

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 SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY Saturday, 15 Feb, 5PM & Sunday, 16 Feb, 10am 2025



Prelude: "Fughetta ", by Johann Pachelbel arr by Gerard AlphenaarWelcome and AnnouncementsRev. Allison Cornell

Entrance Rites

The people stand as they are able.

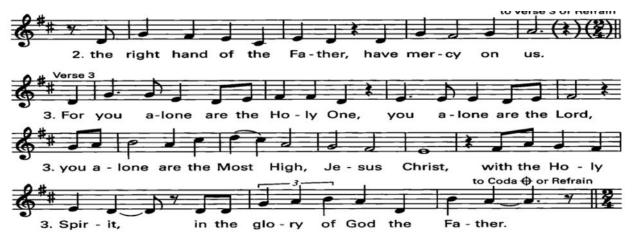
The Opening Hymn: "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" G#721 (please stand as you are able):

Opening Acclamation:

PresiderBlessed be the one, holy, and living God.PeopleGlory to God for ever and ever.

Gloria: See Insert below





Salutation:

Presider: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray

Collect of the Day: (All, in unison)

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of God: (please be seated)

First Lesson: A reading from the book of Jeremiah (17:5-10):

Thus says the Lord:

- Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord.
- They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes.
- They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord.

They shall be like a tree planted by water,

sending out its roots by the stream.
It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.
The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse-who can understand it?
I the Lord test the mind and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

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

The Psalm: Psalm 1

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, * nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord, * and they meditate on his law day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; * everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; * they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, * nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, * but the way of the wicked is doomed.

The Second Lesson: A reading from the book of 1 Corinthians (15:12-20)

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ--whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

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

Gospel Lesson: Luke 6:17-26

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke **People:** Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus came down with the twelve apostles and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor,

for yours is the kingdom of God.

"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

"Blessed are you who weep now,

for you will laugh.

"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets."

"But woe to you who are rich,

for you have received your consolation.

"Woe to you who are full now,

for you will be hungry.

"Woe to you who are laughing now,

for you will mourn and weep.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ

[&]quot;Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

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 Church of Bangladesh*. In the Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for *St. Michael & All Angels, 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.

Offertory Hymn: "Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart" See insert

Doxology (Hymn #380 v. 3):

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

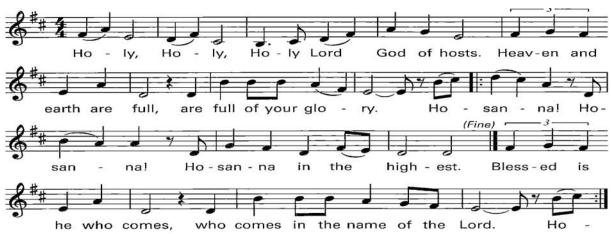
- Presider The Lord be with you.
- People And also with you.
- Presider Lift up your hearts.
- People We lift them to the Lord.
- Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:

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:



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.)

Choir Anthem: "Blessed are the Poor in Spirit" #560

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.

Recessional Hymn: "All Hail the Power of Jesus Name" #450

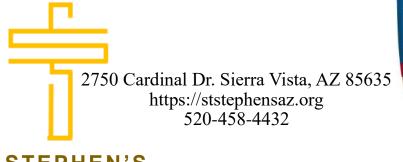
Dismissal:

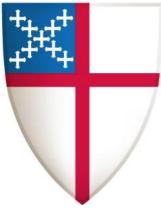
- Deacon: People of St. Stephen's, what does God call us to do?
- People: We are called to love and serve.
- Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in God's Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, (Alleluia!)

Postlude: "Tis The Gift To Be Simple", tune by Joseph Brackett and Margaret Mealy

Please join us Sunday morning for refreshments 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.





ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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