



LENT

A SEASON OF REFLECTION,
RENEWAL, AND PREPARATION

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

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Wednesday Mar 15, 9:30-am (Wednesday in the Third week in Lent)

Welcome and Announcements

Rev Allison Cornell

Entrance Rites (*The people stand as they are able.*)

Opening Acclamation:

Presider Rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment.

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God...

All: Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

Presider: The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison / Lord, have mercy - Richard Proulx



The image shows a musical score for a Kyrie Eleison. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, with two verses: '1,3. Lord have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy up - on us.' and '2. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy up - on us.'

Salutation

Presider: O Lord, open thou our lips.

People: **And our mouths shall show forth thy 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.

Psalm for today: Psalm 78:1-6 *(Said in unison)*

1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *

incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *

I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.

3 That which we have heard and known,

and what our forefathers have told us, *

we will not hide from their children.

4 We will recount to generations to come

the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, *

and the wonderful works he has done.

5 He gave his decrees to Jacob

and established a law for Israel, *

which he commanded them to teach their children;

6 That the generations to come might know,

and the children yet unborn; *

that they in their turn might tell it to their children;

**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.**

The Lessons – *(please be seated)*

The Lesson: A Reading from Deuteronomy (4:1–2,5–9)

Moses said: So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you.

See, just as the Lord my God has charged me, I now teach you statutes and ordinances for you to observe in the land that you are about to enter and occupy. You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

Reader: *The word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Matthew (5:17-19)

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus said, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

All: 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.

Prayers of the People

Leader The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Leader Let us pray.

V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

R. And grant us thy salvation.

V. Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

R. And make thy chosen people joyful.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in thee can we live in safety.

V. Lord, keep this nation under thy care;

R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

V. Let thy way be known upon earth;

R. Thy saving health among all nations.

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Leader: In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for *The Diocese of Riverina –
The Anglican Church of Australia (New South Wales Province)*

People: Lord, be with them.

Leader: In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for *St. Peter's, in Litchfield
Park*

People: Lord, be with them

Leader: We pray for the first peoples of this land, especially the Apache and Tahona Odum peoples who called this area home.

People: **For greater understanding and cooperation between us towards the common good for all.**

Collect Of the Day

Presider: Give ear to our prayers, O Lord, and direct the way of your servants in safety under your protection, that, amid all the changes of our earthly pilgrimage, we may be guarded by your mighty aid; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Exchange of the Peace

Presider May the peace of Christ be always with you

All **And also with you.**

The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Presider: Offer to God a sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

Doxology (Hymn #380 v. 3)

All: **♪ 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. ♪**

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider *The Lord be with you.*

People **And with thy spirit**

Presider *Lift up your hearts.*

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Presider *Let us give thanks unto our Lord our God.*

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

Presider

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Presider and People: Hymnal #S128

**♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. ♪**

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify (+), with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

All: And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, (+) and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

**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

(Presider breaks the consecrated bread in silence)

Fraction Anthem Hymnal 1982

#S161

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

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.

Prayers for:

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing, Travelers and Gratitude

Post Communion Prayer

Presider: Let us pray:

All: Almighty and ever-living God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom.

And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Benediction:

Presider: The peace which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, and the blessing of God Almighty: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, be amongst you , and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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 name of Christ

People Thanks be to God.

