

**Festival Candlelight Eucharist
Feast of the Nativity**

DECEMBER 24, 2019 ■ 10:30 P.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

VOLUNTARY

A Little Shepherd Music

Harald Rohlig

The People of God gather to proclaim and respond to the Word of God.

ENTRANCE RITE

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

O come, all ye faithful (vv 1-3)

Hymn 83

THE BIDDING PRAYER

(from the *Book of Occasional Services*)

Beloved in Christ, on this Christmas Eve, let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God brought us by this holy Child; and let us make this place glad with our carols of praise.

As we prepare ourselves to receive Holy Communion, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which Christ died, and especially in this country and within this city of Goldsboro.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless; the hungry and the oppressed; the sick, especially our parishioners: David, Chuck, Sarah, Steve, Anna, Will, Ann, John, Betty, Sue, Paul, Charles, Hal, Doris, and Betsy and for all those we hold in our hearts; and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Let us pray for God's protection for those serving in the Armed Forces of our country, especially John Keena, Logan McDevitt, Taylor McDevitt, Wes Morrison, Steven S. and Jay Womble.

Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, joining our voices together in the song of the Angels.

Gloria



An - gels we have heard on high Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
Come to Beth - le - hem and see Christ Whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun - tains in re - ply E - cho - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some ti - dings be Which in - spire your heav - en - ly song?
Come a - dore on bend - ed knee, Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



Glo - - - - - ri - a,



in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo - - - - -



- - - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

THE LESSONS *(Please be seated.)*

The First Reading: *Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96:1-4, 11-13: *Cantate Domino*

Sing to the Lord a new song; *

sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *

proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.

**For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.**

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let
the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the Lord when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.**

He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth. **Amen**

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

The Second Reading: *Titus 2:11-14*

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn

It came upon the midnight clear

Hymn 89

The Gospel: *Luke 2:1-14 (Please stand.)*

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, Do not be afraid; for see I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

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.**

THE PEACE

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

People: **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY

Sussex Mummer's Carol

Robert Powell

AT THE PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS



So bring him in - cense, gold and myrrh, come, peas-ant, king, to



own___ him; the King of kings sal - va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en -



throne him. This, this___ is Christ the King, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;



haste, haste to bring him laude, the babe, the son___ of Ma - ry.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

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.**

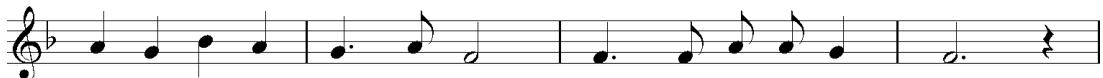
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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. 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 the 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:

Celebrant and People:

Sanctus (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.

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;

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 the Blessed Virgin Mary and 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.

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

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.

COMMUNION HYMN

Silent Night

Hymn 111

Before the singing of *Silent Night*, the Rector will light a candle and distribute the light through the congregation. Please light your neighbor's candle by holding your candle straight and having your neighbor light his/her candle from yours. As we sing *Silent Night*, we remember how Christ came into the world to be our light. Please extinguish your candles after the *Prayer of Thanksgiving* and place them in the basket as you leave the church.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

(BCP p. 365)

**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

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

PROCESSION OUT

Joy to the world!

Hymn 100

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

Von Himmel hoch

Walter Pelz

SERVING TODAY

Ushers: Mike Saylor

Eucharistic Minister: Bob Cagle & Catherine Freemon

Crucifer: Anne Stuart Freemon

WELCOME TO ST. STEPHEN'S!

Name: _____

Address: _____

email: _____

Phone Numbers: Home _____ Cell _____

I am new to the parish, I would like the Clergy to call.

I am interested in _____ ministry.

Any additional information you wish to include?

Please tear off this sheet with your information entered and place in the offering plate or give to an usher or greeter. Thank you! We look forward to meeting you!



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

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Church: (919) 734-4263, Rector's cell phone: (336) 745-5950

www.ststephenschurch.com

email: rjhanna14@yahoo.com

CLERGY

The Rt. Rev. Robert Skirving, Bishop

The Rev. Raymond J. Hanna, Rector

CHOIRMASTER

Marshall Foster (marshallfoster@gmail.com)

DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Xena Markine-Morrison (xmorrison@ststephenschurch.com)

CHURCH STAFF

Parish Administrator & Clerk of Vestry: Margie Clark

(mclark@ststephenschurch.com)

Communications Coordinator: Jane Cunningham

(cunninghamjane04@gmail.com)

Director of Children's Choirs: Rebecca Barnes

Treasurer: Emilie Foy

Verger: Ray Harris

VESTRY

Senior Warden: Chris Garrison; Junior Warden: Lori Allen; Mary Mills Borden, Todd Brantley, Duffy Fleming, Emilie Foy, Mary Susan Heath, Adam Livengood, Pete Mitchell, Alice Royal, Paul Rutter, Beth Saylor