



SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

ST, STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2022

Our worship this season of Advent is focused on three things:

- 1) Preparing Our WHOLE Community for the Arrival of Christ*
- 2) Deepening Our Relationships Across Generations*
- 3) Worshiping in the Episcopal Tradition*



WELCOME TO ST. STEPHEN'S

We as people of faith who are called to care for this creation **want to respectfully acknowledge the Cowlitz and Chinook People, who have stewarded this land throughout the generations.** We begin this effort to acknowledge what has been buried by honoring the truth. We are standing on the ancestral lands of the Cowlitz and Chinook People. We pay respects to their elders past and present. Please take a moment to consider the many legacies of violence, displacement, migration, and settlement that bring us together here today. And please join us in uncovering such truths.

St. Stephen's is a reconciling, affirming, and inclusive Christian community striving through worship, love and service to welcome all people just as God created you. No matter where you are on your journey of faith, and whether you are single, married, divorced, separated, or partnered, our welcome knows no boundaries of age, race, ethnicity, culture, political affiliation, gender, sexual orientation, economic condition, physical or mental ability. We believe that God delights in the diversity of creation and so do we!

WE SING IN JOY THAT WE ARE TOGETHER TODAY.

On Jordan's Bank



1. On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An -
2. Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make
3. For you are our sal - va - tion, Lord, Our
4. To heal the sick stretch out your hand, And
5. All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, Whose



noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - en,
straight the way for God with - in, And let each heart pre -
ref - uge and our great re - ward; With - out your grace we
bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; Shine forth and let your
ad - vent has our free - dom won, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
pare a home Where such a might - y guest may come.
waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
light re - store Earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
we a - dore, And Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: *Jordanis oras praevia*; Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. by John Chandler, 1806–1876, alt.
Tune: WINCHESTER NEW, LM; adapt. from *Musikalisches Handbuch*, Hamburg, 1690

LITURGY OF THE WORD



THE WORD BECAME FLESH,
AND DWELT AMONG US.
ST. JOHN 1/14
When dark is the world today,
This Child brings
the world the light. MB

We prepare ourselves in Advent for the arrival of the Christ Child with the stories of waiting in anticipation for a great gift.

Blessed are you, holy and living One.
You come to your people and set them free.

WE SING WITH PRAISE FOR ALL THAT GOD HAS DONE

Within our Darkest Night / Dans nos Obscurités

Ostinato Refrain

With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the
Dans nos ob - scu - ri - tés al - lu - me le

fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a -
feu qui ne s'é-teint ja - mais, ne s'é-teint ja -

way. With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the
mais. Dans nos ob - scu - ri - tés, al - lu - me le

fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a - way.
feu qui ne s'é-teint ja - mais, ne s'é-teint ja - mais.

Last time ◡

A PRAYER FOR WAITING



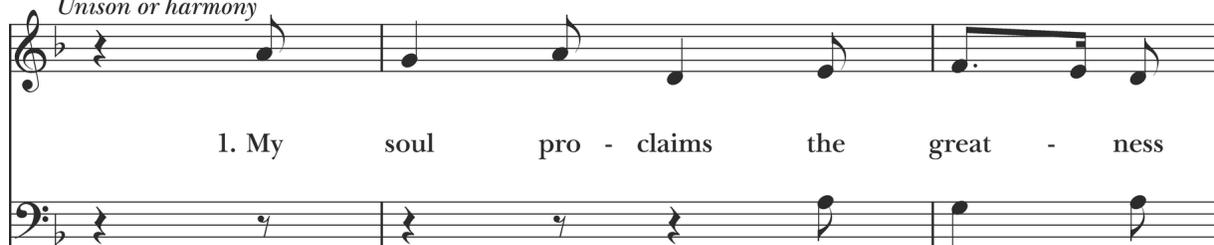
*A star carved into the ceiling of the
Shepherd's Caves in Bethlehem*

