

# Lent



## 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 FEAST OF SAINT JOSEPH

Wednesday 19 Mar 2025 9:30 AM



In the face of [From Lessor Feasts & Fasts](#) circumstances that distressed even a man of such tenderness and obedience to God as Joseph, he accepted the vocation of protecting Mary and being a father to Jesus. He is honored in Christian tradition for the nurturing care and protection he provided for the infant Jesus and his mother in taking them to Egypt to escape Herod's slaughter of the innocents, and in rearing him as a faithful Jew at Nazareth. The Gospel according to Matthew pictures Joseph as a man of deep devotion, open to mystical experiences, and as a man of compassion, who accepted his God-given responsibility with gentleness and humility. Joseph was a pious Jew, a descendant of David, and a carpenter by trade. As Joseph the Carpenter, he is considered the patron saint of the working man, one who not only worked with his hands, but taught his trade to Jesus. The little that is told of him is a testimony to the trust in God which values simple everyday duties, and gives an example of a loving husband and father.

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**Welcome and Announcements**

**Rev. Allison Cornell**

## Entrance Rites *(The people stand as they are able.)*

### Salutation

Presider: Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins

People: **His mercy endureth forever**

### Opening Acclamation:

Presider If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us; but if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

### Confession:

Deacon: Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God

**All: Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.**

**But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most Merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.**

Presider: The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### Kyrie Eleison / Lord, have mercy - Steve Merkel

Lord have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy on me.

Lord have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy on — me.

## **The Lessons** – *(please be seated)*

### **Psalm for today: Psalm 89:1-4, 26-29**

**1 I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, for ever;  
with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.**

**2 I declare that your steadfast love is established for ever;  
your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.**

**3 You said, ‘I have made a covenant with my chosen one,  
I have sworn to my servant David:**

**4 “I will establish your descendants for ever,  
and build your throne for all generations.” ’**

**Selah**

**26 He shall cry to me, “You are my Father,  
my God, and the Rock of my salvation!”**

**27 I will make him the firstborn,  
the highest of the kings of the earth.**

**28 For-ever I will keep my steadfast love for him,  
and my covenant with him will stand firm.**

**29 I will establish his line for ever,  
and his throne as long as the heavens endure.**

**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.**

### **First Lesson: A Reading from 2 Samuel 7:4, 8-16**

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all

your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom for ever. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. When he commits iniquity, I will punish him with a rod such as mortals use, with blows inflicted by human beings. But I will not take my steadfast love from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

Reader: *The word of the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **Second Lesson: A Reading from Romans 4:13-18**

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, ‘I have made you the father of many nations’)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become ‘the father of many nations’, according to what was said, ‘So numerous shall your descendants be.’

Reader: *The word of the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading: Luke 2:41-52**

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

**People: Glory be to thee, O Lord**

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord

**People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

## The Apostles' Creed

**All:** 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.

## Prayers of the People

Leader The Lord be with you.

**People And with thy spirit.**

Leader Let us pray.

V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

**R. And grant us thy salvation.**

V. Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

**R. And make thy chosen people joyful.**

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

**R. For only in thee can we live in safety.**

V. Lord, keep this nation under thy care;

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

V. Let thy way be known upon earth;

**R. Thy 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.**

Leader: In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for *Te Pihopatanga o Te Manawa o Te Wheke – The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia.*

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

We pray for the first peoples of this land, especially the Apache and Tahona O'Odham peoples who called this area home.

**People: Lord, be with them to bless and guide them.**

## Collect Of the Day

Presider: Let us pray

**All: O God, who from the family of thy servant David didst raise up Joseph to be the guardian of thy incarnate Son and the spouse of his virgin mother: Give us grace to imitate his uprightness of life and his obedience to thy commands; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. 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.*

## Offertory

Presider: If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

**Doxology -**

**#380 Hymnal 1982**

**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. ♪**

## Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.

**People And with thy spirit**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

**People We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks unto our Lord our God.

**People It is meet and right so to do.**

*Presider*

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

**All: Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.**

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

*Presider and People:* **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:  
Heaven and Earth are full of thy glory  
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High  
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord  
Hosanna in the highest**

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made thereby his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel did command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

*"Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."*

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying:

*"Drink this all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."*

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we, thy humble people, do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make;



**All: Having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.**

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify (+) these gifts of bread and wine; that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

**All: And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies.**

Grant, we beseech thee that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily received the most precious body and Blood of they Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction (+); and also that we and all they whole church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

**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**

*(Presider breaks the consecrated bread in silence)*

Fraction Anthem Hymnal 1982 #S-163

♪ **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: 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.

