



ST. STEPHEN'S
Episcopal Church

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II
DECEMBER 3, 2023 | 10:15 A.M.

This is God's house and all are welcome here. The service will be conducted according to the Book of Common Prayer (BCP), the red book in the pews. Music is found in the blue Hymnal. Notes about "Children in Worship" can be found on the back cover of this bulletin. A hearing loop is provided for the benefit of hearing aid users. To use, please switch to "T."



PRELUDE

Creator of the stars of night

Conditor alme siderum

THE GREAT LITANY

S67 / BCP 148

Officiant *People*
 O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Officiant *People*
 O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Officiant *People*
 O God the Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faith - ful, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Officiant *People*
 O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Officiant
 Remember not, Lord Christ, our offenses, nor the offenses of our forefathers; neither reward us according to our sins. Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and by thy mercy

People
 preserve us for ev - er. Spare us, good Lord.

Officiant

From all evil and wickedness; from sin; from the crafts and assaults of the

devil; and from everlast - ing dam - na - tion,

People

Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

(This same response is sung after the petitions that follow)

We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God; and that it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy Church Universal in the right way,

People

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

(This same response is sung after the petitions that follow)

Officiant Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

People Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

Officiant

People

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, Have mer - cy up - on us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Officiant

People

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, Grant us thy peace.

Officiant

People

O Christ, hear us. O Christ, hear us.

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

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

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

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 80:1-7, 16-18

Qui regis Israel

Antiphon (sung by choir once; then sung by all)



Stir up your strength, O LORD, and come to help us.

Tone VIII.I



- 1 *Cantor* | Hear, O Shepherd of Israel,
leading Joseph like a flock; *
All shine forth, you that are enthroned
u/pon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin,
and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength / and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, /
and we shall be saved.
- 4 O Lord God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered
despite the / prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them / bowls of
tears to drink.

- 6 You have made us the derision
of our neighbors, *
and our enemies / laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, /
and we shall be saved.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of
your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so /
strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call /
upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, /
and we shall be saved.

***Antiphon* (sung by all)

THE EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN 61*Wachet auf*

“Sleepers, wake!” A voice astounds us

THE GOSPEL

Mark 13:24-37

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

Jesus said, “In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Katy Campbell

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

BCP 360

THE PEACE

BCP 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

OFFERTORY

People, look east

Bensaçon Carol

1. People, look east. The time is near
Of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Guest, is on the way.

2. Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
One more seed is planted there:
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
That in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Rose, is on the way.

3. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
One more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather,
Bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Star, is on the way.

4. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming
With the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