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE SONG OF MARY

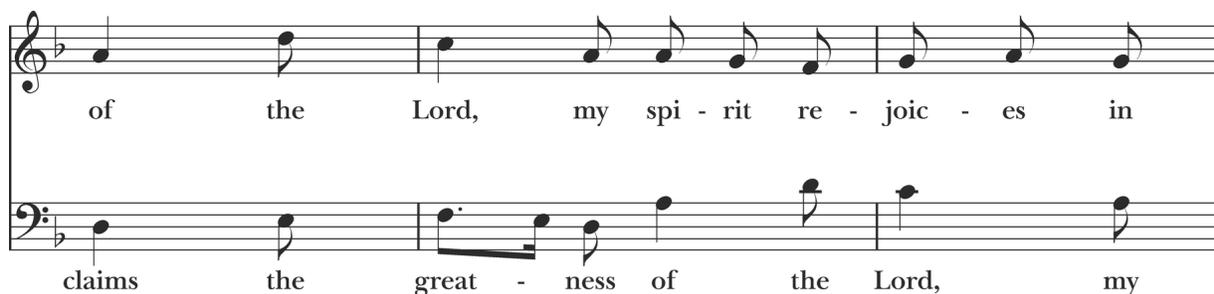
Antiphon

Unison or harmony

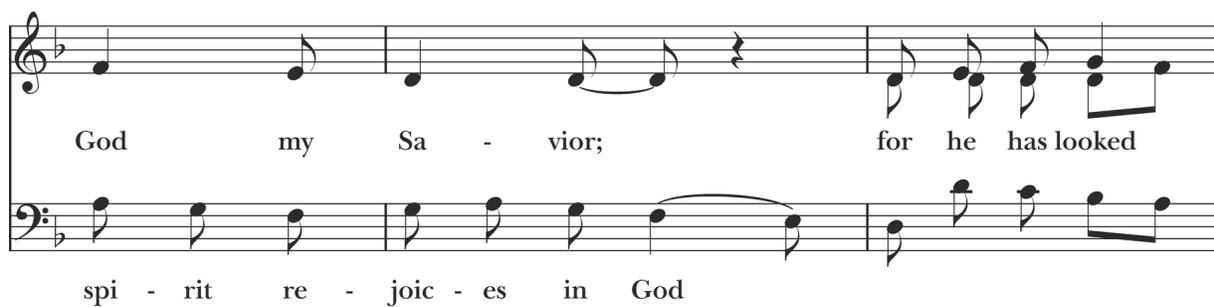


1. My soul pro - claims the great - ness

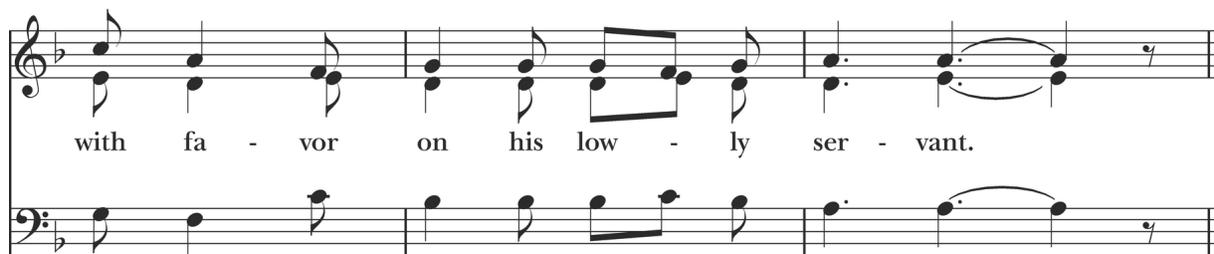
1. My soul pro -



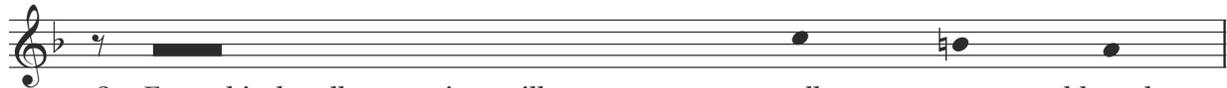
of the Lord, my spi - rit re - joic - es in
claims the great - ness of the Lord, my



God my Sa - vior; for he has looked
spi - rit re - joic - es in God



with fa - vor on his low - ly ser - vant.



