

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO & CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
DECEMBER 16, 2018 ■ 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 *Lo! he comes with clouds descending* Hymn 57

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

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

Kyrie (S 91)

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are: "Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us." The melody is simple and repetitive, with some phrasing slurs.

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: *Zephaniah 3:14-20*

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

The Lord has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.

The Lord, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing
as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.

And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,

and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;

for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,

when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Canticle 9 The First Song of Isaiah

Ecce Deus

Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely, it is God who saves me; *
I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, *
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

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: *Philippians 4:4-7*

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding

Hymn 59

THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (from the *New Zealand Prayer Book*)

God of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ you promise to hear us when we pray to you in faith with thanksgiving.

We pray for one another, for our families and friends, through whom we learn to love and to be loved. Thank you for all who care for us. Give us grace to serve Christ by serving our neighbours and our community, loving others as he loves us.

Silence

We thank you for the unfailing love you hold out to everyone in Jesus Christ. Comfort and heal those in sorrow, need, sickness or any other trouble, especially our parishioners: Sarah, Anna, Will, Jeff, Ann, Ann, Betty, Sue, Jack, Allan, Charles, Hal, Betsy, Jennifer

and Kevin; and our friends, family, and neighbors: Al, Don, Brenda, Dennis, Ruth Ann, Charlotte, Kristine, Lee, Bob, Phyllis, Susan, Elizabeth, Joe, Sarah, David, Eric, Ann, Cailee, Chrissie, Mary Beth, Alex, Julia, Austen, Bob, Dan, John, Jackson, Zeno, Steve, Parrish and Bob. Give them courage and hope in their distress, and bless those who minister to them.

Silence

We remember with gratitude your many gifts to us in creation and the rich heritage of our nation. Help us and people everywhere to share with justice and peace the resources of the earth. Give wisdom to our President and Congress and to all leaders of the nations. Protect those serving in the armed forces of our country, especially Bill, Eric, Taylor, Wes and Jay.

Silence

We pray for your Church throughout the world, thanking you for all who serve Christ and his kingdom. By your Spirit strengthen your people for their work and witness in the world. Unite us in your truth and love, that we who confess your name may also reflect your glory.

Silence

We remember with thanksgiving all who have died in Christ, and we rejoice at the faithful witness of your saints in every age, praying that we may enter with them into the unending joy of your heavenly kingdom.

Silence

Merciful God, you look with compassion on all who turn to you.
Hear the prayers of your people.

**Grant that what we have asked in faith
we may by your grace receive;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE PEACE

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

People: And also with you.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Lift Up Your Heads, O Gates* David von Kampen

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

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.

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

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

Come, thou long expected Jesus

Hymn 66

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

Eucharistic Visitors: Geoff & Lee Hulse

Ushers: Geoff Hulse and Wes Morrison

CHURCH STAFF

Parish Administrator: Margie Clark

mclark@ststephenschurch.com

Communications Coordinator: Jane Cunningham

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Treasurer: Emilie Foy

Verger: Ray Harris



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CLERGY

The Rt. Rev. Robert Skirving, Bishop

The Rev. Raymond J. Hanna, Rector

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VESTRY

Senior Warden: Nicole Barnes, Junior Warden: Chris Garrison
Mary Mills Borden, Todd Brantley, Linda Edsall-Huard, Emilie Foy, Drew Grice, Adam
Livengood, Pete Mitchell, Alice Royal, Beth Saylor and Dave Tayloe