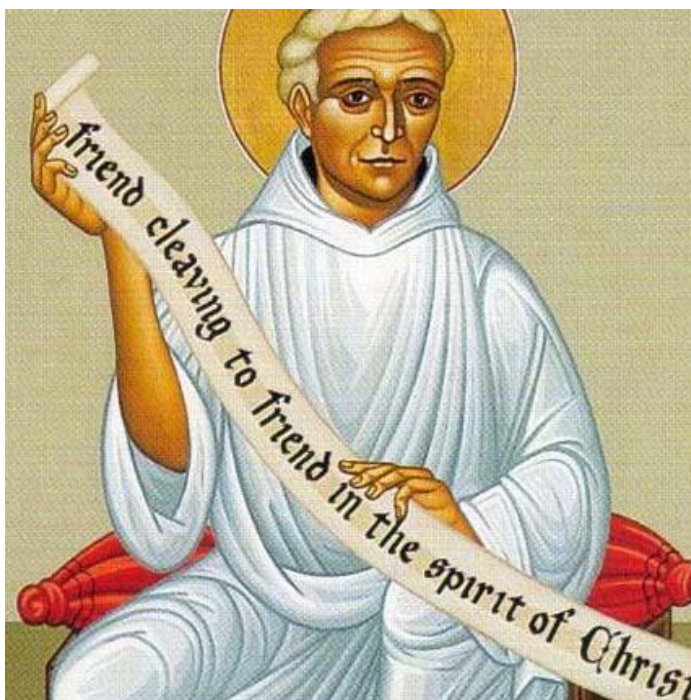




The Season of **Epiphany**

Saint Stephen's welcomes everyone who wishes to follow Christ, worship together, grow in faith and share God's love through service to others.

FEAST OF AELRED OF RIEVAULX



Welcome and Announcements:

Wed. 12 January 9:30am, 2022

Aelred of Rievaulx (Latin: *Aelredus Rievallensis*); also **Ailred**, **Ælred**, and **Æthelred**; (1110 – 12 January 1167) was an English **Cistercian monk**, **abbot of Rievaulx** from 1147 until his death, and known as a writer. He is regarded by Anglicans and Catholics as a saint.

Life

Aelred was born in **Hexham, Northumbria**, in year 1110,^[1] one of three



Opening Acclamation:

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen**

Presider *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.*

Gloria/Glory to God

Hymnal 1982 # S280

**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:

Presider The Lord be with you
People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us pray

All: **Grant to your people, Almighty God, a spirit of mutual affection; that, following the example of your servant Aelred of Rivaulx, we might know the love of Christ in loving one another; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Word of God *(Please be seated)*

The New Testament: A reading from **Phillipians 2:1-4**

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.

Lector: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 36:5-10

Dixit injustus *(Read aloud in unison)*

**5 Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens, *
and your faithfulness to the clouds.**

**6 Your righteousness is like the strong mountains,
your justice like the great deep; *
you save both man and beast, O LORD.**

**7 How priceless is your love, O God! *
your people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.**

**8 They feast upon the abundance of your house; *
you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

**9 For with you is the well of life, *
and in your light we see light.**

**10 Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you, *
and your favor to those who are true of heart.**

Gospel Lesson:

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
John 15:9-17

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus said to his disciples, “As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

Reader The Gospel of the Lord

People Praise to you, Lord Christ

Homily

Nicene Creed: *Traditional Version (Said aloud by all, in unison)*

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.

Prayers of the People

Leader: *Let us pray to God, who came among us in the birth of Jesus:
Gracious God, as a star rose, and drew people from great distances to
Bethlehem that they might greet the Christ-child; Draw us, your
Church, and all of your people to you – that we might be the Church
and the People who you call us to be. Lord, in your mercy,*

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: *As you gave Mary your Holy Spirit, filling her with the delight of your
Presence; Fill us with your Spirit, and renew our lives. Lord, in your mercy,*

Hear our prayer.

Leader: *As Gentiles streamed to Jesus' Light, and Kings to the brightness of his
rising; Draw our nation, our President, and all in authority, to His
brightness. Lord, in your mercy,*

Hear our prayer.

Leader: *As angels sang 'glorias' to you and proclaimed peace on earth, and
goodwill among all peoples; Bring us your peace, and bring an end to and
terror and strife. Lord, in your mercy,*

Hear our prayer.

Leader: *As shepherds were drawn away from their flocks by night; Draw those
who do not know you yet to the knowledge and love of you. Lord, in your
mercy,*

Hear our prayer.

Leader: *As Jesus was born in a manger, because there was no room for them in
the inn; Be especially present with those who have no where to lay their
head, those who are vulnerable, and those who are hungry. Lord, in your
mercy,*

Hear our prayer.

Leader: *As the Holy Family gathered together in Bethlehem, and traveled
together to far off lands; Bless all families, especially the families of our
parish, and protect those who travel. Lord, in your mercy,*

Hear our prayer.

Leader: *As your son came to proclaim the forgiveness of sins, and the gift of Life
Eternal; Give to the departed eternal rest and let Light perpetual shine on*

them. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Leader: *Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, (people add their own prayers either silently or aloud). Lord, in your mercy*

Hear our prayer.

Presider: *O Lord our God, may the Light and Hope of this night and this Christmas season, and of your Son's Incarnation, reassure our hearts that you are among us, that you hear our prayers, and that you will be with us always, even to the end of the age. In the name of Jesus, the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, and Prince of Peace, we pray. Amen.*

Exchange of the Peace

Presider *May the peace of Christ be always with you*

All **And also with you.**

The Ministers and People exchange socially distant signs of peace (peace sign, namaste, virtual hug)

Offertory

Presider: *Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his Name.*

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Rite II Prayer B BCP p. 372

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 God thanks and praise.**

Presider: It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and forever.