*Everyone is invited and welcome to receive communion in this church. We offer gluten free bread and real wine. You may receive one or both as partaking in full communion. If you prefer to intinct/dip your bread into the wine to consume, please go to the left side of the altar. If you prefer to eat the bread and then sip from the cup, please go to the right side of the altar. If you are not ready to receive communion, you may go to either side and cross your arms over your chest for a blessing instead.*

## ***Prayers for:***

***Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing, Travelers and Gratitudes***

## **Post Communion Prayer**

Presider: Let us pray:

**All: Grant, O Lord God, to all who have been baptized into the death and resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ, that, as we have put away the old life of sin, so we may be renewed in the spirit of our minds, and live in righteousness and true holiness; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

## **Benediction:**

Presider: The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be among you, and remain with you 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 in the name of Christ

**People Thanks be to God.**

Continued from front:

More from [Wikipedia the free encyclopedia](#)

According to the [canonical Gospels](#), **Joseph** ([Hebrew](#): יְהוֹשֻׁעַ [romanized](#) :*Yosef*; [Greek](#): Ἰωσήφ, [romanized](#): *Iséph*) was a 1st-century [Jewish](#) man of [Nazareth](#) who was [married](#) to [Mary, the mother of Jesus](#), and was the legal father of [Jesus](#).<sup>[2]</sup>

Joseph is venerated as **Saint Joseph** in the [Catholic Church](#), [Eastern Orthodox Church](#), [Oriental Orthodox Church](#), [Anglicanism](#) and [Lutheranism](#).<sup>[3][4]</sup> In Catholic traditions, Joseph is regarded as the [patron saint](#) of workers and is associated with various [feast days](#). The month of March is dedicated to Saint Joseph. [Pope Pius IX](#) declared him to be both the patron and the protector of the Catholic Church, in addition to his patronages of the sick and of a holy death, due to the belief that he died in the presence of Jesus and Mary. Joseph has become patron of various [dioceses](#) and places. Being a patron saint of virgins, he is venerated as "most chaste".<sup>[5]</sup><sup>[6]</sup> A specific veneration is attributed to the pure and most [Chaste Heart of Joseph](#).<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

Several venerated images of Saint Joseph have been granted a decree of [canonical coronation](#) by a [pontiff](#). Religious [iconography](#) often depicts him with [lilies](#) or [spikenard](#). With the present-day growth of [Mariology](#), the theological field of [Josephology](#) has also grown and since the 1950s centers for studying it have been formed.<sup>[7][8]</sup>

## **In the New Testament**

The [Pauline epistles](#) are the oldest extant Christian writings.<sup>[9]</sup> These mention Jesus' mother (without naming her), but do not refer to his father. The [Gospel of Mark](#), believed to be the first gospel to be written and with a date about two decades after [Paul](#), also does not mention Jesus' father.<sup>[10]</sup>

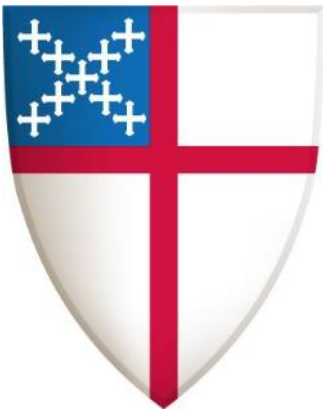
The first appearance of Joseph is in the gospels of [Matthew](#) and [Luke](#), often dated from around 80–90 AD. Each contains a [genealogy of Jesus](#) showing ancestry from King [David](#), but through different sons; Matthew follows the major royal line from [Solomon](#), while Luke traces another line back to [Nathan](#), another son of David and [Bathsheba](#). Consequently, all the names between David and Joseph are different.

Like the two differing genealogies, the infancy narratives appear only in Matthew and Luke and take different approaches to reconciling the requirement that the [Messiah](#) be born in [Bethlehem](#) with the tradition that Jesus in fact came from [Nazareth](#). In Matthew, Joseph obeys the direction of an angel to marry Mary. Following the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, Joseph is told by an angel in a dream to [take the family to Egypt](#) to escape the [massacre of the children of Bethlehem](#) planned by Herod, the ruler of the [Roman province of Judea](#). Once Herod has died, an angel tells Joseph to return but to avoid Herod's son, and he takes his wife and the child to Nazareth in [Galilee](#) and settles there. Thus in Matthew, the infant Jesus, like Moses, is in peril from a cruel king, like Moses he has a (fore)father named [Joseph](#) who goes down to Egypt, like the Old Testament Joseph this Joseph has a father named Jacob, and both Josephs receive important dreams foretelling their future.<sup>[11]</sup>

In the Gospel of Luke, Joseph already lives in Nazareth, and Jesus is born in Bethlehem because Joseph and Mary have to travel there to be counted in a census. Subsequently, Jesus was born there. Luke's account makes no mention of him being visited by angels (Mary and various others instead receive similar visitations), the Massacre of the Innocents, or of the flight into Egypt.

The last time Joseph appears in person in any of the canonical

[Continued online](#)



# ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*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.*

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Please leave your name and contact info below. If you'd like to speak with someone, please check here

Or you can also use the QRC here to fill this out online.



Info Update    Giving Envelopes     Mail News Letter   

Name \_\_\_\_\_ (first) \_\_\_\_\_ (Mid.) \_\_\_\_\_ (Last)

Hm: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Anv. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Adrs: \_\_\_\_\_ BrthDate \_\_\_\_\_

City, St., Zip: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_