2 From this day all generations will call me blessed:
 3 He has mercy on those who fear him
 4 He has shown the strength of his arm,
 5 He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
 6 He has filled the hungry with good things,
 7 He has come to the help of his servant Israel,
 8 The promise he made to our fathers,
 9 Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
 10 As it was in the beginning, is now,



2 the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.
 3 in every generation. [Ant.]
 4 he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
 5 and has lifted up the lowly. [Ant.]
 6 and the rich he has sent away empty.
 7 for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
 8 to Abraham and his children for ever. [Ant.]
 9 and to the Holy Spirit:
 10 and will be for ever. Amen. [Ant.]

The antiphon may be sung in unison, with the counter-melody played by an instrument, or it may be sung in three parts.

Music: *Cathedral of the Isles*, Betty Carr Pulkingham (b. 1928). Copyright © 1978 Celebration, Aliquippa, PA 15001.

We sing The Song of Mary in anticipation of what the arrival of Jesus will mean for the world.

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to
Matthew 3:1-12 (First Nations Version)

Praise to you, O Christ.

In those days a man named Gift of Goodwill (John) appeared in the desert places of Land of Promise (Judea). He began to speak out a message that was loud and clear, "It is time to return to the right ways of thinking. Creator's good road from above is close. It is time to begin walking it."

The prophet Creator Will Help Us (Isaiah) told about him long ago when he said, "A voice is howling in the desert, 'Clear the pathways! Make the path straight for the coming of the Great Chief!'"

Gift of Goodwill (John) came wearing a buffalo robe, with a deer hide sash around his waist. The food he ate was grasshoppers and wild honey.

The people we coming from Village of Peace (Jerusalem) from all over the Land of Promise (Judea) and the territory surrounding the river Flowing Down (Jordan). They came admitting to their bad hearts and broken ways and participated in the purification ceremony.

When he saw the Separated Ones (Pharisees) and Upright Ones (Sadducees) in the crowd watching, he cried out to them, "You nest of poisonous snakes! Who warned you to run and hide from the coming storm? You are like trees without fruit. Prove to others, by the way you live, that you have returned to good road. Do you think you can say, 'Father of Many Nations (Abraham) is our ancestor? Do you not know the Great Spirit can make these stones into his children? The tomahawk is already at the root of the trees, and the ones that have no good fruit will be cut down and tossed into the fire.

"I perform the purification ceremony with water, for the ones who have returned to the right way of thinking. But there is one you do not know, who is right here with you, and even though he comes after me, he is much greater. I am not even worthy to bend down and untie his moccasins. He is the one who will perform the purification ceremony with the fire of the Holy Spirit! His harvest basket is in his hands, to separate the grain from the husks. He will store the good grain in his barn, but the husks he will burn up with fire no one can put out."

