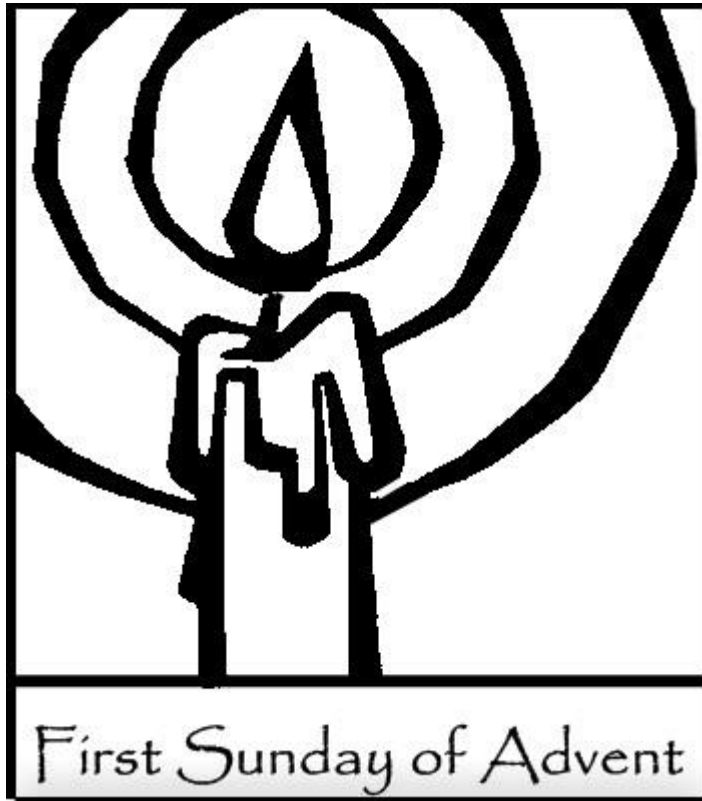


St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
Holy Eucharist Rite II



December 1, 2024 10:30 a.m.
Broadcast Live on Facebook

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
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The Very Rev. Scott A. Garno, Rector
The Ven. Justine Guernsey, Deacon
The Rev. Candace Palumbo, Deacon

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The people stand.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Hymnal 1982 # 56

(Verses by soloist; Refrain sung by congregation)

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here

until the Son of God appear.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!*

Responsive Litany

Advent is a time to wait.

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

During Advent we wait for the light in the darkness.

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

During Advent we wait for freedom from captivity.

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

During Advent we wait for comfort in sorrow.

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

During Advent we wait for power in weakness.

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

One purple candle is lit

Celebrant

This morning we light the first candle. The first candle reminds us that, as we wait upon the Lord, God's light never ceases to shine, God's will never ceases to unfold, and God's grace never ceases to be felt. As we begin the journey of Advent, may we learn to wait upon the Lord with hopeful expectation by celebrating all God has done and anticipating all he will do.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Hymnal 1982 # 56

(Verses by soloist; Refrain sung by congregation)

O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
who orderest all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show,

and teach us in her ways to go.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel*

Celebrant

Let us pray

God in heaven, as we begin this season of Advent, we pray that you will teach us to wait with patience, endurance, and trust. Holding to the eternal promises revealed to us through your Word, we ask that you remind us of your everlasting presence. **Amen.**

The people stand.

The Processional Hymn “Lo! he comes, with clouds descending”

Hymnal 1982 #57

Verse 1

Lo! he comes, with clouds descending,
once for our salvation slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia!
Christ the Lord returns to reign.

Verse 2

Every eye shall now behold him,
robed in dreadful majesty;
those who set at nought and sold him,
pierced, and nailed him to the tree,
deeply wailing,
shall the true Messiah see.

The Exhortation

Beloved in the Lord: Our Savior Christ, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood as a sign and pledge of his love, for the continual remembrance of the sacrifice of his death, and for a spiritual sharing in his risen life. For in these holy Mysteries we are made one with Christ, and Christ with us; we are made one body in him, and members one of another.

Having in mind, therefore, his great love for us, and in obedience to his command, his Church renders to Almighty God our heavenly Father never-ending thanks for the creation of the world, for his continual providence over us, for his love for all mankind, and for the redemption of the world by our Savior Christ, who took upon himself our flesh, and humbled himself even to death on the cross, that he might make us the children of God by the power of the Holy Spirit, and exalt us to everlasting life.

But if we are to share rightly in the celebration of those holy Mysteries, and be nourished by that spiritual Food, we must remember the dignity of that holy Sacrament. I therefore call upon you to consider how Saint Paul exhorts all persons to prepare themselves carefully before eating of that Bread and drinking of that Cup.

For, as the benefit is great, if with penitent hearts and living faith we receive the holy Sacrament, so is the danger great, if we receive it improperly, not recognizing the Lord's Body. Judge yourselves, therefore, lest you be judged by the Lord.

Examine your lives and conduct by the rule of God's commandments, that you may perceive wherein you have offended in what you have done or left undone, whether in thought, word, or deed. And acknowledge your sins before Almighty God, with full purpose of amendment of life, being ready to make restitution for all injuries and wrongs done by you to others; and also being ready to forgive those who have offended you, in order that you

Verse 3

Those dear tokens of his passion
still his dazzling body bears,
cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshipers;
with what rapture
gaze we on those glorious scars!

Verse 4

Yea, amen! let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the power and glory;
claim the kingdom for thine own:
Alleluia!
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

yourselves may be forgiven. And then, being reconciled with one another, come to the banquet of that most heavenly Food.

