

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION AND HEALING

WEDNESDAY 5:30 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.

Leader: Let the darkness of night surround us,
let light and warmth gather us
and let God's people say Amen.

All: AMEN.

Leader: Let the tools be stored away,
let the work be over and done
and let God's people say Amen.

All: AMEN.

Leader: Let the winds blow wild around us,
But let hearts be glad and minds be calm
And let God's people say Amen.

All: AMEN.

Prayer of Invocation

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest,
Stay with us for the day is ending.
With friend, with stranger,
With young and with old,
Be among us tonight.
Come close to us that we may come close to you.
Forgive us that we may forgive one another.
Renew us so that, where we have failed,
We may begin again. Amen.

The Gospel Lesson

The Collect of the Day

Period of Silent Meditation

Prayers of the People

Loving God, we hold in your healing presence those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit and all who care for them.

May they know the deep peace of Christ

Loving God, we hold in your healing presence the suffering people of our world, and the places where people are experiencing division, injustice, and violence.

May they know the deep peace of Christ.

Loving God, we hold in your healing presence those struggling to overcome addiction or abuse, those supporting and working with them, and all whose suffering has distanced them from those they love.

May they know the deep peace of Christ.

Loving God, we hold in your healing presence those facing bereavement. We also pray for those who have died.

May they know the deep peace of Christ.

Loving God, we hold in your healing presence and peace those whose needs are not known to us. And those whose names we do not know, but who are known to you, and for whom we have been asked to pray. And we name in our hearts those who are close to us.

May they know the deep peace of Christ.

Glory to God, from whom all love flows, glory to Jesus, who showed his love through suffering, and glory to the Holy Spirit, who brings light to the darkest places.

Amen.

The Peace

The Holy Communion

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. 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

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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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 [_____ 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,

People and Celebrant

The Lord's Prayer

The Breaking of the Bread

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

Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Anointing for Healing (If you wish to be anointed, please remain at the altar rail after receiving communion.)

Leader: On our hearts and on our houses,

All: THE BLESSING OF GOD.

Leader: In our coming and our going,

All: THE PEACE OF GOD.

Leader: In our life and our believing,

All: THE LOVE OF GOD.

Leader: At our end and new beginning,

All: THE ARMS OF GOD TO WELCOME US AND BRING US HOME.

AMEN.