

CHRISTMAS EVE
HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO
DECEMBER 24, 2021 ■ 5:30 & 11:00 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 *Extended Organ Prelude on Carols of the Season*

HYMN 83

O come, all ye faithful

Adeste Fideles

Celebrant

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit

People

And blessed be His kingdom, now and forever.

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



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 heaven - 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 9:2-7*

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 all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
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 *Cantate Domino*

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
- 2 Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; ***
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; ***
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! ***
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
- 7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
- 8 Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; ***
bring offerings and come into his courts.
- 9 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations: “The Lord is King! ***
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity.”

11 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.

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

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

**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: *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.

HYMN 87

Hark! the herald angels sing

Mendelssohn

The Gospel: *Luke 2:1-14(15-20)* (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!”

[When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.]

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.

CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor says:

In the stillness of this holy season of Christmas, let us pray to God, saying, “God of love, hear our prayer.”

Christians around the world are celebrating the birth of your son, Jesus. Unite us in faith, that we may shine with one light, and scatter all darkness. God of love,

hear our prayer.

You pierced the cosmic silence with the utterance of your Word made flesh. Inspire leaders everywhere with your message of compassion and justice. God of love,

hear our prayer.

By joining heaven and earth in your son, you affirmed the holiness of our earthly habitation. Encourage all people to bless it, and to keep it a hallowed home for all its occupants. God of love,

hear our prayer.

The Messiah is born, and promise is born anew. Renew our hope, individually and as a community, and strengthen the bonds we share with others, both within and beyond these walls. God of love,

hear our prayer.

Shepherds heard and conveyed your angel's good news of great joy. Give us grace to understand and share your gospel of love. God of love,

hear our prayer.

Multitudes of heavenly hosts proclaimed glory to you and peace on earth. Kindle in our hearts the courage and strength to work for peace and reconciliation. God of love,

hear our prayer.

Jesus came to us as a baby cradled in a borrowed bed of straw, because there was no room at the inn. Open our eyes and hearts to the needs of the homeless and the hungry.

God of love,

hear our prayer.

You sent Jesus to illuminate all who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. Tend the embers of comfort and healing for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially Bob Cagle, Will Fickling, Debby Hickey, Frank Joyner, Melissa Knebel, Sue McDonald, John Peacock, Suzanne Thorne, Betsy Toomey and Lloyd Turlington. God of love,

hear our prayer.

By making Jesus incarnate in the world, you offered to all people the blessing of holiness. Lend your glory to those who have died, especially those we name now, either silently or aloud. At the last day gather us all in your eternal life. God of love,

hear our prayer.

Gracious God, hear the concerns, gratitude, and intercessions of your people here gathered, offered silently or aloud.

Celebrant:

God of love, the feast of Christmas reminds us that you are with us at all times and in all places; hear our prayers and send your Holy Spirit to guide us. In the name of you Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Celebrant and People

**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 Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says
 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

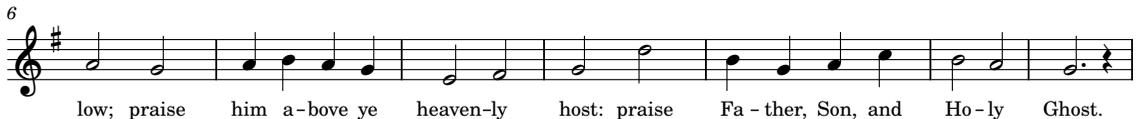
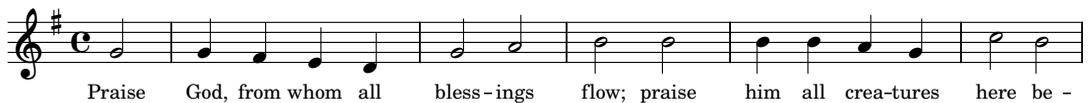
Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
 People: **And also with you.**

HYMN 105

God rest you merry, gentlemen

God Rest You Merry

THE DOXOLOGY



THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer A)

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.

