



WELCOME TO 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.

FIRST ADVENT

5 pm Saturday 30 Nov & 10 am Sunday, 2 Dec 2024



Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

1

Rev. Allison Cornell

Opening Hymn & Wreath Lighting: "O Come O Come Emmanuel" #56

(People stand as they are able)

Greeting

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

People: **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

All: **Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Word of God *(please be seated for the lessons)*

First Reading : Jeremiah 33:14-16:

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25:1-9

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**
- 3 Show me your ways, O Lord, *
and teach me your paths.**
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.**
- 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.**
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.**
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.**
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.**
- 9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Luke (21:25-36):

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke:

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ

SERMON

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: Show us your mercy, O Lord;

All: And grant us your salvation.

Leader: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

All: Let your people sing with joy.

Leader: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world

All: For only in you can we live in safety.

Leader: Lord keep this nation under your care;

All: And guide us in the way of justice and truth

Leader: Let your way be known upon Earth;

All: Your saving health among all nations.

Leader: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

All: Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Leader: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

All: And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Leader: In the Anglican cycle of prayer we pray for _____

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for _____

We acknowledge and pay respect to the first peoples of this land especially the Apache and Tohono O'Odum who call this area their home.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all your saints,

All: We commend these we pray for, ourselves, and the whole creation to your unfailing love. Amen.

Confession of Sin

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

(The people stand, sit, or kneel. A short pause may be kept)

**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.**

Absolution

Presider: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **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 signs of peace (peace sign, hugs, handshakes, fist bumps...))

Offertory

Presider: Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name, bring offerings and come into his courts.

Offertory Music: "How bright appears the morning star" **#496**

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Rite II Prayer B BCP p. 372

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.**

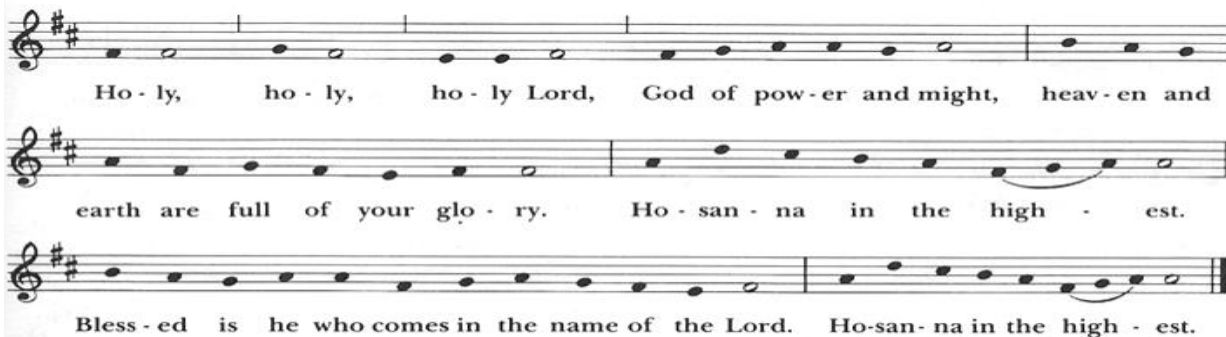
Presider:

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 you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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 H1982 S-124*



The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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 Jesus taught us, we are bold to pray:

Lord's Prayer (Traditional):

*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 (*In silence the Presider breaks the bread*)

Fraction Anthem (recording, Lamb of God by Matt Maher)

Lead Singer:

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Prince of Peace, Emmanuel,
Morning Star, King of Kings, And Lord of Lords:

Lead Singer (Chorus echoing)

1. Lamb of God (Lamb of God)

You Take Away (You Take Away)

The Sins of All (The Sins of All)

The World (The World)

Mi-se-re-re no-bis (Mi-se-re-re no-bis)

2. Bread of Life (Bread of Life)

You Take away (You Take away)

The sins of all (The sins of all)

The world (The world)

Mi-se-re-re no-bis (Mi-se-re-re no-bis)

3. Agnus Dei (Agnus dei)

You take away (You take away)

The sins of all (The sins of all)

The world (The world)

Do-na No-bis Pa-chem (Do-na No-bis Pa-chem)

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.

(In this church, everyone is welcome to receive the bread and wine of Holy Communion. The bread is gluten free and it is real wine. If you prefer to dip/intinct your bread into the wine, please come to the left altar rail. If you prefer to sip the wine from the cup, please come to the right altar rail. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of the bread and wine, come to either rail and cross your arms over your chest and the priest will bless you).

Communion Music: "I want to walk as a child of the light " #490

Birthdays, Anniversary, Healing, Travel and Gratitude sharing

Post Communion Prayer *The people stand as they are able.*

Presider: Let us pray:
Presider and People

**Almighty and ever-living God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.**

**And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

Blessing/Benediction:

Presider: May the simplicity, stillness, and serenity of this Advent season bring peace and fulfillment to your hearts and homes; and the blessing of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you now and always. **Amen.**

Closing Song/Hymn: "People Look"

G#337

East

The Dismissal:

Deacon: People of St. Stephen's, what does God call us to do?

People: We are called to love and serve.

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! Alleluia, alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Join us following the Sunday morning worship for a time of fellowship in the Parish Hall