And if, in your preparation, you need help and counsel, then go and open your grief to a discreet and understanding priest, and confess your sins, that you may receive the benefit of absolution, and spiritual counsel and advice; to the removal of scruple and doubt, the assurance of pardon, and the strengthening of your faith.

To Christ our Lord who loves us, and washed us in his own blood, and made us a kingdom of priests to serve his God and Father, to him be glory in the Church evermore. Through him let us offer continually the sacrifice of praise, which is our bounden duty and service, and, with faith in him, come boldly before the throne of grace [and humbly confess our sins to Almighty God].

The Confession

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 Kyrie

Kyrie eleison

Christe eleison

Kyrie eleison

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

The Lessons

The people sit.

The First Lesson

Jeremiah 33:14-16

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Response

Psalm 25:1-9

1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

**2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**

3 Show me your ways, O LORD, *
and teach me your paths.

**4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.**

5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.

**6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.**

7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

**8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.**

9 All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

The Second Lesson

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand for the Gospel Procession and Proclamation

The Gospel Hymn

“Watchman, tell us of the night” vs. 1 & 2

Hymnal1982 #640

Verse 1

Watchman, tell us of the night,
what its signs of promise are.
Traveler, o'er yon mountain's height,
see that glory-beaming star.
Watchman, does its beauteous ray
aught of joy or hope foretell?
Traveler, yes; it brings the day,
promised day of Israel.

Verse 2

Watchman, tell us of the night;
higher yet that star ascends.
Traveler, blessedness and light,
peace and truth its course portends.
Watchman, will its beams alone
gild the spot that gave them birth?
Traveler, ages are its own;
see, it bursts o'er all the earth.

The Holy Gospel

Luke 21:25-36

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

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

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Gospel Hymn "Watchman, tell us of the night" vs. 3

Hymnal 1982 #640

Verse 3

Watchman, tell us of the night,
for the morning seems to dawn.
Traveler, darkness takes its flight,
doubt and terror are withdrawn.

Watchman, let thy wanderings cease;
hie thee to thy quiet home.
Traveler, lo! the Prince of Peace,
lo! the Son of God is come!

The Sermon

Rev. Susan Bowman

The people stand.

The Nicene Creed

**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.

Advent Prayers of People

As we await the coming of your Kingdom, let us pray, saying:

Leader: The Lord is our righteousness

Response: Holy is his name.

May your Church be united and remain strong and constant in witness to you and service to others. We continue to pray for our Diocese and ask you to inspire and sustain us. Keep us on the paths of love and faithfulness.

Leader: The Lord is our righteousness

Response: Holy is his name.

May the leaders of this country and all who hold authority in the nations of the world, seek your will first and govern with justice and integrity. We pray for mutual respect among our elected officials and a peaceful transition in our government.

Leader: The Lord is our righteousness

Response: Holy is his name.

May our hearts be open to those in our community who are in need, especially those on our prayer list. Unite us in compassion and love for one another,. Help us to find ways to care for the least, the lost and the left out.

Leader: The Lord is our righteousness

Response: Holy is his name.

May we be alert at all times to your nearness in our lives. Show us your ways, O Lord, and guide our actions.

Leader: The Lord is our righteousness

Response: Holy is his name.

For those who have been called from this world and are now numbered with your saints, especially Al Krantz, Gail Garson, Alisha Elmendorf, Kathy Cassidy, Nancy Panganiban, and Ellsworth March.

Leader: The Lord is our righteousness

Response: Holy is his name.

Prayer for Mission

Leader and People

Heavenly Father, we ask you to help us fulfill our mission, to worship you in a loving community, to support people on their Christian Journey, and to empower disciples for service, so that we can bring Jesus to each other and to the world. Amen

Celebrant:

On this first day of the year, we offer up our prayers to you, O Lord.

Awaken us to look for the signs of your coming in the sun and the moon and the stars and in the everyday events of our life. Receive our prayers and prepare our hearts as we await your coming. Amen.

The people stand.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The people sit.

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Celebrant

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

Offertory

Choir Anthem

The people stand.

As a sign of our thanksgiving the Celebrant and people pray responsively

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.

People **And of thine own have we given thee.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

The people remain standing.

The Celebrant faces them and says

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is said.

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

Sanctus

**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.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 had 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

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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 hath taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

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

Agnus Dei

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept. Then may be sung or said

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Prayer of Humble Access

People and Celebrant

We do not presume to come this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Celebrant

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, with thanksgiving.

Ministration of Communion

All baptized Christians regardless of denominational affiliation are welcomed to receive Communion. To receive the wine from the common cup please come to the right of the altar rail. To receive via intinction (dipping the wafer in the wine) come to the left.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

For those unable to worship in person with us today, we include this prayer:

In Union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and my body with the earnest desire that I may continually be united to you. And since I cannot now receive you with my own faith community, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

(Spiritual Communion Prayer adapted from the Armed Forces Prayer Book, 1951)

The Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant and People

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.

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn

“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

Hymnal 1982 #616

Verse 1

Hail to the Lord’s Anointed,
great David’s greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free;
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.

Verse 2

He comes with succor speedy
to those who suffer wrong,
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
were precious in his sight.

Verse 3

He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth:

before him on the mountains
shall peace, the herald, go;
and righteousness in fountains
from hill to valley flow.

Verse 4

Kings shall bow down before him,
and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore him,
his praise all people sing;
to him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.

Verse 5

O’er every foe victorious,
he on his throne shall rest;
from age to age more glorious,
all-blessing and all-blest:
the tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his Name shall stand for ever,
his changeless Name of Love.

The Dismissal

Deacon

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.
