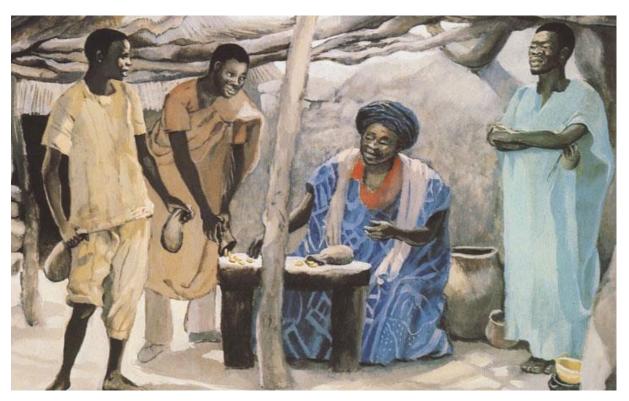


Twenty-fourth Sunday After Pentecost 14 & 15 Nov 2020

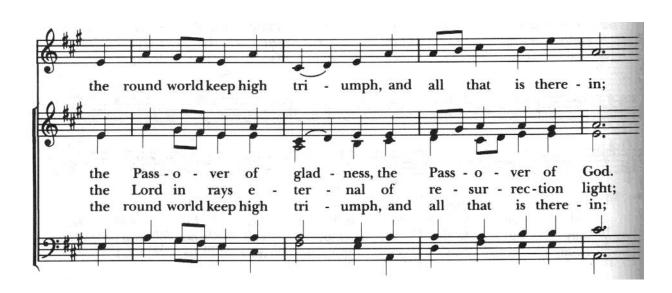
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church 2750 Cardinal Dr. Sierra Vista, AZ Sat: 5pm Sun: 10:30am



Welcome & Announcements

Opening Song 10:30am Sunday- (The Day of Resurrection: 1982 Hymnal #210)







Words: John of Damascus (8th cent.); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.

Music: Ellacombe, from Gesangbuch . . . der Herzogl. Wirtembergischen katholischen Hofkapelle, 1784, alt.; adapt. Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1863; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889); desc. Cyril Winn (1884-1973)

76. 76. D

Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People Glory to God for ever and ever.

Presider Holy Wisdom, in your loving kindness you created and restored us when we were lost: inspire us with your truth, that we may love you with our whole minds and run to you with open hearts, through Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Canticle of Praise – The Venite (Psalm 95:1-7)

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Collect of the Day (said together in unison)

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Presider Please be seated for the lessons.

The Lessons

First Lesson: A reading from the **Zephaniah 1:7,12-18**

Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand;

the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,

and I will punish the people

who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts,

"The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm."

Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste.

Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them;

though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast;

the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there.

That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish,

a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom,

a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry

against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord,

their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung.

Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath;

in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed;

for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **People Thanks be to God**

{Let us all recite in unison} Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12

Domine, refugium

- 1 Lord, you have been our refuge * from one generation to another.
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, * from age to age you are God.
- 3 You turn us back to the dust and say, * "Go back, O child of earth."
- 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past * and like a watch in the night.
- 5 You sweep us away like a dream; * we fade away suddenly like the grass.

- 6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; * in the evening it is dried up and withered.
- 7 For we consume away in your displeasure; *
- we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.
- 8 Our iniquities you have set before you, * and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

[....]

12 So teach us to number our days * that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

Second Lesson: A reading from the book of the 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you Lord Christ.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you Lord Christ.

Sermon

Nicene Creed (Contemporary Version)

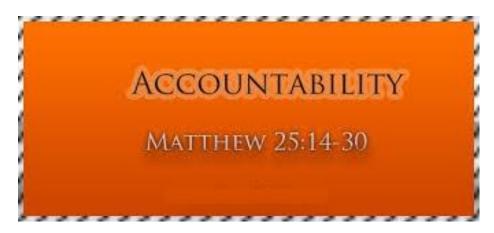
We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.



Prayers of the People:

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
- R. And grant us your salvation.
- V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
- R. Let your people sing with joy.
- V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
- R. For only in you can we live in safety.
- V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
- R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
- V. Let your way be known upon earth;
- R. Your saving health among all nations.
- V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
- R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
- V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
- R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.
- V. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Church of Ceylon (Extra-Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury) & The Rt Revd Dhiloraj Ranjit Canagasabey - Bishop of Colombo & The Rt Revd Keerthisiri Fernando -Bishop of Kurunegala
- R. Lord, bless and keep them.
- V. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. Andrew's,, in Nogales
- R. Lord, bless and keep them.
- V. We pray also for the first peoples of this land, especially the Apache and Pascua Yaqui, who call this area of Arizona their home.
- R. Lord, bless and keep them.
- V. We remember those who have died (especially _____). May they have a place in your eternal kingdom
- R. Let light perpetual shine upon them.
- V. We lift to you the prayers, concerns, and thanksgivings of this congregation (people may add their prayers and gratitudes aloud or silently)
- V. Lord, in your mercy;
- R. Hear our prayer.

