

Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church



## The Fourth Sunday of Lent

*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, 9 March 5pm & Sunday, 10 March 10am 2024



Prelude Music: "Song from The Creuse" by Cesar Franck

Welcome and Announcements -

The Rev. Allison Cornell

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

Opening Hymn *"Hail to the Lords Anointed"*

**#616 vs 1-3**

## 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 mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy on me.

Lord have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy on — me.

**The Lessons – *(please be seated)***  
**Psalm for today: Psalm 136: 1-16**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>1 Give thanks to the FOUNT OF LIFE, who is good, for her faithful love is everlasting.</b>      | <b>9 the moon and stars to govern the night, for her faithful love is everlasting;</b>                       |
| <b>2 Give thanks to the God of gods, for her faithful love is everlasting.</b>                     | <b>10 who struck Egypt through their firstborn daughters and sons, for her faithful love is everlasting;</b> |
| <b>3 Give thanks to the Majesty of Majesties, for her faithful love is everlasting;</b>            | <b>11 and brought Israel out from among them, for her faithful love is everlasting;</b>                      |
| <b>4 who alone does great wonders, for her faithful love is everlasting;</b>                       | <b>12 with a strong hand and an outstretched arm, for her faithful love is everlasting;</b>                  |
| <b>5 who through insight made the heavens, for her faithful love is everlasting;</b>               | <b>13 who cut the Red Sea in two, for her faithful love is everlasting;</b>                                  |
| <b>6 to the one who spread out the land upon the waters, for her faithful love is everlasting;</b> | <b>14 and made Israel pass over through the midst of it, for her faithful love is everlasting;</b>           |
| <b>7 to the one who made the great lights, for her faithful love is everlasting;</b>               | <b>15 but churned Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea, for her faithful love is everlasting;</b>             |
| <b>8 the sun to govern the day, for her faithful love is everlasting;</b>                          | <b>16 who walked her people through the wilderness,</b>  |

**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 Song of Songs (4: 7-16):**

To a woman:

All of you is beautiful, my beloved companion; there is no flaw in you. With me! From Lebanon, my bride, come with me; come with me from Lebanon. Depart from the peak of Amana, from the peak of Senir and Hermon, from the dens of lions, from the mountains of leopards.

My heart is yours, my sister, my bride, my heart is yours with just one of your eyes, with one 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 more than every spice! Il Honied sweetness drips from your lips, my bride; honey and milk are under your tongue; the scent of your garments is like the scent of Lebanon.

A garden locked is my sister, my bride, a garden locked, a fountain sealed. Your limbs are an orchard of pomegranates with all choicest fruits: henna with nard, nard and saffron, sweet cane and cinnamon, with every kind of frankincense tree, myrrh and aloes, with all the best spices: A garden spring, a well of living water, streaming from Lebanon.

To a woman's beloved:

Awake, Zaphon, northern wind, and come, Teman, southern wind! Blow upon my garden that its spice-scent might flow. Let my beloved come to their garden and partake of its choicest fruits

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

## **Second Lesson: A Reading from 1 John (4:7-12):**

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love, does not know God, for God is love. In this way God's love was revealed among us: God sent God's only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent God's own Son to be the means of forgiveness for our sins. Beloved, if God loves us thus, we ought also love one another. God no one has ever seen. Yet if we love one another, God lives in us, and God's love is made complete in us.

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 (3:11-17):**

**People: Glory be to thee, O Lord**

""Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and we testify to what we have seen; yet you all do not receive our testimony. If I have told you all about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you all believe if I tell you about heavenly things? Now then, no one has ascended into the heavens except the one who descended from the heavens, the Son of Woman. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Woman be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that God gave God's only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

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 Episcopal Church.**

**People: Lord, be with them.**

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

**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: Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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.

Offertory Hymn: “*King of Glory, King of Peace*”

**#382**

### 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 *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,

# 207 Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and

The first system of music consists of a vocal line and a bass line. The vocal line begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and' are written below the notes. The bass line starts with a bass clef and provides harmonic support with chords and single notes.

might, heav'n and earth are filled with your glo - ry: Ho -

The second system continues the vocal and bass lines. The lyrics 'might, heav'n and earth are filled with your glo - ry: Ho -' are written below the notes. The musical notation includes various note values and rests, with the bass line providing a steady accompaniment.

san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who comes

The third system continues the vocal and bass lines. The lyrics 'san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who comes' are written below the notes. The musical notation includes various note values and rests, with the bass line providing a steady accompaniment.

in the name of the Lord; ho - san - na in the

The fourth system continues the vocal and bass lines. The lyrics 'in the name of the Lord; ho - san - na in the' are written below the notes. The musical notation includes various note values and rests, with the bass line providing a steady accompaniment.

high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The fifth system concludes the vocal and bass lines. The lyrics 'high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' are written below the notes. The musical notation includes various note values and rests, with the bass line providing a steady accompaniment.



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.

Communion Hymn: “ *What wondrous love is this*” #439

*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.**

Closing Hymn: *“O God our help in ages past”*

**G#588**

## 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.**

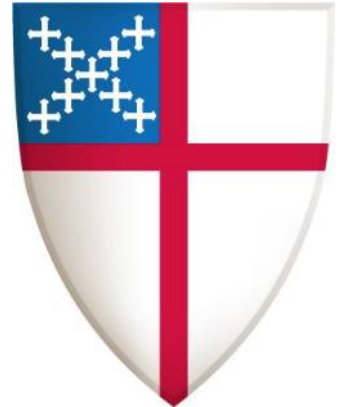
Postlude: *“He Is The Way, tune from New Dance”*, by Richard Wetzel

*Sundays join us for refreshments and fellowship in the Parish Hall*

*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.



<input type="checkbox"/> Info Update	Giving Envelopes	<input type="checkbox"/> Mail News Letter	<input type="checkbox"/>
Name _____	(first)	(Mid.)	(Last)
Hm: _____	Cell _____		
Email: _____		Anv. Date _____	
Adrs: _____		BrthDate _____	
City, St., Zip: _____			