

St. Stephen's
Episcopal Church



Joy to the World

A New Song: Psalm 98

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.

**CHRISTMAS DAY
HOLY COMMUNION**

Thursday 25 December 2025, 10am

	Thursday 10 AM
Celebrant/Officiant	Fr. Bernal
Deacons	Dorothy Gutwein Sherry Simon
LEM	Rene Olejnicak
Lector	Sandra Calhoun
Music Director	Doreen Oberg
Choir	Pat Wick Renee Olejnicak Katheleen Jarvis Peggy Brown + you

Prelude: "I Saw Three Ships", English tune arr Doreen J Oberg

Processional Hymn: "Joy to the World!",

#100

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gloria



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, —



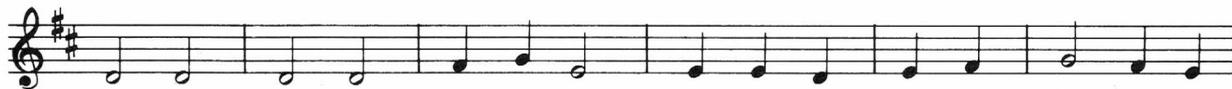
— and peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, hea-ven - ly King,



al-might-y God and Fa - ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the



Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: — re - ceive our prayer. 6. For you a -

lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - - men.

Presider: Lord, have mercy.

People: **Christ, have mercy.**

Presider:: Lord, have mercy.

The Collect Christmas Day

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider & People: **Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born [this day] of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

1st Lesson: A Reading from the Book of Isaiah (52:7-10)

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

The Psalm

Psalm 98 *Cantate Domino*

- 1 Sing to the Lord new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 **The Lord has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.**
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 **Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**
- 6 Sing to the Lord with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 **With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.**
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 **Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy *
before the Lord, when he comes to judge the earth.**
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

2nd Lesson: A Reading from Hebrews (1:1-4[5-12]):

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. [For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God,

your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions. "And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."]

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Sequence Hymn: "What Child is This",

#115 vs 1-2

The Gospel Lesson: John (1:1-14):

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

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sequence Hymn: "What Child is This",

#115 vs 3

Sermon

Nicene Creed (Traditional)

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 III

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

Leader: Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People: **That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Leader: We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

People: **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

Prayer for St. Stephen's:

All: **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**

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect

Presider: (. . .) **Amen.**

Confession of Sin and Absolution

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

Minister and People: **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.**

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: (. . .)

Offertory Hymn: "Away in a Manger",

#101

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 Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: 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:

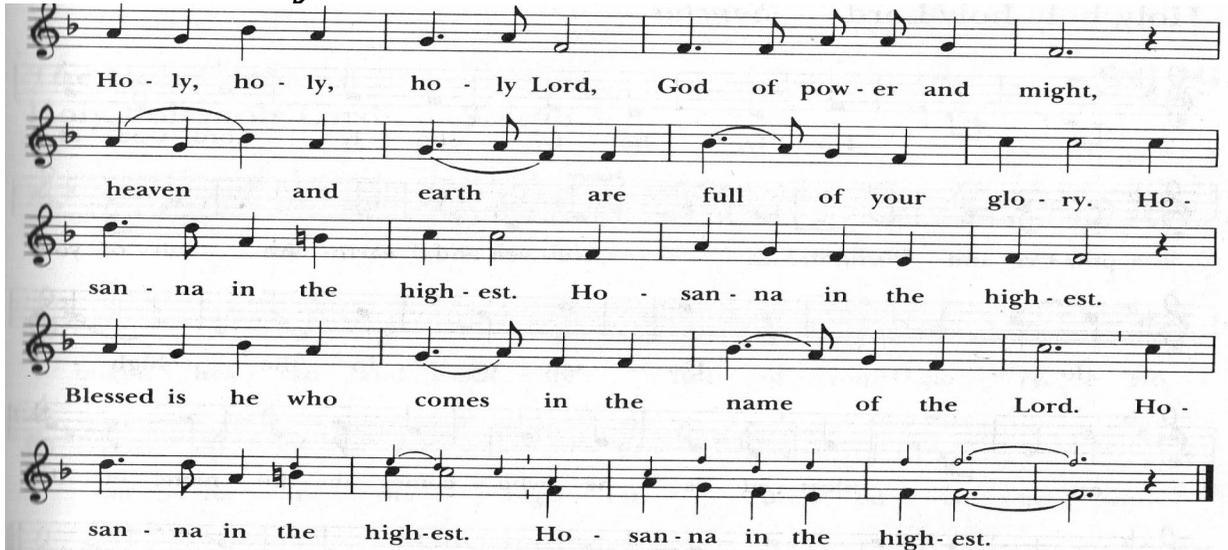
God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

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.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error

into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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, and when he 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 for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with[] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **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.

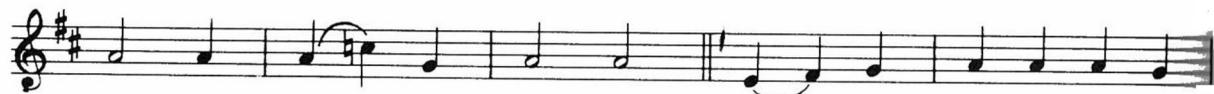
Fraction: The Breaking of the Bread

(In silence the Presider breaks the bread)

Fraction Anthem H1982 # S-156



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is



sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us keep the feast.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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: "Lo, how a Rose E'er Blooming", #81

Post Communion Prayer

Presider: Let us pray:

All: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Benediction:

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

Closing Hymn: “Go Tell it on the mountain”,

#99

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: “Go Tell It On The Mountain”, traditional spiritual arr John Purifoy

PARISH CYCLE OF PRAYER

Kathleen Jarvis – Ron Breedlove, Peggy Brown, Sandra Calhoun,
Marietta Conley, Peter Criscuolo (12/31).

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- We Pray for the Archbishop of Canterbury, Sara, for Sean, our Presiding Bishop, for Jennifer, our Diocesan Bishop, for our Deacons, Dottie and Sherry, and for Fr. J.J., our Priest.
- In the Anglican cycle of prayer we pray for The Diocese of São Paulo – Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil
- In the Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray also for Saint Barnabas on the Desert in Scottsdale.

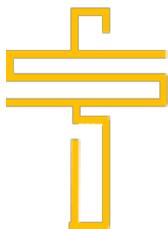
PLEASE PRAY FOR THE HEALTH OF

Penelope McKay, new born daughter of Sharol and Caleb McKay, born 3 weeks early(1/18); Alma Vasquez (12/31), Deacon Robin Hollis (12/30), Janet Treder (12/31), Family and friends of Deacon Fritz & Paula Jones (12/31) repose of their souls.

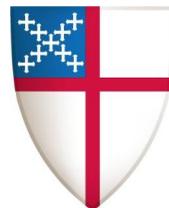
SPECIAL PRAYER

- The victims of war around the world and renewed efforts for peace. (12/31)

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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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.



<input type="checkbox"/> Info Update	Giving Envelopes	<input type="checkbox"/> Mail News Letter	<input type="checkbox"/>
Name _____	(first)	(Mid.)	(Last)
Hm: _____	Cell	_____	_____
Email: _____	Anv. Date	_____	_____
Adrs: _____	BrthDate	_____	_____
City, St., Zip: _____	_____	_____	_____