

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.



Wednesday, 28 February 9:30am 2024

The first week of Lent

Welcome and Announcements -

The Rev. Allison Cornell

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

Salutation

Presider: Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins

People: **His mercy endureth forever**

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.

Confession:

Deacon: 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 - Steve Merkel

**Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy on me
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy on me**

The Lessons – *(please be seated)*

Psalm for today: Psalm 31:9–16

**9 Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble; *
my eye is consumed with sorrow,
and also my throat and my belly.**

**10 For my life is wasted with grief,
and my years with sighing; *
my strength fails me because of affliction,
and my bones are consumed.**

**11 I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors,
a dismay to those of my acquaintance; *
when they see me in the street they avoid me.**

**12 I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; *
I am as useless as a broken pot.**

**13 For I have heard the whispering of the crowd;
fear is all around; *
they put their heads together against me;
they plot to take my life.**

**14 But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord. *
I have said, "You are my God.**

**15 My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.**

**16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me."**

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.

First Lesson: A Reading from Jeremiah (18:1–11,18–20):

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: “Come, go down to the potter’s house, and there I will let you hear my words.” So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

Then the word of the Lord came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the Lord. Just like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the Lord: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings. Then they said, “Come, let us make plots against Jeremiah—for instruction shall not perish from the priest, nor counsel from the wise, nor the word from the prophet. Come, let us bring charges against him, and let us not heed any of his words.”

Give heed to me, O Lord,
and listen to what my adversaries say!

Is evil a recompense for good?
Yet they have dug a pit for my life.

Remember how I stood before you
to speak good for them,
to turn away your wrath from them.

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 (20:17–28):

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord

While Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside by themselves, and said to them on the way, “See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles to be

mocked and flogged and crucified; and on the third day he will be raised.”

Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to him with her sons, and kneeling before him, she asked a favor of him. And he said to her, “What do you want?” She said to him, “Declare that these two sons of mine will sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom.” But Jesus answered, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?” They said to him, “We are able.” He said to them, “You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left, this is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.”

When the ten heard it, they were angry with the two brothers. But Jesus called them to him and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise be to thee, O 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 Anglican Church of Tanzania.**

People: Lord, be with them.

Leader: In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for **St. Matthew's, in Chandler.**

People: Lord, be with them

Leader: We pray for the first peoples of this land, especially the Apache and Tahono O'Odham 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: **O God, you so loved the world that you gave your only-begotten Son to reconcile earth with heaven: Grant that we, loving you above all things, may love our friends in you, and our enemies for your sake; 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.

Offertory:

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

Doxology

**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

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.**

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: **SANTUS**

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of Power and Might
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory
Hosana in the highest**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosana in the highest Hosana 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, 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;

All: 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;

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 #S163

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us
Lamb of God, you take away 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: O God, who hast made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and didst send thy blessed Son to preach to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after thee and find thee; bring the nations into thy fold; pour out thy spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of thy kingdom; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Benediction:

Presider: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with you all forever more. **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.