

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.

EVENING PRAYER

SATURDAY OCTOBER 19TH 2024 5PM

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Sentence: *(Please stand as you are able)*

Leader: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. *(Philippians 1:2)*

Confession of Sin

Leader: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Silence may be kept for a moment.

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 the grace of 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: O God, make speed to save us.

People **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

**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: The Holy One is in our midst: O come let us worship.

O Gracious Light (*for the Gloria*): (*in unison*)

O gracious light,

pure brightness of the ever-living Father in heaven,

O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,

and our eyes behold the vesper light,

we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,

O Son of God, O Giver of Life,

and to be glorified through all the worlds.

The Lessons (*Please be seated*)

First Lesson: A Reading from Isaiah 53:4-12

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the

transgression of my people. They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain.

When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the Lord shall prosper. Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 91:9-16

**9 Because you have made the Lord your refuge, *
and the Most High your habitation,**

**10 There shall no evil happen to you, *
neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.**

**11 For he shall give his angels charge over you, *
to keep you in all your ways.**

**12 They shall bear you in their hands, *
lest you dash your foot against a stone.**

**13 You shall tread upon the lion and adder; *
you shall trample the young lion
and the serpent under your feet.**

**14 Because he is bound to me in love,
therefore will I deliver him; *
I will protect him, because he knows my Name.**

**15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; *
I am with him in trouble;
I will rescue him and bring him to honor.**

**16 With long life will I satisfy him, *
and show him my salvation.**

Second Lesson: A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

(5:1-10):

Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not presume to take this honor, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;
as he says also in another place,
“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Gospel Lesson:

Reader: The holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Mark**

(10:35-45):

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

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Jesus and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.”

And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.”

But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?”

They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be

baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

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.

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Sufferages (A)

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.

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

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

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

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

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. Your 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.

V. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for *Saint Barnabas on the Desert, in Scottsdale.*

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for *The Diocese of Kano – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)*

We pray also for the first peoples of this land especially the Apache and the Tohono O’Odom peoples who call this area their home.

R. The Lord bless and keep them.

V. During the current election cycle we also pray, O God, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light rises up in the darkness for the godly: Grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what you would have us do,

R. that the Spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in your light we may see light, and in your direct path may not stumble;

V. Almighty God, you declare your glory and show forth your handiwork in the heavens and on earth: Deliver us in our various occupations from service of self alone,

R. that we may do the work you give us to do in truth and beauty and for the common good

V. For the sake of him who came among us as one who serves, your son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

R. Amen

Other Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing, Travel, Gratitude

(The Leader invites the people to offer their prayers silently or aloud)

A Collect for Evening

Leader: Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. **Amen.**

Prayer of St. Chrysostom: *(in Unison)*

Leader: Let us pray:

All: Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

Dismissal

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 evermore.
Amen.