The Gospel of the Our Savior. **Glory to you, O Christ.**

THE STORY OF JESUS

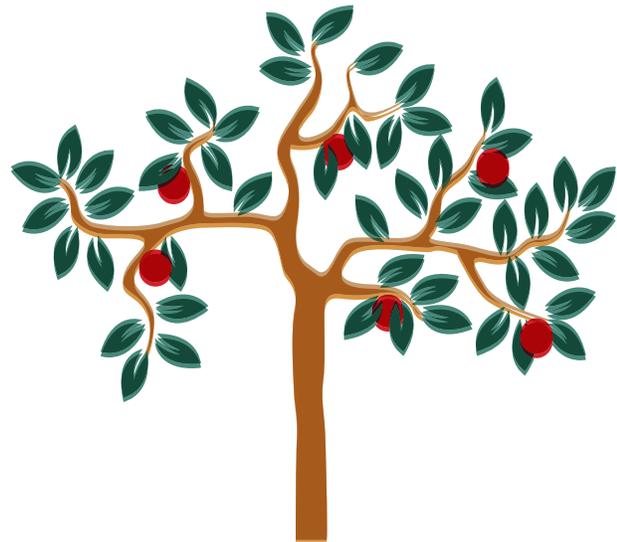


PREPARING FOR CHRIST

What does it mean to make the path straight?



How do we bear
good fruit?



CREED

*A Statement of Our Faith Connecting US to
ALL Christians that have waited for Christ*

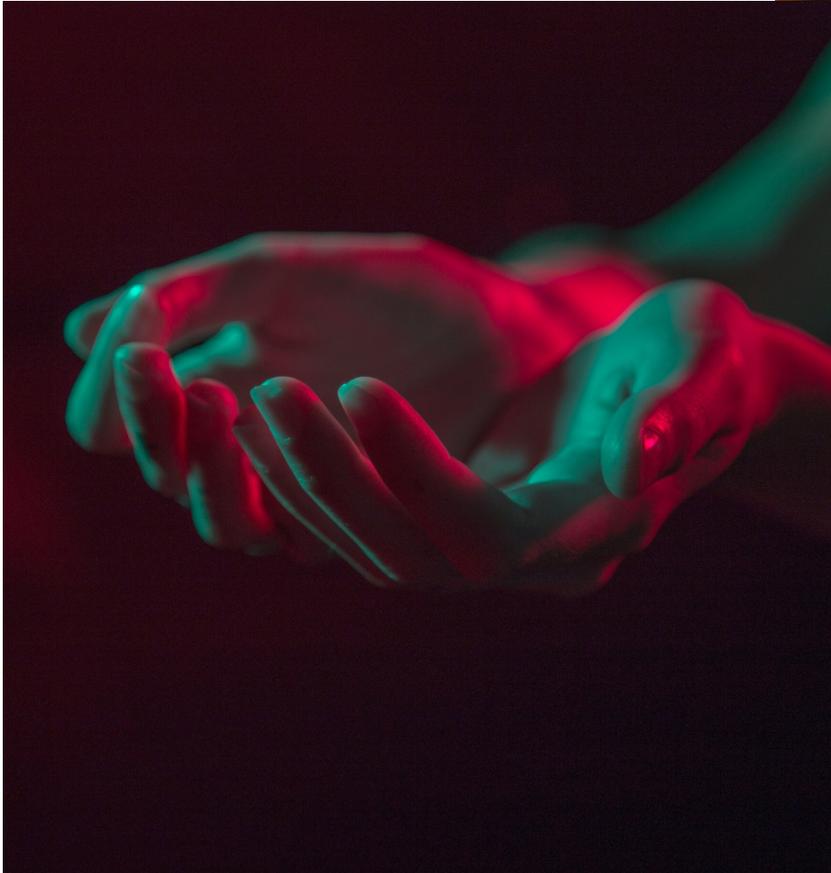
**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and
glorified, who 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.**



*Icon of Mary
at the Basilica
Church of the
Annunciation,
Nazareth*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE



We pray together for the needs of the world, the church, our local community.

What do you pray for today?

You can pray for others, for teachers, for leaders, for the weak, and for your own needs.

After each prayer offered today we take a moment of silence to offer our prayers to God.

Presider: In preparation for and anticipation of the arrival of the Christ child, we pause in this season to offer prayers for the whole of creation and our community both within and outside these walls.

Silence

Reader: We offer thanksgiving for the worldwide church as we are all connected together in this season of Advent, eagerly awaiting the birth of our savior. May the people of the church live into the call we receive as followers of Christ, to seek peace and justice for all of creation.

