

**TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO**  
**NOVEMBER 12, 2023 ■ 10:30 A.M.**



**Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church**

St. Stephen's is a community of people made more complete by the grace of a perfect God, who proclaim the Gospel by sharing the reconciling love of Christ with others through redeeming acts of hospitality, forgiveness, justice, and peace.

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**ORDER OF SERVICE**

**VOLUNTARY**

*Improvisation in G*

**HYMN 690**

*Guide me, O thou great Jehovah*

Cwm Rhondda

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

**Officiant:** Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

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 S280



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



peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly



King, al - mighty 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.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

*(Please stand or kneel as you are able.)*

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE LESSONS *(Please be seated.)*

**The First Reading:** *Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25*

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, “Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

“Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”

Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.”

But Joshua said to the people, “You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good.” And the people said to Joshua, “No, we will serve the Lord!” Then Joshua said to the people, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him.” And they said, “We are witnesses.” He said, “Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel.” The people said to Joshua, “The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey.” So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 78:1-7** *Attendite, popule*

*(Please stand as you are able. The psalm will be read responsively by whole verse.)*

1 Hear my teaching, O my people; \*  
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

**2 I will open my mouth in a parable; \***  
**I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.**

3 That which we have heard and known,  
and what our forefathers have told us, \*  
we will not hide from their children.

**4 We will recount to generations to come**  
**the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, \***  
**and the wonderful works he has done.**

5 He gave his decrees to Jacob  
and established a law for Israel, \*

which he commanded them to teach their children;

**6 That the generations to come might know,  
and the children yet unborn; \*  
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;**

7 So that they might put their trust in God, \*  
and not forget the deeds of God,  
but keep his commandments;

**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:** *1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (Please be seated.)*

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN 537**

*Christ for the world we sing*

Moscow

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

**The Gospel:** *Matthew 25:1-13 (Please stand.)*

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

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

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here

is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

**Priest:** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **THE SERMON**

The Rev. David Wyly

## **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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM IV**

*(Please kneel as you are able.)*

*Deacon or other leader*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially Randy Anderson, Margie Clarke, Glenda Futch, Ed Futch, Debby Hickey, Marguerite Pennington, Pat Sasser, Marjorie Snyder, Betsy Toomey and John Wolfe; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

Remember this parish and all its ministries. May we, as a community, hear your call in our lives and grant us your grace to be the light of Christ in a dark and dangerous world.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer*

