

THE FEAST OF THE HOLY NAME
HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO
JANUARY 1, 2023 • 10:00 A.M.



Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church has worshipped on this corner of North James and Mulberry Streets in Goldsboro since 1857 — in the same building! We welcome you to our historic building, but more than that, we are happy to have you worship with us.

ORDER OF SERVICE

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

People: **And blessed be His kingdom, now and forever.**

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

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Eternal Father, you gave to your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be the sign of our salvation: Plant in every heart, we pray, the love of him who is the Savior of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS (Please be seated.)

The First Reading: *Numbers 6:22-27*

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them,

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 8 *Domine, Dominus noster*

1 O Lord our Governor, *

how exalted is your Name in all the world!

**2 Out of the mouths of infants and children *
your majesty is praised above the heavens.**

3 You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries, *
to quell the enemy and the avenger.

**4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, *
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,**

5 What is man that you should be mindful of him? *
the son of man that you should seek him out?

**6 You have made him but little lower than the angels; *
you adorn him with glory and honor;**

7 You give him mastery over the works of your hands; *
you put all things under his feet:

**8 All sheep and oxen, *
even the wild beasts of the field,**

9 The birds of the air, the fish of the sea, *
and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea.

**10 O Lord our Governor, *
how exalted is your Name in all the world!**

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.

The Second Reading: *Galatians 4:4-7*

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel: *Luke 2:15-21* (Please stand.)

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. David Wylly

THE NICENE CREED (All stand.)

**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.

CHRISTMAS SEASON PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor says:

In the stillness of this holy season of Christmas, let us pray to God, saying, “God of love, hear our prayer.”

Christians around the world are celebrating the birth of your son, Jesus. Unite us in faith, that we may shine with one light, and scatter all darkness. God of love,

hear our prayer.

You pierced the cosmic silence with the utterance of your Word made flesh. Inspire leaders everywhere with your message of compassion and justice. God of love,

hear our prayer.

By joining heaven and earth in your son, you affirmed the holiness of our earthly habitation. Encourage all people to bless it, and to keep it a hallowed home for all its occupants. God of love,

hear our prayer.

The Messiah is born, and promise is born anew. Renew our hope, individually and as a community, and strengthen the bonds we share with others, both within and beyond these walls. God of love,

hear our prayer.

Shepherds heard and conveyed your angel's good news of great joy. Give us grace to understand and share your gospel of love. God of love,

hear our prayer.

Multitudes of heavenly hosts proclaimed glory to you and peace on earth. Kindle in our hearts the courage and strength to work for peace and reconciliation. God of love,

hear our prayer.

Jesus came to us as a baby cradled in a borrowed bed of straw, because there was no room at the inn. Open our eyes and hearts to the needs of the homeless and the hungry. God of love,

hear our prayer.

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the abundant blessings of this life especially for those celebrating birthdays this week, John Hine, Linda Richter, Lu Snipes, Jamie Livengood, Sally Johnson, Stuart Freemon, Mary Lee Jeffreys, and for those celebrating anniversaries; and for all other thanksgivings we name now either silently or aloud. God of love,

hear our prayer.

You sent Jesus to illuminate all who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. Tend the embers of comfort and healing for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit Especially Gene Carpenter, Margie Clarke, Glenda Futch, Ed Futch, Debby Hickey, Sue McDonald, John Peacock, Margaret Sharp, Dorisenia Thompson, Betsy Toomey, John Wolfe and those we name now, either silently or aloud. God of love,

hear our prayer.

By making Jesus incarnate in the world, you offered to all people the blessing of holiness. Grant your glory to those who have died, and those we name now, either silently or aloud. At the last day gather us all in your eternal life. God of love,

hear our prayer.

Celebrant:

God of love, the feast of Christmas reminds us that you are with us at all times and in all places; hear our prayers and send your Holy Spirit to guide us. In the name of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen

THE CONFESSION

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Celebrant 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 Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

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

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer B)

Celebrant: 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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. (Here a Proper Preface is added.) 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:

Celebrant and People

**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:

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 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, according to his command, O Father,

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,

**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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.

Celebrant: [Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation:

The Gifts of God for the People of God

All baptized Christians, regardless of denomination or age, are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please come forward at the appropriate time. You may receive both the bread and wine, one or the other, come forward for a blessing, or remain seated.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**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.**

THE BLESSING

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses them with these words

Let us go forth in the name of Christ

People: Thanks be to God.

The poinsettias on the altar today are given to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for and in memory of friends and family by St. Stephen's parishioners.

SERVING TODAY

Celebrant: The Rev. David Wyly

Organist: Patrick Ritsch

Live Stream Technician: Steven Smith

Lector and Eucharistic Minister: Michael Headen

Ushers: Mike and Martie Saylor

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CLERGY

The Rt. Rev. Robert Skirving, Bishop

The Rev. David Wyly

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CHURCH STAFF

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Church Sexton: Alfie Barnes

VESTRY

Senior Warden: Katherine MacDonald; Treasurer: Bob Cagle, Clerk: Nancy Headen

Other Vestry Members Include: Meredith Adams, Will Bland, Todd Brantley

Susan Brown, Betty Duncan, Bruce Griffin, David Huard, Gwyn LaFave, Sallie Wahl