



**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church**  
**THE 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

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

**Saturday - 3 December 5pm & Sunday - 4 December 11am, 2022**

*Prelude: "Break Forth, O beauteous Heavenly Light", based on Ermuntre Dich by Schop, piano arr Franklin Ritter*

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Rev. Allison Cornell**

Opening Song/Hymn — O Come, O Come Emmanuel Verses 3&4 #56

**Greeting**

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

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath - Gather #330 Prepare the way of the Lord**

*(Congregation sings three times through while the Advent wreath is lighted)*

Canon

Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre-prepare the way of the Lord, and

all peo-ple will see the sal - va - tion of our God. Pre-

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Prepare the way of the Lord'. It consists of two staves of music in G major, 6/8 time. The first staff is labeled 'Canon' and contains two measures of music, with a repeat sign. The second staff continues the melody. The lyrics are written below the notes. There are four circled letters (A, B, C, D) marking specific points in the music.

**Gloria: (The Song of Mary—Magnificat, spoken)**

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,**

**my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \***

**for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.**

**From this day all generations will call me blessed: \***

**the Almighty has done great things for me,**

**and holy is his Name.**

**He has mercy on those who fear him \***

**in every generation.**

**He has shown the strength of his arm, \***

**he has scattered the proud in their conceit.**

**He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \***

**and has lifted up the lowly.**

**He has filled the hungry with good things, \***

**and the rich he has sent away empty.**

**He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \***

**for he has remembered his promise of mercy,**

**The promise he made to our fathers, \***

**to Abraham and his children for ever.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \***

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

## Collect of the Day

**Presider** The Lord be with you.

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

**Presider** Let us pray.

**All:** **Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

## The Word of God *(please be seated for the lessons)*

### First Reading : Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump  
of Jesse,

and a branch shall grow out of his  
roots.

The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of  
the Lord.

His delight shall be in the fear of the  
Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear;  
but with righteousness he shall judge the  
poor,

and decide with equity for the meek  
of the earth;

he shall strike the earth with the rod of  
his mouth,

and with the breath of his lips he shall  
kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around  
his waist,

and faithfulness the belt around his

loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the  
kid,

the calf and the lion and the fatling to-  
gether,

and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the  
hole of the asp,

and the weaned child shall put its  
hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain;

for the earth will be full of the  
knowledge of the Lord  
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand  
as a signal to the peoples; the nations  
shall inquire of him, and his dwelling  
shall be glorious.

**Reader:** The word of the Lord.

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

## **The Psalm**

**Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19**      *(Read in unison)*

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, \***  
**and your righteousness to the King's Son;**
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously \***  
**and the poor with justice;**
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, \***  
**and the little hills bring righteousness.**
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; \***  
**he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.**
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \***  
**from one generation to another.**
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \***  
**like showers that water the earth.**
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; \***  
**there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.**
- 18 Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, \***  
**who alone does wondrous deeds!**
- 19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! \***  
**and may all the earth be filled with his glory.**  
**Amen. Amen.**

### **Second Reading: Romans 15:4-13**

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,  
and sing praises to your name";

and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";  
and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples praise him";

and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come,  
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
**Matthew (3:1-12)**

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

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
'Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will

clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ

## SERMON

**The Nicene Creed** *All say together*

**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: Show us your mercy, O Lord;*

**All: And grant us your salvation.**

*Leader: : Clothe your ministers with righteousness;*

**All: Let your people sing with joy.**

*Leader: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world*

**All: For only in you can we live in safety.**

*Leader: Lord keep this nation under your care;*

**All: And guide us in the way of justice and truth**

*Leader: Let your way be known upon Earth;*

**All: Your saving health among all nations.**

*Leader: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;*

**All: Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

*Leader: Create in us clean hearts, O God;*

**All: And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

*Leader: In the Anglican cycle of prayer we pray for **The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East***

*In the Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for **St. Thomas, in Clarkdale**  
We acknowledge and pay respect to the first peoples of this land specially  
the Apache and Pascua Yaqui who call this area of Arizona their home.  
Rejoicing in the fellowship of all your saints,*

**All: We commend these we pray for, ourselves, and the whole creation to  
your unfailing love. Amen.**

### **Confession of Sin**

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

*(The people stand, sit, or kneel.)*

**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.**

### **Absolution**

*“Presider: 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.*

### **Exchange of the Peace**

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

**All: And also with you.**

*The Ministers and People exchange signs of peace (peace sign, hugs,  
handshakes, fist bumps...)*

## Offertory

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

Offertory Music “*Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending*” #57

Doxology #380 vs 3 (*Peoples’ offerings are brought to the altar*)

**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. Amen.**

## 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 right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because of your goodness and the fullness of your love revealed in your abundant creation, in the sending of your Son and in the imparting of your Holy Spirit, our hearts are moved to thankful praise.

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:

All: *Sanctus - Hymnal 1982 S130*

**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).**

*The people stand, sit, or kneel.*



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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,**

**We proclaim his resurrection,**

**We await his coming in glory;**

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 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 forever. **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

*(In silence the Presider breaks the bread)*

Fraction Anthem: The Lord Is My Light

The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion, the Lord is my  
light and my sal - va - tion, the Lord is my light and  
my sal - va - tion; whom shall I — fear?

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion, the Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion, the Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion; whom shall I — fear?'. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and a steady bass line.

## 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.

*(In this church, everyone is welcome to receive the bread and wine of Holy Communion. Please extend your hand to receive the bread and hold it until offered the cup/chalice to intinct it/dip it into the wine. If you prefer not to have the wine, you may consume the bread when you receive it. If prefer, you can cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing instead of the bread and wine).*

**Birthday, Anniversary, Healing, Travel and Gratitude acknowledgement**

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

Presider: Let us pray:

*Presider and People*

**Almighty and ever-living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

**Blessing**

Presider: May the simplicity, stillness, and serenity of this Advent season bring peace and fulfillment to your hearts and homes; and the blessing of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you now and always. **Amen.**

The Dismissal:

Presider: People of St. Stephen's, what does God call us to do?

**People: We are called to love and serve.**

Presider: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Closing Song/Hymn "Hark! The Glad Sound!"

#72

Postlude: "Gavotte", by J. S. Bach, arr Lani Smith

