

ADVENT 2022



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church THE 3RD 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.

Sunday - 11 December 11am, 2022

Prelude: "*Hark the Herald Angels Sing*", music Mendelssohn, arr Doreen Oberg

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Allison Cornell

Opening Song/Hymn — O Come, O Come Emmanuel Verses 5&6 #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

(A) Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre-prepare the way of the Lord, and

(B)

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

(D)

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Prepare the way of the Lord'. It is written in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The score is divided into four measures labeled (A), (B), (C), and (D). Measure (A) starts with a repeat sign and ends with a double bar line. Measure (B) continues the melody. Measure (C) starts with a repeat sign and ends with a double bar line. Measure (D) continues the melody. The lyrics are: '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-'

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

First Reading : Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the Lord,
the majesty of our God.
Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you."
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;

they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk
there.
And the ransomed of the Lord shall re-
turn,
and come to Zion with singing;

everlasting joy shall be upon their
heads;
they shall obtain joy and glad-
ness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

Psalm 146:4-9 *(Read in unison)*

**4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! *
whose hope is in the Lord their God;**

**5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; *
who keeps his promise for ever;**

**6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, *
and food to those who hunger.**

**7 The Lord sets the prisoners free;
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; *
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;**

**8 The Lord loves the righteous;
the Lord cares for the stranger; *
he sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the wicked.**

**9 The Lord shall reign for ever, *
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Hallelujah!**

Second Reading: from the Book of James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

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 (11:2-11)

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’

“Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

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 Anglican Church of Kenya***

*In the Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for **St. Michael's, in Coolidge**
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 “Come thou long expected Jesus“

#66

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

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).

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 treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the notes. The key signature has four flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat, D-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and a steady bass line.

Communion Music *“Now the Silence, Now the Peace”*

#333

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 *"Day by Day!"*

Sung 3 times

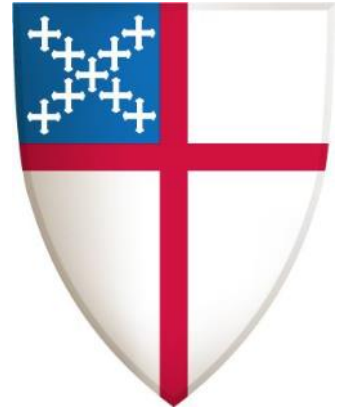
#54

Postlude: *"Goodwill"*, by Doreen Oberg

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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

Name _____
(first) (Mid.) (Last)

Hm: _____ Cell _____

Email: _____ Anv. Date _____

Adrs: _____
BrthDate _____

City, St., Zip: _____, _____, _____