Silence

Reader: We offer prayers for the larger community throughout our nation, and pray that our leaders hear and respond to the needs of all.

Silence

Reader: We offer prayers for the concerns of all in our local community. We pray especially for those of our neighbors experiencing homelessness as they deal with unsure futures. We pray that God softens the hardened hearts of local leaders who refuse to take proactive action to meet the needs of all of our neighbors.

Silence

Reader: We offer prayers for all who suffer or face any kind of trouble. We pray especially today for David Hughey, Lynne Sathe, Steve Larson, Elinor Best, Rachel McArdle, Wendy Martin, and those you now name either silently or aloud.

Silence

Reader: We pray for all of the faithful departed, welcome them in your embrace.

Silence

Presider: Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SINS



Jesus forgives Peter for his denial, at the Sea of Galilee

We admit our faults and seek the forgiveness of God which is always present if we simply ask

Let us confess our sins to God.

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

Absolution

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

WE SING IN JOY FOR THE OFFERINGS WE BRING TO GOD TODAY

Offertory

Prepare the Way
by Michael Barrett
Choir



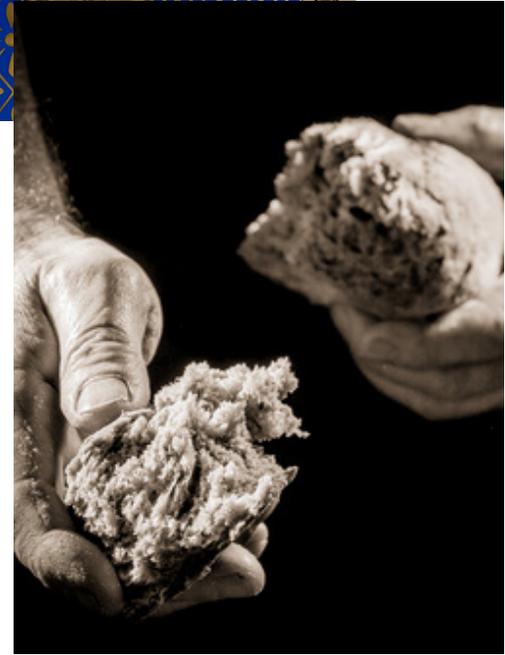
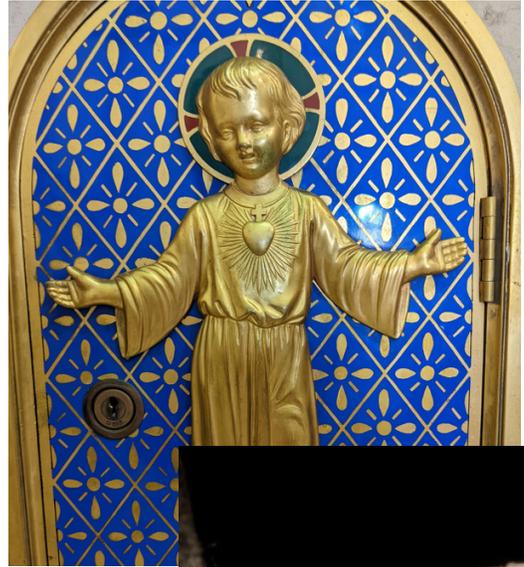
HOLY EUCCHARIST



We celebrate the Holy Meal that Christ has left for us. The words of Christ in our prayer are taken from scripture and known as the “words of institution.”

The Greek word for “remember” does not simply mean to recall. It means more in that it calls us to make Christ present.

