

St. Stephen's  
Episcopal Church

## 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.*

### ADVENT 2 HOLY COMMUNION

**Saturday 6 Dec, w/ Fr. Bernal, 5pm Sunday 7 Dec, 10am 2025**

	<b>SATURDAY 5 PM</b>	<b>SUNDAY 10 AM</b>
<b>Celebrant/Officiant</b>	<b>Fr. JJ Bernal</b>	<b>Dorothy Gutwein Sherry Simon</b>
<b>Deacons</b>	<b>Dorothy Gutwein Sherry Simon</b>	<b>Dorothy Gutwein Sherry Simon</b>
<b>LEM</b>	<b>Tim Holsonback</b>	<b>Maryjane Mahland</b>
<b>Lector</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>Renee Olejnicak</b>
<b>Music Director</b>		<b>Doreen Oberg</b>
<b>Choir</b>		<b>Pat Wick Renee Olejnicak Katheleen Jarvis Peggy Brown</b>

**Prelude: "Bells and Echoes", by Doreen J Oberg, performed by Giada Wardlaw**

## Lighting of the Advent Wreath

**Cantor:** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear;*

**People:** **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**Leader:** *Today is the Second Sunday of Advent, the Sunday of Peace. Our peace is found in God, and in his Son Jesus Christ. John the Baptist and all the Prophets remind us that to receive peace, we must be prepared for it.*

**Leader:** *We light this candle today to remind us that Christ is the Prince of Peace, the one promised from the beginning of the world. We thank God for the hope He gives us, and for the peace He bestows.*

### **The First & Second Candle of Advent are lit**

**Cantor:** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear;*

**People:** **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**Processional Hymn: "Hail to the Lord's Anointed", #616**

**Celebrant** Salutation and Collect of Purity BCP 355

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

**People:** **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

### **The Collect of the Second Sunday in Advent**

**Presider & People:** **Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

### **1st Lesson: A Reading from the Book of Isaiah (11:1-10)**

A shoot shall come out from the stump  
of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his  
roots.

The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and  
understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of  
the Lord.

His delight shall be in the fear of the

Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear;

but with righteousness he shall judge  
the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek  
of the earth;

he shall strike the earth with the rod of  
his mouth,

and with the breath of his lips he shall

kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around  
his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt around his  
loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the  
kid,

the calf and the lion and the fatling  
together,  
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the  
hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its  
hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain;  
for the earth will be full of the  
knowledge of the Lord  
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand  
as a signal to the peoples; the nations  
shall inquire of him, and his dwelling  
shall be glorious.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord

*People:* **Thanks be to God**

## **The Psalm**

### **Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19**

- 1 1 Give the King your justice, O God, \*  
**and your righteousness to the King's Son;**
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously \*  
**and the poor with justice;**
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, \*  
**and the little hills bring righteousness.**
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; \*  
**he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.**
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \*  
**from one generation to another.**
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \*  
**like showers that water the earth.**
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; \*  
**there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.**
- 18 Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, \*  
**who alone does wondrous deeds!**

19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! \*

**and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen.**

## **2nd Lesson: A Reading from Romans (15:4-13):**

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,  
and sing praises to your name";

and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";

and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples praise him";

and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come,  
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

*.Reader:* The Word of the Lord

*People:* **Thanks be to God**

**Sequence Hymn "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People",**

**#67**

## **The Gospel Lesson: Matthew (3:1-12):**

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

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

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.’”

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

*Deacon:* The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you Lord Christ.**

## Sermon

### **Nicene Creed (Traditional)**

**BCP p. 358**

**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: Form II**

**BCP 385**

*— In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.*

**Leader:** I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; For Sean and Jennifer our Bishops, For this gathering of St. Stephen's, and for all the ministers and people;  
In the Diocesan cycle of prayer for **Church of the Nativity, in Scottsdale.**  
In the Anglican cycle of prayer for **The Church of Bangladesh.**

**People: Pray for the Church.**

*(A moment of silence for quiet prayer)*

**Leader:** I ask your prayers for peace, for good will among nations and for the well being of all people.

**People: Pray for Justice and Peace.**

*(A moment of silence for quiet prayer)*

**Leader:** I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

**People: Pray for all who are in any need or trouble.**

*(A moment of silence for quiet prayer)*

**Leader:** I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

**People: Pray that they may find and be found by God.**

*(A moment of silence for quiet prayer)*

**Leader:** I ask your prayers for the departed [especially.... .

**People: Pray for those who have died.**

*(A moment of silence for quiet prayer)*

*Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present*

*I ask your prayers for... or I ask your thanksgiving for*

**Leader:** Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. [especially..... Whom we remember today]

**People: Pray that we may have the grace to glorify Christ in our own day.**

*(A moment of silence for quiet prayer)*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding collect*

Presider: Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Holy Name; through Christ our Lord.     **Amen.**

## **Prayer for St. Stephen's:**

*Presider:*     **Almighty God, giver of every good gift; look graciously on your church, and so guide the minds of our search committee, wardens, and vestry, who are in discernment for St. Stephen's church, Sierra Vista, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord.     Amen**

## **Confession of Sin and Absolution**

**BCP 360**

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

**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.     Amen.**

*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.**

## **The Peace:**

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

*People:*     **And also with you.**

## **Welcome & announcements**

**Birthday's, Prayers of Healing, Blessings and gratitude.....**

## **Offertory sentence;**

*Presider:* Walk in love, as Christ loved us, and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

## **Offertory Hymn: "On Jordan's Bank",**

**#76**

## **Doxology**

**(Hymn #380 v. 3)**

**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

Rite II Prayer C BCP p. 369

Presider: *The Lord be with you.*

People: **And also with you.**

*Lift up your hearts.*

**We lift them to the Lord.**

*Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

*Presider:* God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise. Glory to you for ever and ever.