- Eleanor Farjeon

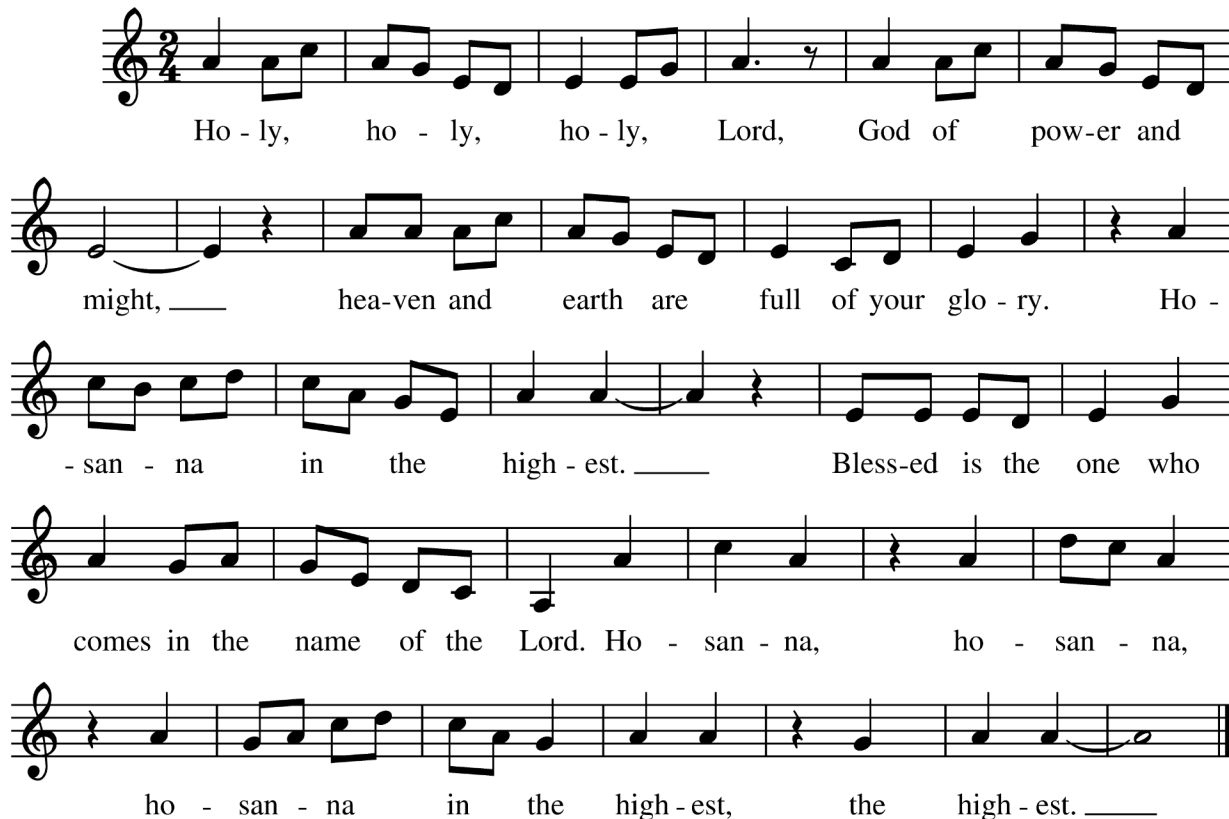
THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING | Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP 367