EAT THIS BREAD DRINK THIS CUP



The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

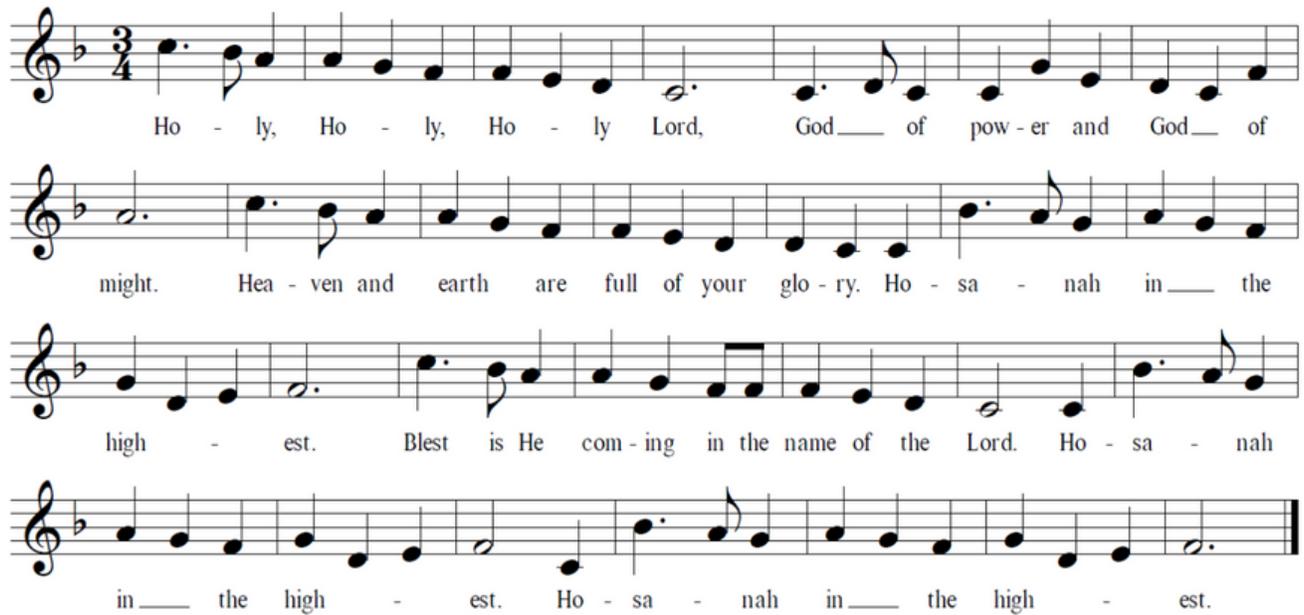
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right, and good and joyful,
to give you thanks, all-holy God,
source of life and fountain of mercy.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

Sanctus



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and God of
might. Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - sa - nah in the
high - est. Blest is He com - ing in the name of the Lord. Ho - sa - nah
in the high - est. Ho - sa - nah in the high - est.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.



*The Site of Jesus' Birth,
Church of The Nativity,
Bethlehem*

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with the Blessed Mother Mary, Stephen and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

AMEN.

As Our Savior Christ taught us, we now pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**



The Breaking of the Bread

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.
A period of silence is kept.*



Fraction (to the tune of Greensleeves)

*What feast of love is offered here
What banquet come from heaven?
What food of everlasting life
What gracious gift is given?
This, this is Christ the king,
The bread come down from heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing!
How sweet the manna given!*



The Gifts of God for the People of God.

You are invited to come forward and receive Eucharist at this time. We will be sharing wine from a common chalice, so if you would prefer intinction please let the priest know so that they may intinct in a separate chalice reserved for this practice. Gluten free communion is available and a non-alcoholic option in place of the wine is also available upon request.

For those joining via Live-Stream: A Prayer for a Person Unable to Take the Eucharist (St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

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 at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The second system also has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: "Wait for the Lord, whose day is near." and "Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!".

Text: Isaiah 40, Philippians 4, Matthew 6-7; Taizé Community, 1984
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
© 1984, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Prepare the Way of the Lord

Canon

Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre-prepare the way of the Lord, and

all peo-ple will see the sal - va - tion of our God. Pre -

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The second system also has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is three flats (Bb, Eb, Ab) and the time signature is 6/8. The lyrics are: "Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre-prepare the way of the Lord, and all peo-ple will see the sal - va - tion of our God. Pre -". There are four circled letters (A, B, C, D) above the notes, indicating specific points in the canon.