People:

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing (say),

Celebrant and People

Hymnal 1982 #S130

All:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might (x2),
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest. (x2)

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

Hosanna in the highest (x2).

Presider continues: We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love.

You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures.

When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you.

Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through

the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin.

To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

At supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, O Lord our God.

Lord, we pray, that in your goodness and mercy, your Holy Spirit may descend upon us (+) and upon these gifts (+), sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ.

Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with Matriarchs, Patriarchs, Prophets, Apostles, and Martyrs, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past.

We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your

Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. AMEN.

And now as Jesus taught us, we pray:

Lord's Prayer:

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

Fraction: *(In silence the Presider breaks the bread)*

All Sing

Hymnal 1982 #S154:

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

Invitation to Communion:

Presider: *The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith and with thanksgiving.*

(Everyone is invited to come forward and receive communion or a blessing).

Recognition of a Birthday, Anniversary, Healing, Gratitude

Post Communion Prayer *The people stand as they are able.*

Presider: Let us pray:

Presider 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

Presider: *May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child. And may Almighty God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. Amen*

Dismissal

Presider: *Let us go forth in the peace and spirit of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!*

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

Continued from Pg.1 sons of Eilaf, priest of St Andrew's at [Hexham](#), himself a son of another Eilaf, treasurer of [Durham](#).^[2] In 1095, the Council of Clarendon had forbidden the ordination of the sons of priests. This was done in part to end the inheritance of benefices.^[3] He may have been partially educated by [Lawrence of Durham](#), who sent him a [hagiography](#) of [Saint Brigid](#).

Aelred's early education was probably at the cathedral school at Durham. Aelred spent several years at the court of King [David I of Scotland](#) in [Roxburgh](#), possibly from the age of 14,^[4] rising to the rank of *echonomus*^[5] (often translated "steward" or "[Master of the Household](#)") before leaving the court at age twenty-four (in 1134) to enter the [Cistercian abbey](#) of [Rievaulx](#) in Yorkshire.^[6]

In 1138, when Rievaulx's patron, Walter Espec, was to surrender his castle at Wark to King David of Scotland, Aelred reportedly accompanied Abbot William of Rievaulx to the Scottish border to negotiate the transfer.^[7] He saw that his reluctance to part from his friends at court, delayed his adopting his monastic calling. For Aelred, the source and object of true friendship is Christ.^[8]

In 1142 Aelred travelled to Rome, alongside Walter of London, Archdeacon of York, to represent before [Pope Innocent II](#) the northern prelates who opposed the election of [Henry de Sully](#), nephew of [King Stephen](#) as archbishop of York. The result of the journey was that Aelred brought back a letter from Pope Innocent summoning the superiors whom Aelred represented to appear in Rome the following March to make their deposition in the required canonical form. The resulting negotiations dragged on for many years.^[9]

Upon his return from Rome, Aelred became novice master at Rievaulx.^[10] In 1143, he was appointed abbot of the new [Revesby Abbey](#), a daughter house of Rievaulx in Lincolnshire. In 1147, he was elected abbot of Rievaulx itself,^[11] a position he was to hold until his death. Under his administration, the abbey is said to have grown to some 140 monks and 500 *conversi* and laymen.^[12]

His role as abbot required him to travel. Cistercian abbots were expected to make annual visitations to daughter-houses, and Rievaulx had five in England and Scotland by the time Aelred held office.^[13] Moreover, Aelred had to make the long sea journey to the annual general chapter of the Order at [Cîteaux](#) in France.^[14]

Alongside his role as a monk and later abbot, Aelred was involved throughout his life in political affairs. The fourteenth-century version of the [Peterborough Chronicle](#) states that Aelred's efforts during the twelfth-century papal schism brought about Henry II's decisive support for the Cistercian candidate, resulting in 1161 in the formal recognition of [Pope Alexander III](#).^[15]

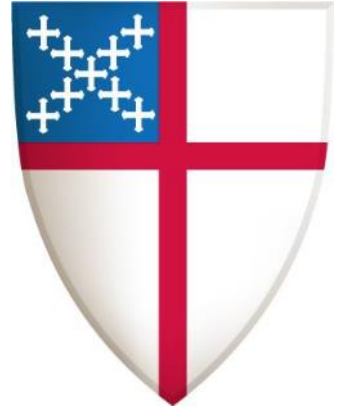
Aelred wrote several influential books on [spirituality](#), among them *Speculum caritatis* ("The Mirror of Charity," reportedly written at the request of [Bernard of Clairvaux](#)) and *De spiritali amicitia* ("On Spiritual Friendship").^[16]

[Continued online](#)

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ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



2750 Cardinal Dr. Sierra Vista, AZ 85635
<https://ststephensaz.org>
520-458-4432

Rector: Allison Cornell
Off. Phone: 520-458-4432
Mobile: 562-743-3784
RevAllison@ststephensaz.org

Parish Administrator
Mark Sowards
Off. Phone 520-458-4432
Mobile: 408-892-1062
mark.sowards@ststephensaz.org
Office Fax: 520-458-8237

Church Accompanist :
Doreen Oberg
Cell: 520/457 8306
Email: doreenoberg@hotmail.com

Vestry Staff
Senior Warden:
Tim Holsonback
Cell: 520-459-1937

holsonback@cox.net

Junior warden:
Sherry Simon
Cell: 520-210-2026
sherrytsimon@gmail.com

Treasurer:
Anne Roth
Cell: 303/917-8151
avd.roth@comcast.net

Welcome Visitor!!!

Please leave your name and contact info below. If you'd like to speak with someone, please check here

Or you can also use the QRC here to fill this out online.



Info Update Giving Envelopes Mail News Letter

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