Leader: Let us also confess our sins to God. (a brief silence is kept)

All: God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives.

We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.

Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will.

Amen.

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

Presider: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

(People exchange socially distant signs of peace, namaste, virtual hugs, etc..)

Offertory

Presider Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his name, bring offerings and come into his courts.

Offertory: Anthem

(please place your offering in the plate at the back of the church upon entry or exit from the service. The plate will not be passed to reduce possible germs being spread.)

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

(EOW 1)

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider continues:

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we say:

All:

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.

Presider continues...

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for

all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you.

You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.

Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all 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.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit (+) and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN**.

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

Lord's Prayer: (Contemporary Lord's Prayer)

All:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread (spoken)

Presider: We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People: We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Invitation to Communion:

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God.

(Due to Coronavirus safety protocols, the church does not share the common cup at this time. People come forward to receive the bread. Please remain 6 ft apart. Receive the bread with open hands, move 6 ft to the side, lower/raise your mask to eat the bread, replace mask, and return to your seat.)

Communion Music

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing Prayer, Gratitude Sharing

(remain in your seat area, stand for recognition or sharing)

Post Communion Prayer The people stand as they are able.

Presider Let us Pray

People: God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

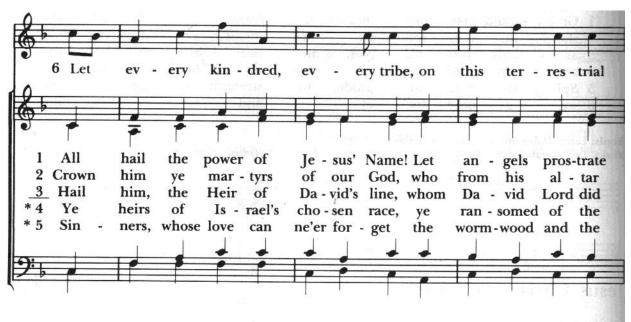
Benediction and Dismissal

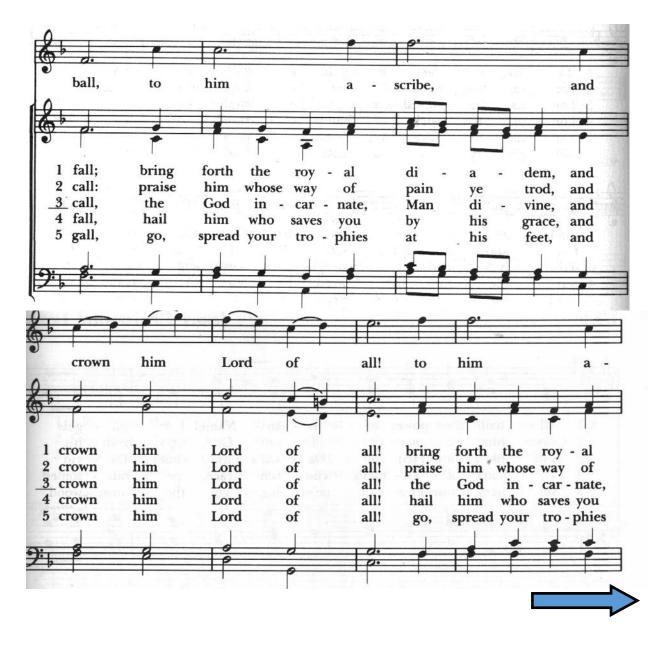
Presider: Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you now and always.

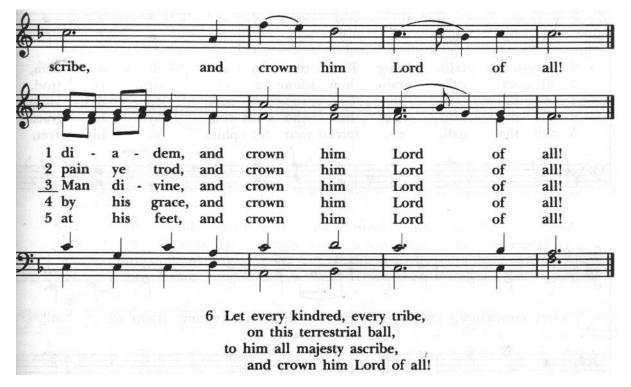
Amen.

Closing Song—10:30am Sunday (All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

The Hymnal 1982 #450)







Presider: Go in peace to love & serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, (Alleluia!)

Thank you for joining us in worship today. During the pandemic, we unfortunately cannot share in fellowship with food and drink at this time.

