

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



**CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES**  
Saturday 5pm -24 December and Sunday 10am 25 December, 2022

Prelude Music: "Panis Angelicus", by Cesar Franck arr Martha Powell Setchell

**Welcome and Announcements - The Rev. Allison Cornell**



Opening Hymns: —

**Christmas Eve** - 'Christmas Carol Medley' *See Insert for Carols and verses*

**Christmas Day** - "Angels from the realms of glory" #93

## **The Greeting**

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

**People** **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. 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: Hymnal 1982 #96 Angels we have heard on high

## **The Collect of the Day**

Presider *The Lord be with you.*

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

Presider *Let us pray.*

**All:** **O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

**The Lessons from Scripture** (*please be seated for the lessons*)

**First Reading from the book of Isaiah (9:2-3,6):**

**The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness--  
on them light has shined.  
You have multiplied the nation,  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder...**

**For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders;  
and he is named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

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

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 96:1-9**

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song; \*  
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.**
- 2 Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; \*  
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.**
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations \*  
and his wonders among all peoples.**
- 4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; \*  
he is more to be feared than all gods.**
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; \*  
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.**
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! \*  
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!**
- 7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; \*  
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.**
- 8 Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; \*  
bring offerings and come into his courts.**
- 9 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; \*  
let the whole earth tremble before him.**

**Second Reading** from the Epistle to Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

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

**People:** Thanks be to God.

## **Gospel Reading Luke (2:1-14-20) KJV**

**Reader:** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:). To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, "Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us."

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

**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: *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 Your 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, conflict, 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.*

Offertory Music: *"Away in a Manger"*

**#101**

# The Holy Communion

## The Great Thanksgiving

Rite II Prayer B BCP p. 367

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.**

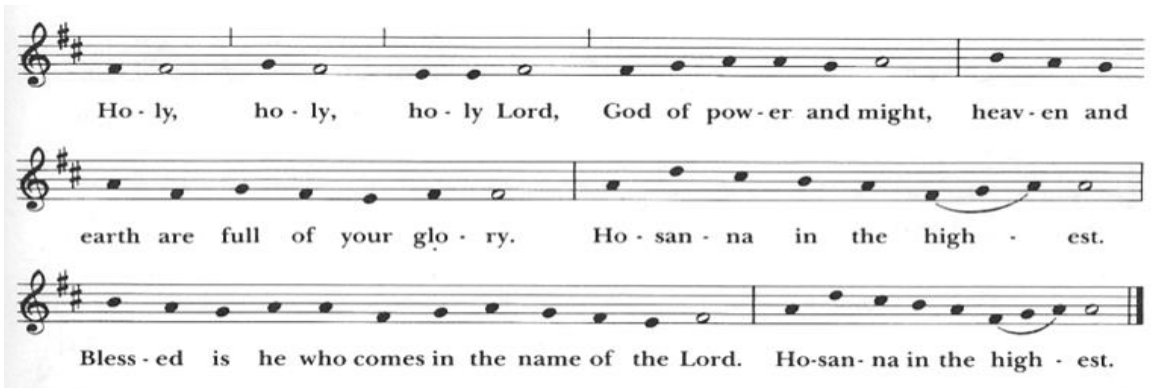
*Presider*

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 you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son to be born for us, who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother, so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin and receive power to become your children.

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 S124**



The image shows a musical score for the Sanctus. It consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en and". The second staff contains: "earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The third staff contains: "Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with quarter and eighth notes.

*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 our savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

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.**

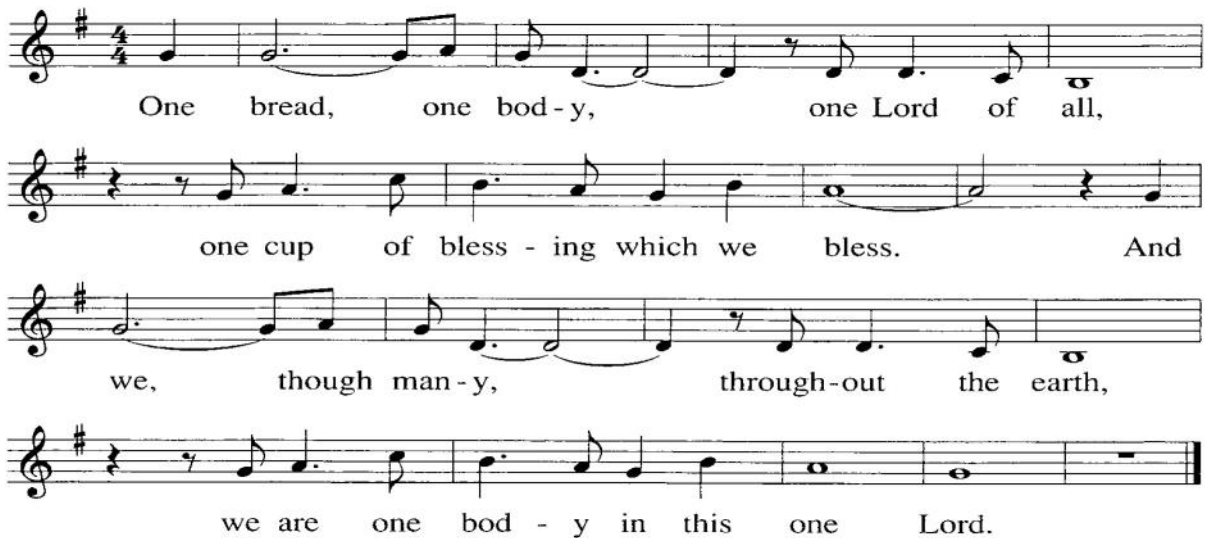
**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**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 Gather Hymnal 813 Refrain only:*



One bread, one bod - y, one Lord of all,  
one cup of bless - ing which we bless. And  
we, though man - y, through-out the earth,  
we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

## **Invitation to Communion:**

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

*(In this church, everyone is welcome to receive the bread and wine of Holy Communion. Gluten free bread and real wine are used. 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).*

**Communion Music** - *wait for all to receive communion and then sing:*

Christmas Eve - “*Silent Night, Holy Night*”

#111

Christmas Day - “*Once in David's Royal City*” vs 1-3

#102

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

Presider: Let us pray: *Presider and People*

**Lord Jesus Christ, by your incarnation you united things earthly and things heavenly. Fill us with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill, that we may join the heavenly host in singing praises to your glory; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

*The Presider says*

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.**

## **Closing Hymn**

Christmas Eve Dec 24th — “*O Little Town of Bethlehem*”

#79

Christmas Day Dec 25th — “*Good Christian Friends Rejoice*”

#107

## **Dismissal**

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

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

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

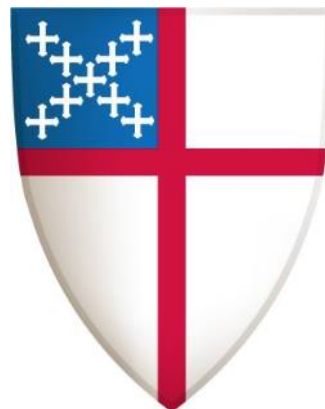
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, (Alleluia!)**

Postlude: “*Go, Tell It On The Mountain*”, based on traditional spiritual,  
arr John Purifoy

*Notice: All church activities may be internet streamed, video recorded, and photographed for church uses. Entry on to the church campus or in to any church building constitutes consent to be streamed, videotaped, or photographed for church purposes.*



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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: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_