Text: Luke 3:4, 6; Taizé Community, 1984
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
© 1984, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Postcommunion Prayer (Standing or Kneeling/Sitting)

Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah,
and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary,
and of the Holy Spirit, who Broods over the world as a mother over her
children,
be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

Community Invitations

(You are invited to stand as able.)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



Closing Hymn

Following the closing hymn you are invited to join us in the Parish Hall for Coffee Hour! If you are new today, please take a welcome packet (found in the pew or at the front door) and if you feel comfortable, introduce yourself to Fr. Nic!



WE SING IN JOY FOR ALL WE HAVE RECEIVED TODAY

Creator of the Stars of Night

Verses



1. Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, Your
 2. In sor - row that the an - cient curse Should
 3. When this old world drew on toward night, You
 4. At your great Name, O Je - sus, now All
 5. Come in your ho - ly might, we pray, Re -
 6. To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, And



peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light, O
 doom to death a u - ni - verse, You
 came; but not in splen - dor bright, Not
 knees must bend, all hearts must bow: All
 deem us for e - ter - nal day; De -
 God the Spir - it, Three in One, Praise,



Christ, Re - deem - er of us all, We
 came, O Sav - ior, to set free Your
 as a mon - arch, but the child Of
 things on earth with one ac - cord, Like
 fend us while we dwell be - low From
 hon - or, might, and glo - ry be From



pray you hear us when we call.
 own in glo - rious lib - er - ty.
 Mar - y, blame - less moth - er mild.
 those in heav'n, shall call you Lord.
 all as - saults of our dread foe.
 age to age e - ter - nal - ly.



Refrain
 Come, O Lord, and bring your light, O ra - diant

*Hymn may be sung without refrain.



star, our hearts' de - light. O God - with - us, Em - man - u -



el, with your love, the dark dis - pel.



Youth Group

All Middle & High School Aged Youth are Welcome to join us for Youth Group Every Sunday @ 6pm.

December 4: Button Making!

December 11: Ugly Christmas TShirt Making

December 18: Christmas Party!

Christmas Flower Offering

The Christmas floral adornment of the church is made possible through your generous gifts. You may contribute by using the envelopes in the pew racks, or mailing a check to the office by December 19. Please make sure the names of those being memorialized are legible.

If you wish to donate through our website, specify the Altar Guild and send an email to the office with the names to be memorialized.



*Southwest
Washington
Symphony*

and Symphony Chorale

Conductor, Dr. Robert Davis

Saturday, Dec. 10, 2022 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, Dec 11, 2022 3:00 p.m.

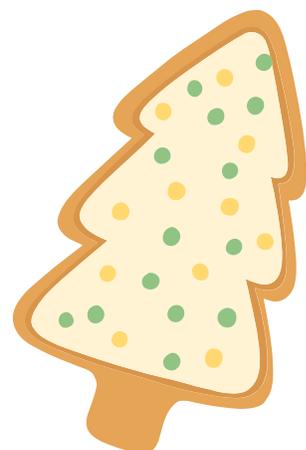
Longview Community Church

*Free Will Offering to benefit Salvation Army and
Community House on Broadway*



Cocoa

Wednesday
December
14 @ 6pm
Parish Hall
Bring a Plate
of Cookies
to Share!



Cookies



Carols



CHRISTMAS @ ST. STEPHEN'S

CHRISTMAS EVE, SATURDAY DECEMBER 24
4PM GRAB-BAG PAGEANT & EUCHARIST
10PM TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS EVE

CHRISTMAS DAY, SUNDAY DECEMBER 25
10:30AM EUCHARIST CELEBRATION
WEAR YOUR CHRISTMAS JAMMIES!