



The Fourth Sunday of Advent
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
December 19, 2021

8:00am – Rite I

9:30am - Rite II

*“Before the service, speak silently to God.
During the service, let God speak to you.
After the service, speak to one another.”*

A Warm Welcome to all visitors to our parish today, and we hope that you will find St. Stephen's a spiritual home! Take a moment to introduce yourself to the clergy and greeters.

Communion is a sign of the unity of the Church that Christ envisioned when he prayed "that they may become completely one" (John 17:23). Therefore, all baptized Christians may receive communion at the altar. Visitors who are not baptized are welcome to come forward during the Sacrament to receive a blessing. Fold your arms over your chest as indication to the priest.

Your prayers are asked for our parish, especially Byron Burgess, Tiger Warfield, Dave Brown, Louis George, Charles, Ann Gerald, Mead Parsons, Issac, Larry, Jack, Carver, Marianne, Kathy & Samuel Evans, Katie, Romana, Jeremy, Linda Kay, Angie, Mariah Patterson, Jaxon Minetti, Randal Hurst, Kim Muncy, Richard Klein, Patricia Meadows, Sandy, Jane Morton, Stephanie Bolen, Clayton, Lori, Rosanne, Catherine Newburg, Preethi Naidu, Bonnie Meyer, Brendon Mann, and Valerie Ventura.

For those celebrating birthdays; this week: Sarah Abrams, Michael Harrison, and Pat McWhorter

For those celebrating anniversaries;

In the Anglican cycle of prayer: The Church of the Province of Central Africa.

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer: Trinity in Shepherdstown served by The Rev. G.T. Schramm.

For those serving in the armed forces especially: Jayson Morton, Nate Willard, Ben Sulwer, and Andrew Khalil.

For first responders, especially: Sam Tuttle and Lee Price

SERVING TODAY

Celebrant & Preacher	The Rev. Dr. Susan Q. Claytor
Lector	Robert Burnside
Music	Donna Burnside
Choir Director	Robert Burnside
Soloist	Jason Hogie
Altar Guild	Peggy Cantley, Bessie Lively, and Doug Willis
Eucharistic Minister	Grif Callahan

HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

8:00 A.M.

The Word of God

Salutation **page 323** in the *Book of Common Prayer*

Gloria **page 324** in the *Book of Common Prayer*

The Collect of the Day

We beseech thee, Almighty God, to purify our consciences by thy daily visitation, that when thy Son our Lord cometh he may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

The First Reading: Micah 5:2-5a

The Response: The First Song of Mary

The Epistle: Hebrews 10:5-10

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Luke 1:39-45

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Susan Claytor

The Nicene Creed

page 326 in the *Book of Common Prayer*

The Prayers of the People

page 328 in the *Book of Common Prayer*

Confession of Sin

page 330 in the *Book of Common Prayer*

The Peace

page 332 in the *Book of Common Prayer*

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer I

page 333 in the *Book of Common Prayer*

The Sanctus (*spoken*)

page 334 in the *Book of Common Prayer*

The Lord's Prayer

page 336 in the *Book of Common Prayer*

The Breaking of the Bread and Communion of the People

Post Communion Prayer

page 339 in the *Book of Common Prayer*

Blessing and Dismissal

Important News/Announcements are at the end of the bulletin following the 9:30 am service.

HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

Prelude: "In The Bleak Midwinter" by John Innes

Opening Hymn: "Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!..." Hymnal page 438

The Word of God

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

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

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

"Light One Candle"

Kyrie: Hymnal page S89



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son.



Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e -



le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation,
that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a
mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

First Reading: Micah 5:2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
 who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
 one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
 from ancient days.
Therefore he shall give them up until the time
 when she who is in labour has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
 to the people of Israel.
And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,
 in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
 to the ends of the earth;
and he shall be the one of peace.

 If the Assyrians come into our land
 and tread upon our soil,
we will raise against them seven shepherds
 and eight installed as rulers.

The Word of the Lord... **Thanks be to God**

Psalm: The First Song of Mary

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Epistle: Hebrews 10:5-10

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,
'Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;
in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings
you have taken no pleasure.
Then I said, "See, God, I have come to do your will, O God"
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).'

When he said above, 'You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings' (these are offered according to the law), then he added, 'See, I have come to do your will.' He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The Word of the Lord... **Thanks be to God**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Luke 1:39-45**.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

The Gospel of the Lord.... **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Susan Claytor

The Nicene Creed

**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.**

(Note: The prayers are embedded in the Eucharistic Prayer)

The Confession

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister 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

People The peace of the Lord be always with you.
 And also with you.

Offertory Hymn: "Come, thou long expected Jesus,..." Hymnal page 66



1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;



from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Eucharistic Prayer D

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks;
for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light
inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all
things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to
rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you
night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence,
they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and
giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you,
and glorify your Name, as we sing (say),

Celebrant and People

S-129

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 he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. _____

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty
works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your
own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in

obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it, and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People

We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.

The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

[Remember (NN. and) all who minister in your Church.]
[Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.]
[Remember _____.]

[Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.]

And grant that we may find our inheritance with [the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, (with _____) and] all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. *AMEN.*

And now, 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

[Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed
on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present
in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.

I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
come spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you;
never permit me to be separated from you.

Amen

After communion

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

Closing Hymn: "Savior of the nations come!..."

Hymnal page 54

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

**Announcements below*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Don't forget to bring your canned meat (salmon, tuna, chicken) for the blessing boxes. Pop-top lids would be great, but all donations are appreciated. We will collect through December.

*Do you spend Christmas Day alone or miss a gathering? Mother Susan and Parr will host a dinner (RSVPs required! 717-602-9002 or revclaytor@gmail.com) at the Rectory on Christmas at noon following a simple service at 11 am at St. Stephen's.

*St. Luke is offering a mid-week Advent service on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

*Christmas Eve services will be 5pm & 8:30pm and a simple service on Christmas Day at 11am.

*On December 26th services will be at 9:30am at St. Stephen's and 11am at St. Luke. There will not be 8am service that day.