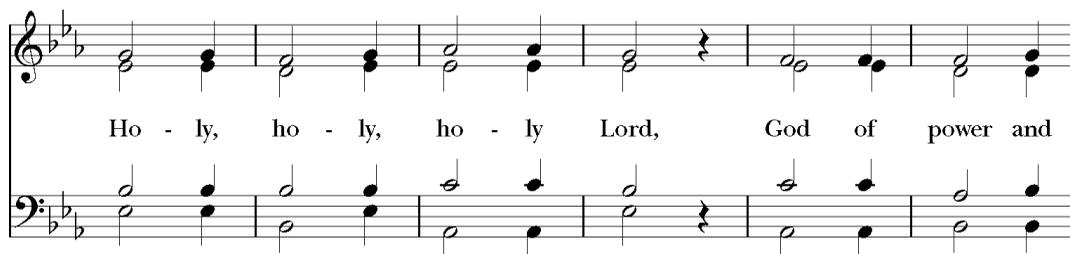
People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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.)*

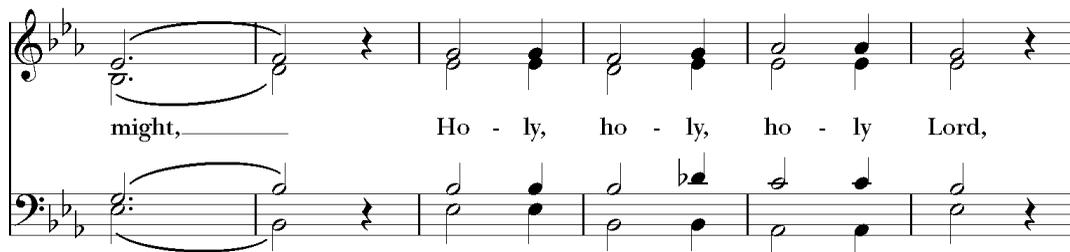
Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People:

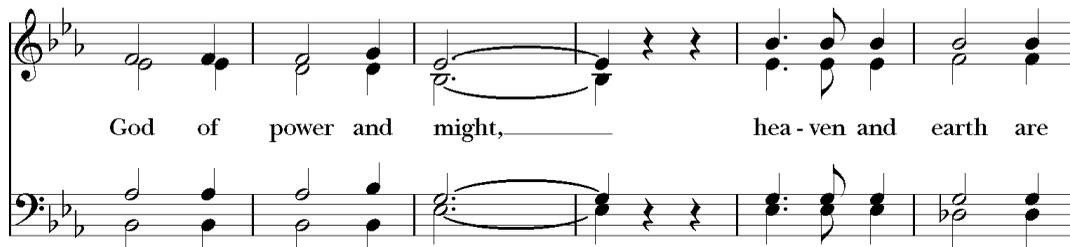
Sanctus S130



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and



might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,



God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues:

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues:

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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.

FRACTION ANTHEM S167

Antiphon

Cantor; then All



The dis-ci-ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing of the bread.

Cantor



1. The bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia,



is the com - mun - ion of the bo - dy of Christ. [Ant.]

Cantor



2. One bo - dy are we, al - le - lu - ia,



for though man - y we share one bread. [Ant.]

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation:
The Gifts of God for the People of God*

COMMUNION HYMNS

Hymn 82 *Of the Father's love begotten*

Hymn 101 *Away in a manger*

Hymn 111 *Silent night, holy night*

Divinum mysterium

Cradle Song

Stille Nacht

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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.**

THE BLESSING

HYMN 100

Joy to the world

Antioch

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

Let us go forth in the name of Christ

People

Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

In dulci jubilo

J. S. Bach

The poinsettias on the altar tonight are given to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for and in memory of friends and family by St. Stephen's parishioners.

You are invited to choose a Sunday and make a donation to the Flower Fund so that a Memorial or Thanksgiving event can be observed. The required donation for two arrangements is \$120; if the cost is prohibitive, maybe a joint donation can be made? Please contact Vicky Bailey at the Church Office at admin@ststephenschurch.com or 919-734-4263 to send details of the Memorial/Thanksgiving.

SERVING TODAY

Celebrant: The Rev. David Wyly

Organist: Christopher Pharo

Live Stream Technician: Steven Smith

Acolyte and Lector: Kate Harris (5:30 p.m.)

Lector: Ed Futch (11:00 p.m.)

Licensing Information for Music

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music - #280 Canticle 20, Glory to God: Gloria in excelsis

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music - #125 The Holy Eucharist II, Holy, holy, holy Lord: Sanctus

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music - #154 The Holy Eucharist, Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

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CLERGY

The Rt. Rev. Robert Skirving, Bishop

The Rev. David Wyly

Rector@ststephenschurch.com

CHURCH STAFF

Organist and Choirmaster: Christopher Pharo

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xmorrison@ststephenschurch.com

Communications Coordinator: Jane Cunningham

communications@ststephenschurch.com

Church Sexton: Alfie Barnes

VESTRY

Senior Warden: Lori Allen; Junior Warden: Mike Saylor;

Will Bland, Tom Brown, Duffy Fleming, Kathy Harris, Mary Susan Heath,
Mary Lee Jeffreys, Katherine MacDonald, Paul Rutter, Leon Stockton and Sallie Wahl