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

**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

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

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

**People:** **And also with you.**

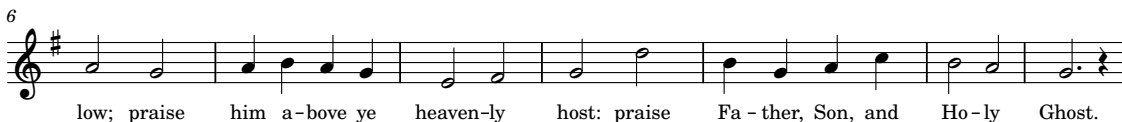
## OFFERTORY

*Your Hands, O Lord, In Days of Old*

Carson Cooman

## AT THE PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS

*(Please stand as you are able.)*



## THE HOLY COMMUNION

**The Great Thanksgiving** (Eucharistic Prayer 1, from *Enriching Our Worship*)

**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 our thanks and praise.**

**Celebrant:** It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

*The following Preface may be used at any time.*

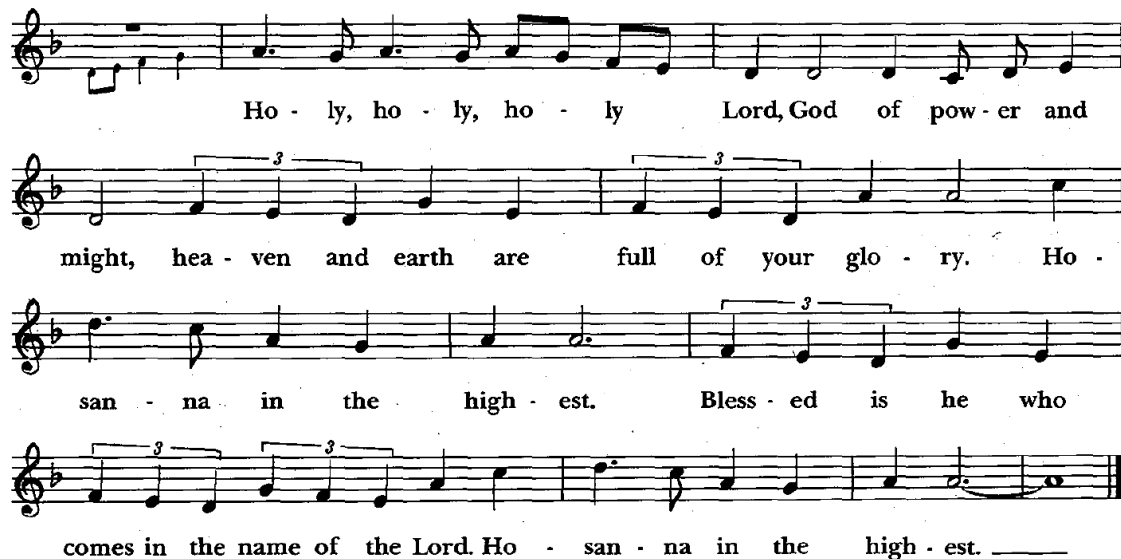
You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

*In place of the preceding, a Proper Preface from the Book of Common Prayer may be used.*

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

## **Celebrant and People**

### **SANCTUS S-129**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. —

*The Celebrant continues (Please kneel as you are able.)*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and 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 Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all 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*

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with [ \_\_\_\_\_ and] all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and 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.

## FRACTION ANTHEM S154

(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.)

*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.*

## HYMN 523

*Glorious things of thee are spoken*

Abbot's Leigh

## THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

*(Please kneel as you are able.)*

## **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.**

## **SENDING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS**

### **THE BLESSING**

#### **HYMN 388**

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

*O worship the King*

Hanover

### **THE DISMISSAL**

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

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **VOLUNTARY**

*Prelude in G*

JS Bach

**SERVING TODAY**

**Celebrant:** The Rev. David Wyly

**Organist:** Patrick Ritsch

**Ushers:** William Craig & Geoff Hulse

**Eucharistic Visitors:** Davis & Kathy Harris

**Live Stream Technician:** James Ruggles

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for our St. Stephen's family by David Huard and Linda Edsall-Huard.

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# WELCOME TO ST. STEPHEN'S!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

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

I am interested in \_\_\_\_\_ ministry.

Marital Status: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Anniversary Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Baptism Date and Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmation Date and Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list the people who reside with you and their ages:

\_\_\_\_\_

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**

**200 N. James St., Goldsboro, NC 27530**

Church: (919) 734-4263

[www.ststephenschurch.com](http://www.ststephenschurch.com)

email: [admin@ststephenschurch.com](mailto:admin@ststephenschurch.com)

### **CLERGY**

**The Rt. Rev. Robert Skirving, Bishop**

**The Rev. David Wylly**

[Rector@ststephenschurch.com](mailto:Rector@ststephenschurch.com)

### **CHURCH STAFF**

**Organist and Choirmaster: Patrick Ritsch**

[organist@ststephenschurch.com](mailto:organist@ststephenschurch.com)

**Church Administrative Assistant: Vicky Bailey**

[admin@ststephenschurch.com](mailto:admin@ststephenschurch.com)

**Communications Coordinator: Jane Cunningham**

[cunninghamjane04@gmail.com](mailto:cunninghamjane04@gmail.com)

**Church Sexton: Alfie Barnes**

### **VESTRY**

Senior Warden: Katherine MacDonald, Junior Warden: Betty Duncan,

Treasurer: Bob Cagle, Clerk: Nancy Headen

Other Vestry Members Include: Meredith Adams, Don Barnes, Will Bland, Todd Brantley  
Susan Brown, Betty Duncan, David Huard, Gwyn LaFave, Larry Tingen, Sallie Wahl