Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church



The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

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 February 5pm & Sunday, 4 February 10am 2024



Prelude Music: "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing", from tune Nettleton arr Doreen Oberg Welcome and Announcements -

The Greeting

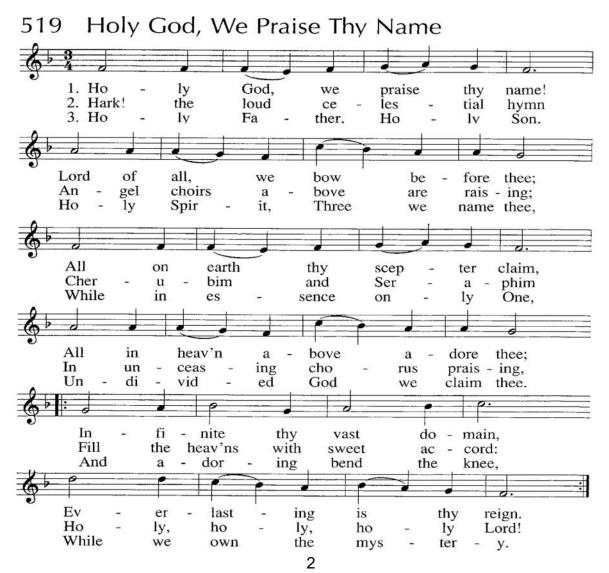
Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Presider "Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of rising."—Isaiah 60: 3.

Gloria:

The Collect of the Day



PresiderThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

All: Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of 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 Song (4:9 -15):

You have taken my heart, my sister, my bride, you have taken my heart with a glance of your eyes, with a single jewel of your necklace. How beautiful is your love, my sister, my bride. How much better is your love than wine, and the fragrance of your oils than every spice. Nectar drops from your lips, my bride; honey and milk are under your tongue; the fragrance of your garments is like the fragrance of Lebanon. A garden locked is my sister, my bride, a garden locked, a fountain sealed. Your limbs are an orchard of pomegranates with luscious fruits, henna with nard. Nard and saffron, calamus and cinnamon, with all kinds of frankincense trees, myrrh and aloes, with all superior spices; a garden fountain, a well of living water, and flowing streams from Lebanon.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 45:6 - 10

- 6 Your God-given throne is everlasting; a scepter of integrity is your royal scepter.
- 7 You love righteousness and hate wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness more than your companions.
- 8 Myrrh and aloes and cassia scent all your garments; from ivory palaces stringed instruments bring you joy.
- 9 Royal daughters are your treasures; the consort stands at your right hand in gold of Ophir.
- 10 Hear daughter, consider and incline your ear: Forget your people and the house of your mother and father.

Second Reading: from the Epistle of 1 Corinthians (9: 1-10):

Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Redeemer? Are you not my work in the Savior? If I am not an apostle to others, surely, I am to you, for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Messiah.

This is my defense to those who examine me. Do we not have the right to our food and drink? Do we not have the right to travel with a sister, a wife, as do the other apostles and the brothers of the Messiah and Cephas? Or is it only I and Barnabas who have no right to not work? Who soldiers and pays their own expenses? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat any of its fruit? Or who shepherds a flock and does not taste any of the milk of the flock?

Do I say this as a human person? Does not the law also say the same? For it is written in the teaching of Moses, "You shall not muzzle a threshing ox." Is it for oxen that God cares? Or does God not, by all means, speak for our sake? It was indeed written for our sake, for the one who must plow should plow in hope and whoever threshes should thresh in hope of partaking.

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

Gospel Reading

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (2:1-12):People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward."

So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now."

Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord **People: Praise to you, Lord Christ**

Sermon (Dorothy Gutwein)

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 is made manifest in Jesus Christ. As the prophet Isaiah rang out, "Arise, shine; for your light has come";
- People: Empower your Church, O God, to ring out the Good News of the Light of your son Jesus, which pierces even the deepest darkness.
- Leader: As a star rose high into the nighttime sky to draw the nations to the Christ-child;
- People: send your blessing, O God, on this nation, and every nation, and draw the whole world to your peace and truth.
- Leader: As John the Baptist guided throngs of people to the edge of the wilderness and baptized Jesus in the River Jordan,
- People: we pray that you would guide our country and our leaders to the ways of justice and righteousness.
- Leader: Like the Magi who traveled from afar to bring gifts and celebrate the Savior's birth;

People: we pray for this community, and for those who celebrate their own birthdays and anniversaries and other happy occasions.

- Leader: As Jesus climbed the mountaintop, and proclaimed blessings on the people of the world;
- People: we pray for healing of the sick and comfort for the distressed, relief for the poor, and good news for the desperate.
- Leader: As Jesus called his disciples to leave their nets and boats, everything of their former life, and follow him;
- People: we pray for those we love and who have answered your call to follow Jesus into your Heavenly Kingdom. Give them your peace.
- Leader: In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for **The Diocese of Northern California – The Episcopal Church.** In the diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for **St. John's ,in Bisbee**. With honor and respect we remember the first peoples of this land, especially the Apache and Tohono O'odham, who call this area home.

People: May God bless and keep them healthy and protected.

Presider: Lord Jesus, Light of the World, hear our prayers, and make us reflections of your Light, that the places of darkness in our world would be pierced by your Light, and that all nations would be drawn to you and be overwhelmed with joy. **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: *"They'll know we are Christians by our love"* **G#728**

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Rite II Prayer B BCP p. 367

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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 in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

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 #S-125

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might Heaven and earth are full of your glory Hosana in the highest, Hosana in the highest Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord Hosana in the highest, Hosana in the highest

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:

The 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.

Fraction: The Breaking of the Bread

(In silence the Presider breaks the bread) Fraction Anthem

H1982 # S-155

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; Therefore, let us keep the feast Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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. If you prefer to dip/intinct your bread into the wine, please come to the left altar rail. If you prefer to take a sip of wine from the cup, please come to the right altar rail. If you prefer to receive a priest blessing instead of the bread and wine, come to either rail and cross your arms over your chest.

Communion Music -

"Soon and Very Soon We Are Going to See the King"

G#758

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing Prayer, Travelers, Gratitudes

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 "Brethren We Have Met together" #423

Dismissal

Deacon:Let us go forth in the peace and spirit of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!PeopleThanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, (Alleluia!)

Postlude:

"Brethren We Have Met together", from Southern Harmony arr Doreen Oberg

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.



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.



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