

Saint Stephen's welcomes everyone who wishes to follow Christ, worship together, grow in faith and share God's love through service to others. THE LAST SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT & MEMORIAL FOR ALAN BOLE 5pm Saturday, 23 November 2024



Welcome and Announcements

Rev Allison Cornell

The people stand as they are able.

The Psalmist declares, "What a rich harvest your goodness provides! Wherever you go there is plenty. The pastures are filled with flocks; the hillsides are full of joy. The fields are covered with sheep; the valleys are full of wheat. Everything shouts and sings for joy. (Psalm 65: 11-13)

Presider: Blessed be the One who creates all things. **People: The Holy One's love is new every morning.**

Invitatory Collect: A Ute Prayer

All: Earth teach me freedom as the eagle which soars in the sky. Earth teach me regeneration as the seed which rises in the spring. Earth teach me to forget myself as melted snow forgets its life. Earth teach me to remember kindness as dry fields weep for rain. Amen

Gloria: Venite (in unison)

Come, let us sing to the Lord; * let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving * and raise a loud shout to him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God, * and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the caverns of the earth, * and the heights of the hills are his also. The sea is his, for he made it, * and his hands have molded the dry land. Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, * and kneel before the Lord our Maker. For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. * Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice! Amen.

Presider: God our Creator be with you. **People:** And also with you. Presider: Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day:

All: Almighty God, Lord of Heaven and Earth: We humbly pray that your gracious providence may give and preserve to our use the harvests of the land and of the seas, and may prosper all who labor to gather the, that we, who are constantly receiving good things from your hand, may always give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Lessons: (Please be seated for the reading of the lessons)

First Lesson: Daniel (7:9-10, 13-14):

As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne, his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire. A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence.

A thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgment, and the books were opened.

As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

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

Psalm: Psalm 23 (Coverdale Translation)

The Lord is my shepherd, therefore can I lack nothing. He shall feed me in a green pasture, and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort. He shall convert my soul, and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness for his names sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me: thy rod and thy staff comfort me. Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me: thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full. But thy loving kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Second Lesson: The Book of Revelation (1:4b-8):

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

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

Gospel Lesson:

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (18:33-37):

People: Glory to you Lord Christ.

Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?"

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

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

Homily/Eulogy

The Apostles' Creed: (Please stand as you are able) 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. Leader: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Leader: Almighty God, who has knit together your people in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Grant, to your whole Church in paradise and on earth, your light and your peace.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Grant that Alan and all who have been baptized into Christ's death and Resurrection may rise to newness of life, and pass with Christ to their joyful resurrection.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who still walk by faith, that your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from any and all our sins, and serve your love with a quiet mind.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in your fatherly care, that, casting all their grief on you, they may know the consolation of your love.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Give courage and faith to those who are sad and disconsolate, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead, and comfort of a reasonable and holy hope, in the expectation of an eternal life with those they love.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Presider: Gracious God, you only are immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when you created me, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Offertory

Presider: Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

Doxology: (Peoples' offerings are brought to the altar)

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.

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving - New Zealand Book of Common Prayer

Presider	The Spirit of God be with you.
People	And also with you.
Presider	Lift your hearts to heaven
People	Where Christ in glory reigns.
Presider	Let us give thanks to God.
People	It is right to offer thanks and praise

Presider

It is right indeed to give you thanks most loving God, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, the first born from the dead, the pioneer of our salvation, who is with us always, one of us, yet from the heart of God.

For with your whole created universe, we praise you for your unfailing gift of life. We thank you that you made us in your image and stay with us even when we turn from you to sin.

God's love is shown to us: in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

In that love, dear God, righteous and strong to save, you came among us in Jesus Christ, our crucified and living Lord.

You make all things new. In Christ's suffering and cross you reveal your glory and reconcile all peoples to yourself, the true and living God. Through Christ you gather us, new-born in your Spirit, a people after your own heart. We entrust ourselves to you and your mercy, for you alone judge all people, living and departed.

Now is the acceptable time, now is the day of salvation.

