

**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO
DECEMBER 31, 2017 ■ 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 *The Hills Are Bare at Bethlehem* Anne Krentz

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

ENTRANCE RITE

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *Hark! The herald angels sing* Hymn 87

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*

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 ri - 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.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS *(Please be seated.)*

The First Reading: Isaiah 61:10-62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;

for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,

as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,

so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,

until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.

The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;

and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the Lord will give.

You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 147 or 147:13-21 *Laudate Dominum*

Hallelujah!

How good it is to sing praises to our God! *
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

**The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; *
he gathers the exiles of Israel.**

He heals the brokenhearted *
and binds up their wounds.

**He counts the number of the stars *
and calls them all by their names.**

Great is our Lord and mighty in power; *
there is no limit to his wisdom.

**The Lord lifts up the lowly, *
but casts the wicked to the ground.**

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; *
make music to our God upon the harp.

**He covers the heavens with clouds *
and prepares rain for the earth;**

He makes grass to grow upon the mountains *
and green plants to serve mankind.

**He provides food for flocks and herds *
and for the young ravens when they cry.**

He is not impressed by the might of a horse; *
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;

**But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, *
in those who await his gracious favor.]**

Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion;

**For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
he has blessed your children within you.**

He has established peace on your borders; *
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

**He sends out his command to the earth, *
and his word runs very swiftly.**

He gives snow like wool; *
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

**He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
who can stand against his cold?**

He sends forth his word and melts them; *
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.

**He declares his word to Jacob, *
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.**

He has not done so to any other nation; *
to them he has not revealed his judgments.
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: *Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7*

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

O little town of Bethlehem

Hymn 79

The Gospel: *John 1:1-18 (Please stand.)*

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

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Raymond J. Hanna, Rector

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 III

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; especially,
Donald, our President, Roy, our Governor, and Chuck, our mayor.
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; especially our
parishioners: Sarah, Jane, Anna, Paul, Will, Ann, David, Ann, Jimmy, Martha, Betty, Sue,

Jack, Charles, Hal, and Betsy; and our family and friends: Kitty, Don, Suzanne, Helen, Dennis, Joyce, Martha, Lee, Billie Ann, Joshua, Bill & Alice, Susan, Elizabeth, Ann, Virginia, Beth, Andrea, Eric, Sally, Cailee, Catherine, Edna, Jerry, Mike, Sebastian, Holly, Matthew, Alex, Julia, Alexa, Scott, Anne, Dan, Parrish, Ed, Bob, George, Teresa, and Adlai.
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence may be kept and a Collect or other ending may be said.

THE CONFESSION

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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

Sussex Mummer's Carol

Robert Powell

AT THE PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS



So bring him in - cense, gold and myrrh, come, peas-ant, king, to



own___ him; the King of kings sal - va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en -



throne him. This, this___ is Christ the King, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;



haste, haste to bring him laude, the babe, the son___ of Ma - ry.

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:

Celebrant and People:



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.

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

In the bleak midwinter

Hymn 112

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:

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

PROCESSION OUT

Good Christian friends, rejoice

Hymn 107

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Gordon Phillips

SERVING TODAY

Greeter: Dave Tayloe

Eucharistic Ministers: Margie Clark & John Hine

Eucharistic Visitors: Bob & Jan Cagle

Ushers: Ken Gerrard and his sons, Miller, Hayes and Cam

CHURCH STAFF

Parish Administrator & Clerk of Vestry: Margie Clark

(mclark@ststephenschurch.com)

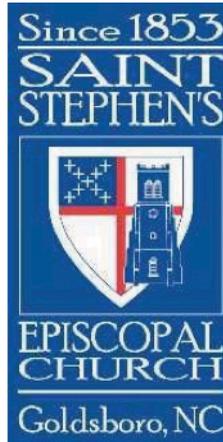
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(cunninghamjane04@gmail.com)

Director of Children's Choirs: Rebecca Barnes

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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DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Xena Markine-Morrison

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VESTRY

Senior Warden: Ken Gerrard, Junior Warden: Ann Hine

Nicole Barnes, Margie Clark, Emilie Foy, Chris Garrison, Drew Grice,
Linda Edsall-Huard, Pete Mitchell, Beth Saylor, Kim Smith, Dave Tayloe