

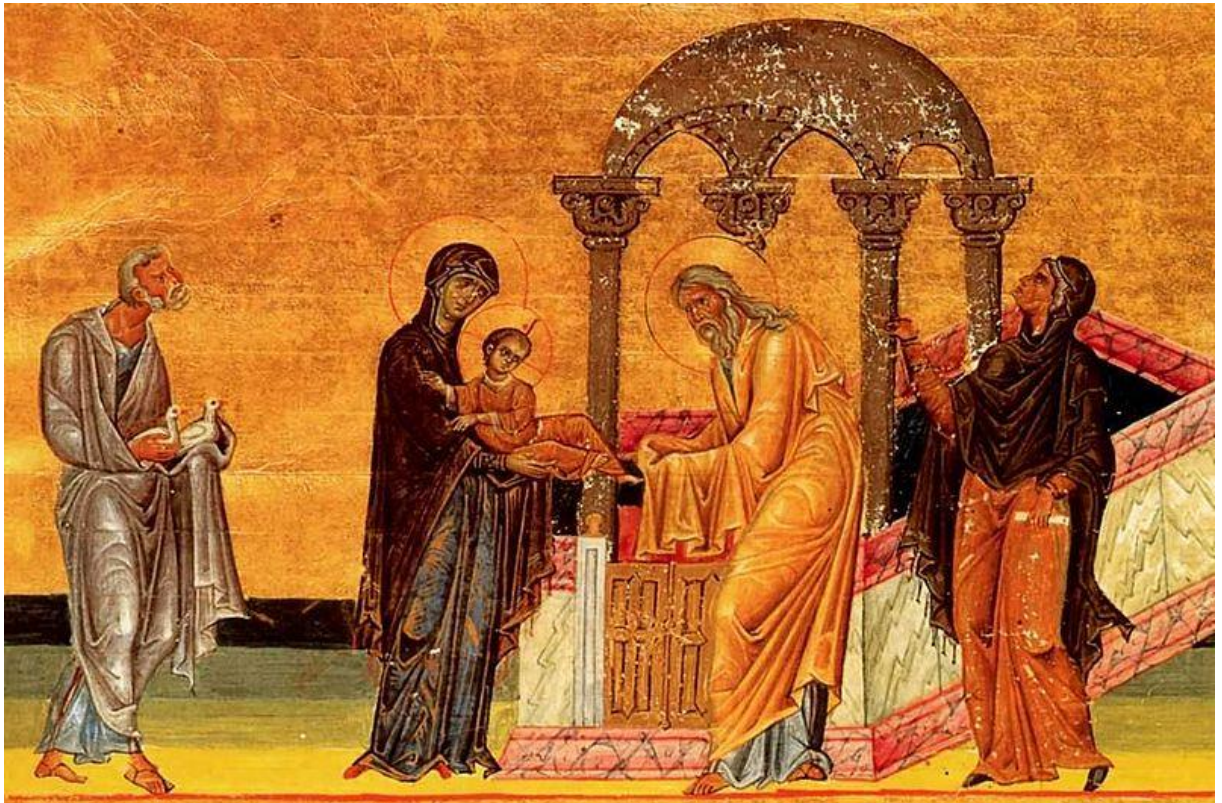


WELCOME TO ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Saint Stephen's welcomes everyone who wishes to follow Christ, worship together, grow in faith and share God's love through service to others.

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD

Saturday, 1 Feb, 5PM



Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Allison Cornell

Entrance Rites

The people stand as they are able.