Therefore with saints and martyrs, apostles and prophets, with all the redeemed, joyfully we praise you and say: Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy: God of mercy, giver of life; earth and sea and sky and all that lives, declare your presence and your glory.

The Presider continues

All glory to you, Giver of life sufficient and full for all creation. Accept our praises, living God, for Jesus Christ, the one perfect offering for the world, who in the night that he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me."

After supper he took the cup; 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, to forgive sin. Do this as often as you drink it to remember me."

Therefore, God of all creation, in the suffering and death of Jesus our redeemer, we meet you in your glory.

We lift up the cup of salvation and call upon your name.

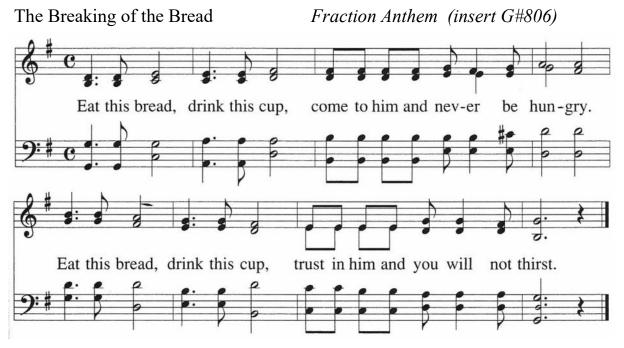
Here and now, with this bread and wine, we celebrate your great acts of liberation, ever present and living in Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come.

Amen! Come Lord Jesus.

May Christ ascended in majesty be our new and living way, our access to you, Father, and source of all new life. In Christ we offer ourselves to do your will. Empower our celebration with your Holy Spirit (+), feed us with your life, fire us with your love, confront us with your justice, and make us one in the body of Christ (+) with all who share your gifts of love.

Through Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Creator God. AMEN. Presider: Let us pray together the Lord's Prayer:

All: 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.



Invitation to Communion:

Presider: Bread and wine; the gifts of God for the people of God.

People: May we who share these gifts be found in Christ and Christ in us.

(All are invited and welcome to come forward and receive communion in this church. We have gluten free bread and real wine. To intinct/dip your bread into the wine, please go to the left altar rail. To sip wine from the cup please come to the right altar rail. If you do not wish to receive the bread and wine, you may cross your arms over your chest and receive a blessing instead.)

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing Prayer, Travelers, Gratitude Sharing

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

Presider Let us Pray

All: Lord of the harvest, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom: by your grace, plant within us a reverence for all that you give us and make us generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Benediction/Blessing:

Presider: God the Creator, who loves us and gave this world to be our home, God the Redeemer, who loves us and by dying and rising again leads the way to freedom, God the Sanctifier, who spreads the divine love in our hearts, God the three in one and one in three, bless you and keep you now and forever. **Amen.**

Closing Song : "Praise and Thanksgiving "

G#754

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 into the world, rejoicing in God's Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, (Alleluia!)





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.

2750 Cardinal Dr. Sierra Vista, AZ 85635 https://ststephensaz.org

https://ststephensaz.org 520-458-4432

	020.000.002	
Rector: Allison Cornell	Deacon	Junior wardens:
Off. Phone: 520-458-4432	Dorothy Gutwein	Pete Criscuolo
Mobile: 562-743-3784	Hm: 520-515-9183	petesacct2014@gmail.com
RevAllison@ststephensaz.org	dottie85635@gmail.com	Cell: 520-234-7687
Parish Administrator	Church Accompanist :	& Timothy Holsonback
Mark Sowards	Doreen Oberg	holsonback@cox.net
	doreenoberg@hotmail.com	520/459-1937
Off. Phone 520-458-4432	Vestry Staff	Treasurer:
Mobile: 408-892-1062	Senior Warden:	Anne Roth
mark.sowards@ststephensaz.org	Jeff Speer	Cell:303/917-8151
Office Fax: 520-458-8237	jeffrey5454speer@gmail	avd.roth@comcast.net
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