

**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church**  
**THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**  
**Morning Prayer**



Alleluia

*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, 19 February 2023 11am

**Prelude:** “*Rejoice, Ye Pure In Heart*”, tune from Marion, arr. Colin Curtis

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Opening Hymn/Song:** “*Praise, my soul, the king of heaven*” **#410**

**Opening Sentences** (*Please stand as you are able*)

Leader: The hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him.

**Confession of Sin**

Leader: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

(*Short Silence may be kept.*)

**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.**

Leader: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

### **The Invitatory and Psalter**

Leader: Lord, open our lips.

People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

**All: 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.**

*Leader chooses either the Venite or the Jubilate and invites the people to read along aloud*

### **Venite**

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!

**OR**

### **Jubilate**

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*  
serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.  
Know this: The Lord himself is God; \*  
he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people  
and the sheep of his pasture.  
Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; \*  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.  
For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; \*  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

**The Lessons** (*Please be seated*)

**Psalm 99**

- 1 The Lord is King;  
let the people tremble; \*  
he is enthroned upon the cherubim;  
let the earth shake.**
- 2 The Lord is great in Zion; \*  
he is high above all peoples.**
- 3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; \*  
he is the Holy One.**
- 4 "O mighty King, lover of justice,  
you have established equity; \*  
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."**
- 5 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God  
and fall down before his footstool; \*  
he is the Holy One.**
- 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests,  
and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, \*  
they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.**

- 7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; \*  
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.**
- 8 O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; \*  
you were a God who forgave them,  
yet punished them for their evil deeds.**
- 9 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God  
and worship him upon his holy hill; \*  
for the Lord our God is the Holy One.**

### **First Lesson: A Reading from the Book of Exodus (24:12-18)**

The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.”

So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

### **Second Lesson: A Reading from Peter’s Second Letter: (2 Peter 1:16-21)**

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns

and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord  
People: **Thanks be to God**

Sequence/Gospel Hymn: *"O Love of God how strong and true"* #455

**Gospel Lesson:**

Reader: The holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew  
(Matthew 17:1-9)

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

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white.

Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord  
People: **Thanks be to God**

*Reflection on readings / homily (optional)*

## **The Apostles Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **The Prayers**

**Leader        The Lord be with you.**

**People        And also with you.**

**Leader        Let us pray.**

**O God, who before the passion of your only begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **The Suffrages (B)**

**V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;**

**R. Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

**V. Day by day we bless you;**

**R. We praise your name for ever.**

**V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;**

**R. Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.**

**V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;**

**R. For we put our trust in you.**

**V. In you, Lord, is our hope;**

**R. And we shall never hope in vain.**

*Collect for the Renewal of Life*

Leader: O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Other Intercessions and Thanksgivings:  
Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing, Travel, Gratitude

Prayer of General Thanksgiving

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.**

**We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

**And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

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

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

Leader: Let us bless the Lord.

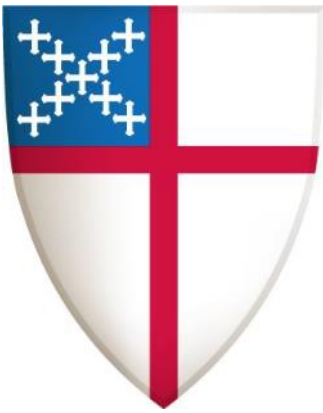
**People: Thanks be to God.**

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all for evermore.  
**Amen.**

**Closing Hymn**     *"Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones"*

**#618**

**Postlude:** *"Round of Alleluia"*, by Doreen J Oberg



# ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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