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.

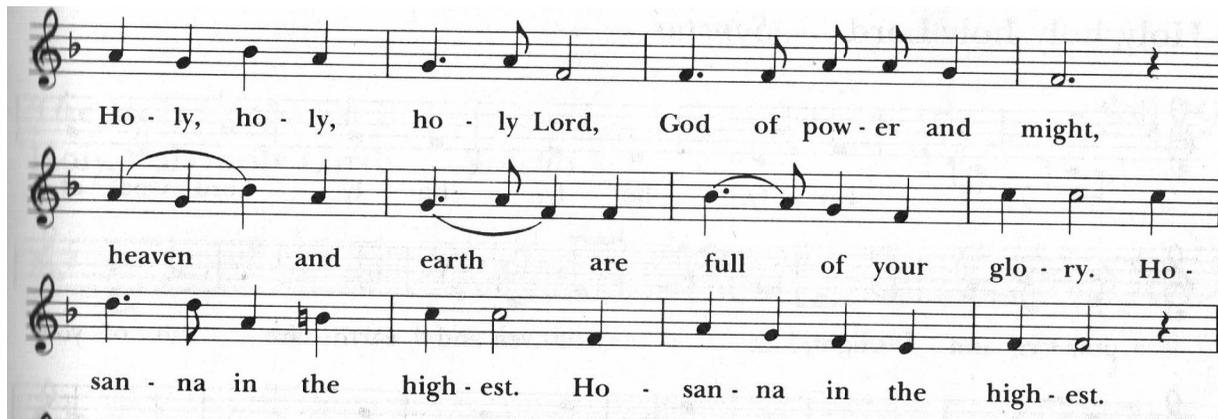
At your command, all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home. By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another. Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

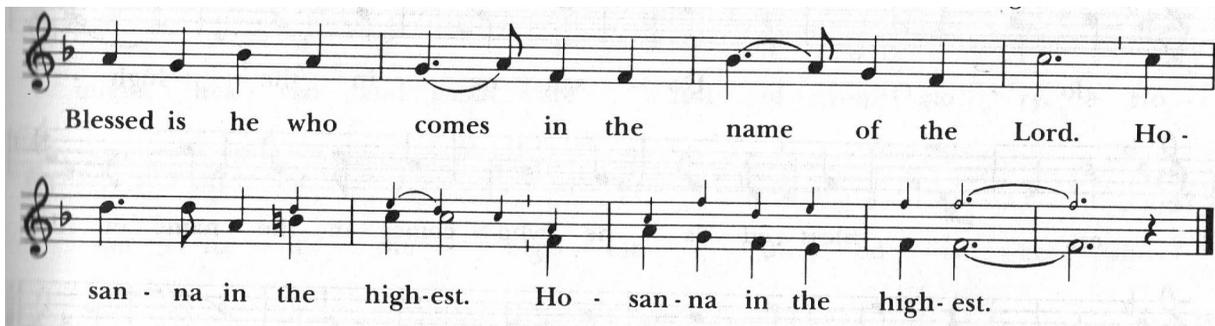
Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace. By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

**All: Sanctus - Hymnal 1982 #S-125**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



*The Celebrant continues: (The people stand, sit, or kneel. )*

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."*

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving, We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name. Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. AMEN.

And now as our savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

## The Lord's Prayer:

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.

## Fraction: The Breaking of the Bread

*(In silence the Presider breaks the bread)*

### Fraction Anthem H1982 # S-163



Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant ús peace.

## Invitation to Communion:

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God.

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

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

**Communion Hymn: "Lord Dismiss us",**

**#344**

## **Post Communion Prayer**

Presider: Let us pray:

**All:** Almighty and everliving 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.

## **Benediction:**

Presider: May the peace 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: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you now and always. Amen

**Closing Hymn: “God is Working His Purpose”, #534**

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

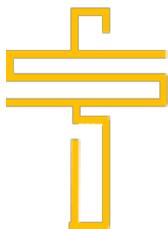
**People:** We are called to Love and Serve

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

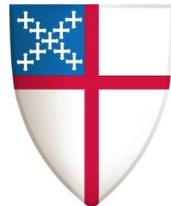
People Thanks be to God.

**Postlude: “Ding Dong! Merrily on High”, French tune arr by Todd Kendall**

*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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## ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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## Welcome Visitor!!!

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: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_