

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO
DECEMBER 15, 2019 ■ 10:30 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

VOLUNTARY *Comfort, Comfort Ye My People* Johann Pachelbel

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

ENTRANCE RITE

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding* Hymn 59

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

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.

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.

Trisagion S102

Sung three times.

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

The musical score is written in G minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. The first system consists of two staves: a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The second system also consists of two staves with lyrics and piano accompaniment. The piano part features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS (Please be seated.)

The First Reading: *Isaiah 35:1-10*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;

like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the Lord,
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,

with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you.”

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;

the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;

the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God’s people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;

they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

And the ransomed of the Lord shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;

everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 146:4-9 *Lauda, anima mea*

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! *
whose hope is in the Lord their God;

**Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; *
who keeps his promise for ever;**

Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, *
and food to those who hunger.

**The Lord sets the prisoners free;
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; *
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;**

The Lord loves the righteous;
the Lord cares for the stranger; *
he sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the wicked.

The Lord shall reign for ever, *
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Hallelujah!

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: *James 5:7-10*

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Hymn 66

The Gospel: *Matthew 11:2-11* (Please stand.)

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’

“Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM I

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying
“Lord, have mercy.”

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our Bishop, Rob, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our President, Donald, and for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this city of Goldsboro, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We pray for God to heal and comfort our parishioners Sarah, Steve, Anna, Will, Ann, Ann, John, Betty, Sue, Paul, Charles, Hal, Doris, and Betsy; and all those whom we name in our hearts, or on our lips, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those serving in the Armed Forces of our country, especially John Keena, Logan McDevitt, Taylor McDevitt, Wes Morrison, Steven S. and Jay Womble, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of St. Stephen's and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To thee, O Lord our God.

THE CONFESSION

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins unto Almighty God.

**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.**

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.**

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* Joseph Running

AT THE PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS

King of kings, yet born of Ma - ry,
as of old on earth he stood
Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture,
in the Bo - dy and the Blood
he will give to all the faith - ful
his own self for heaven - ly food

Words: Liturgy of St. James

Music: *Picardy*, French carol, 17th century

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:

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.

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.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

COMMUNION HYMN

Comfort, comfort ye my people

Hymn 67

SENDING FORTH OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many are one body because we all share one bread, one cup. **Amen.**

Let us pray.

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.**

PROCESSION OUT

Love divine, all loves excelling

Hymn 657

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

Prepare the Royal Highway

Swedish psalmbook tune

SERVING TODAY

Ushers for December: Geoff Hulse & Mike Saylor

Eucharistic Visitors: Mike & Martie Saylor

Eucharistic Ministers: Meredith Griffin & Ed Futch

Crucifer: Cady Stanley

Torch Bearers: Noah MacDonald & Lilly Stanley

Flag Bearers: Camden MacDonald & Zoe MacDonald

CHURCH STAFF

Parish Administrator: Margie Clark

mclark@ststephenschurch.com

Communications Coordinator: Jane Cunningham

cunninghamjane04@gmail.com

Director of Children's Choirs: Ella Hendershaw

Treasurer: Emilie Foy

Verger: Ray Harris

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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CLERGY

The Rt. Rev. Robert Skirving, Bishop

The Rev. Raymond J. Hanna, Rector

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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