
Neil Hogg	Senior Warden
Dave Billingsley	Junior Warden / Building & Grounds
Andrea Gurrola	Treasurer
Tom Mayberry	Register
Chris Brown	Communication & Digital Ministry
Beth Cooke	Service & Fellowship / Outreach
Dan Derbes	
Molly Diaz	Young Adult & Family Ministry
Rick Church	
Kathy Kirkland	Pastoral Care / Worship / Education
Jeff Schavland	Resources / Stewardship / Policy
Barbara Schavland	(youth rep 25/26)
Hal Yarwood	

Staff of Pohick Church

Priest-In-Charge: The Reverend Daniel M. Cenci
 Assistant Rector/
 Youth Minister: The Reverend Ted Renaud
 Minister of Music: Ronald Butts Boehmer
 Director of Education: Susan Pehrsson
 Finance Admin.: Julie Ramacciotti
 Sexton: Clint Herbert
 Administrative Asst.: Kara Faunt
 Cemetery Warden: Sandra Caesar
 Communications Mgr: Deborah Hennig
 Nursery Supervisor: Jennifer Tatum

Pohick Episcopal Church

The Reverend Daniel M. Cenci, Priest-In-Charge

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703-339-6572 • pohick.org

“Like” us on Facebook: Pohick Church
 “Follow” us on Instagram at Pohick_Church
**Home Church of George Washington
 and George Mason**



**QR Code is set up for one-time giving for
 visitors or guests.**