SANCTUS | *Missa Appalachia* | *EOMI* 30

Dimmock

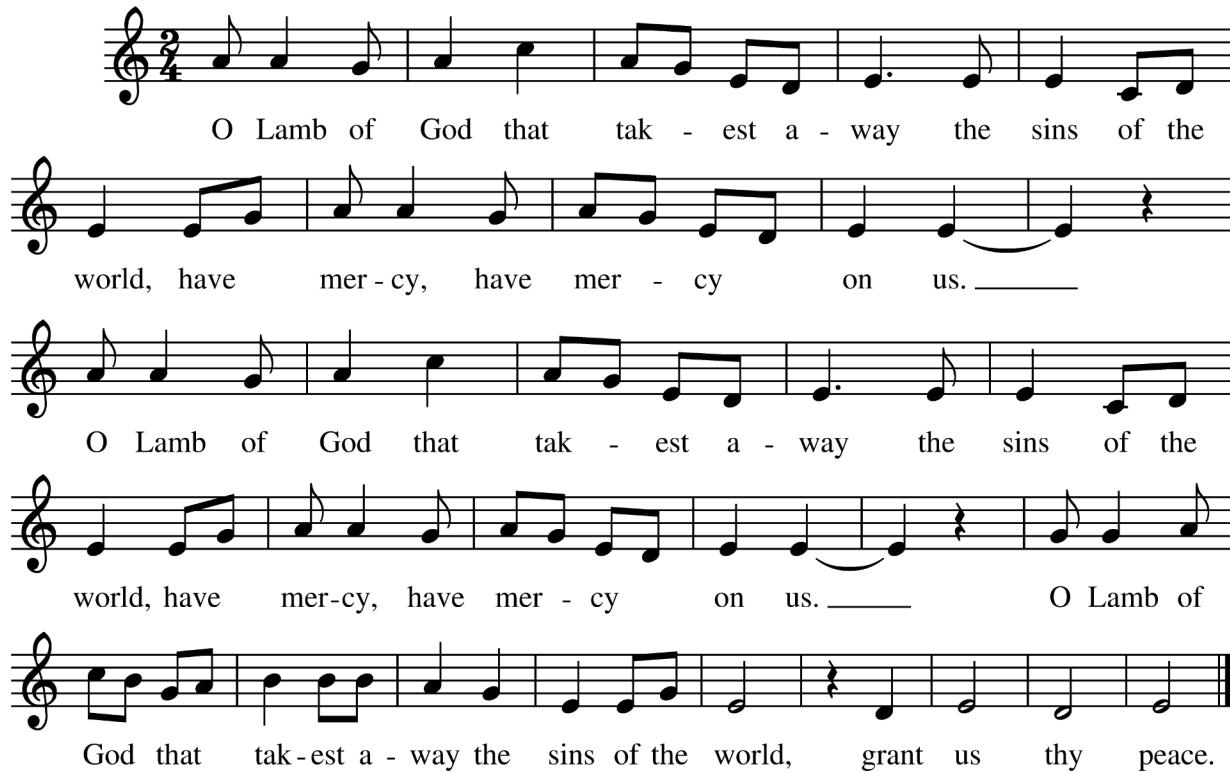


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord, God of pow-er and
might, _____ hea-ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
- san - na in the high - est. _____ Bless-ed is the one who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na,
ho - san - na in the high - est, the high - est. _____

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 364

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD



O Lamb of God that tak - est a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us. _____

O Lamb of God that tak - est a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us. _____ O Lamb of God that tak - est a - way the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion in the Episcopal Church. Gluten-free hosts are available upon request at the rail. Anyone is welcome to come forward to receive a blessing, which can be indicated by simply crossing your arms over your chest.

HYMN 54

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

Savior of the nations, come!

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

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.

BLESSING

HYMN 66

Stuttgart

Come, thou long expected Jesus

THE DISMISSAL

BCP 366

Clergy Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

Pachelbel

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Marion Lincoln Counts by Barbara and Garrett Bressler.

After the service, please join us in the Parish Hall for Coffee Hour, hosted by Lucien Roughton, on behalf of the Vestry.

MINISTERS OF THE DAY

CELEBRANT	The Rev. Stephen Elkins-Williams
PREACHER	The Rev. Katy Campbell
CANTOR & SERVER	Dr. Jeremy Godwin
ACOLYTES	Henry Kennelly, Scarlett Jones, Walker Elkins-Williams, Sutton Elkins-Williams
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	Robert Brewer
LECTOR (FIRST LESSON)	Walker Elkins-Williams
LECTOR (EPISTLE)	Judy Lamon
GREETER	Lucy Petruccelli
USHERS	Allen Fuller, Ted Griffin
ALTAR GUILD	Claudia Bond, Susan Griffin
LIVESTREAM	Jonathan Robichaud

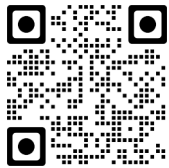
INTERCESSIONS

In an effort to lift up the immediate prayer requests of our parishioners and their family and friends, we will be listing new additions to the intercessions for a three-week period in the bulletin. The full prayer list will be included in our Thursday Healing Service and can be found using the QR code below.

Members of our parish community: **Ruth, Aiden**

For friends and family members of our parishioners: **Robert**, uncle of Michelle, **Scott Boggs**

Birthdays: **John Masella, Mal Watlington, Scott Ballew, David Culp, Kate Fagan-Solis**



Intercessions

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

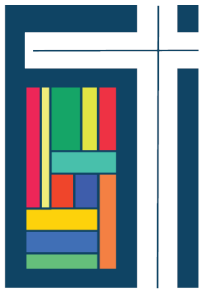
Children are welcome and encouraged to worship with us.

Children are naturally curious—and naturally wiggly. One way to help them engage is to sit close to the front where it is easier for them to see. Children will learn the most about worship from watching you singing, praying, and responding. And it's okay to quietly explain what's going on. We also have red activity bags available in the Narthex. If you feel that at some point, you need to leave worship with your child, please come back when they (and you) are ready.

Nursery/Childcare

Nursery/childcare is available for preschool-aged children in the Office Building. If you proceed out of the church and to the building to the left, once you enter the red double doors, you'll see the Nursery just to left (look for the Noah's Ark carving above the door). If you need help finding it, please don't hesitate to ask an usher or greeter.

It is our desire that everyone join us for Holy Communion.



WELCOME TO ST. STEPHEN'S

St. Stephen's welcomes all visitors. We hope your worship experience with us today is meaningful and spirit-filled, and we invite you to return often and become an active member of our parish family. Help us get to know you by filling out a Visitor Card from the slot in your pew and placing it in the offering plate. We invite you to join us for Coffee Hour and visit with us over refreshments immediately following the service.



Calendar



The Windowpane:
Announcements