Opening Acclamation:

Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Gloria:

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Salutation:

Presider: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray

Collect of the Day: *(All, in unison)*

Almighty and ever living God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Word of God: *(please be seated)*

First Lesson: A reading from the book of Malachi (3:1-4):

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm: Psalm 84

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| 1 How dear to me is your dwelling,
O Lord of hosts! * | for the early rains have covered it
with pools of water. |
| My soul has a desire and longing
for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in
the living God. | 6 They will climb from height to
height, * |
| 2 The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she
may lay her young; * | and the God of gods will reveal
himself in Zion. |
| by the side of your altars, O Lord
of hosts, my King and my God. | 7 Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; * |
| 3 Happy are they who dwell in your
house! * | hearken, O God of Jacob. |
| they will always be praising you. | 8 Behold our defender, O God; * |
| 4 Happy are the people whose
strength is in you! * | and look upon the face of your
Anointed. |
| whose hearts are set on the
pilgrims' way. | 9 For one day in your courts is better
than a thousand in my own room, * |
| 5 Those who go through the desolate
valley will find it a place of
springs, * | and to stand at the threshold of
the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the
wicked. |
| | 10 For the Lord God is both sun and
shield; * |
| | he will give grace and glory; |

**11 No good thing will the Lord withhold *
from those who walk with integrity.**

**12 O Lord of hosts, *
happy are they who put their trust in you!**

The Second Lesson: A reading from the book of 1 Hebrews (2:14-18):

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Lector: *The word of the Lord.*

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Lesson: Luke 2:22-40

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

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

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;

for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

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

Sermon

Nicene Creed *(Contemporary Version)* *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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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: I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world;

People: For our Bishops Sean, and Jennifer, for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Leader: Pray for the Church. *Silence*

Leader: I ask your prayers for peace;

People: For goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

Leader: Pray for justice and peace. *Silence*

Leader: I ask your prayers for those who suffer in body, mind or spirit:

People: For the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

Leader: Pray for those in any need or trouble. *Silence*

Leader: I ask your prayers for those who feel God's call in their hearts:

People: For all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

Leader: Pray that they may find and be found by him. *Silence*

Leader: I ask your prayers for the departed

People: For those we love but see no more.

Leader: Pray for those who have died. *Silence*

Leader: In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer pray for *The Diocese of Lomega – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan.*

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for *St. Alban's, in Tucson.*

People: May God bless and guide them.

Leader: We pray for the first peoples of this land, especially the Apache and Tohono O'Odham peoples who call this area home.

People: For greater understanding and cooperation between us towards the common good for all.

Leader: Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

People: May we have grace to glorify Christ in our own day. Amen.

Confession of Sin:

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

The people stand, sit, or kneel.

All: Holy One, we encounter you in our lives and try to follow faithfully, but so often we get lost or turn away. We try to love our neighbors as ourselves, but we frequently fail. We take the wrong path and stray from the ways of your love. Forgive us, Lord, and guide us back to you. Amen.

Absolution:

Presider: God of Love, we return to you, and we accept your grace, we accept your pardon, we accept the gift of a new chance to follow in your pathways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.

The Offertory:

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

Doxology (Hymn #380 v. 3):

**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

EOW 2

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 our thanks and praise.

Presider continues:

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.

You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing (say):

Sanctus: Presider and People:

S#S124

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us.

He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor.

He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.

Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said:

“Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said:

“Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Now gathered at your table:

O God of all creation, remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit (+) upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new Creation (+), the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with St. Stephen and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, forever and ever. **AMEN**

And now as Jesus taught us, we pray: (*Contemporary Lord's Prayer*)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name. Your kingdom come, your will be done On earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, Now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread: (*Presider breaks the consecrated bread in silence*)

Fraction Anthem:

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: These are the gifts of God for the People of God.

People: Christ invites us all to be known and fed here.

(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.)

Prayers for Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing, Travel and Gratitude

Post Communion Prayer:

Presider: Let us pray:

All: Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Benediction:

Presider: God's Blessing be with you, Christ's peace be with you, the Spirit's outpouring be with you, now and always. **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 into the world, rejoicing in God's Spirit.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

Postlude: "*Grateful*", by Mark Hayes

Please join us Sunday morning for refreshments in the Parish Hall

