

MP

ΘΥ

FOURTH SUNDAY IN

ADVENT

DECEMBER 21

ST.
STEPHEN'S

SSLV.ORG/ADVENT

WE LIGHT THE FOURTH CANDLE

Reader 1: The fourth week of Advent we remember the gift of Love we have in Christ. The light of the candles is meant to remind us of the love that God has for us. Jesus shows us God's perfect love. He is God's love in human form. The Bible says that "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life."

Reader 2: Love is patient, love is kind and envies no one. Love is never boastful or conceited, rude or selfish. Love is not quick to take offense, it keeps no records of wrongs, it does not gloat over other people's troubles, but rejoices in the right, the good, and the true. There is nothing that love cannot face, there is no limit to its faith, to its hope, to its endurance. Love never ends. As we light this candle, we remember that we are called to love like Christ loves us. As we light this candle, we are reminded that we are called to show that love in the way we treat others.

Reader 1 lights all the blue and pink candles on the Advent Wreath.

When lighting your wreath at home, family members share how they have experienced love today.

Reader 2: Let us pray- Loving God, we thank you for your gift of love- shown to us perfectly in Jesus Christ our Lord. Help us prepare our hearts for the Lord's coming by loving others as Christ loves us.

We ask this in the name of the one born in Bethlehem, Jesus our Lord.

All: Amen



Worship Leaders December 21, 2025

Presider The Rev. Nic Mather

Musician. Riki Davis

Acolyte

Altar Guild. Becky Edmiston, Brittany Forbes

Reader. Christopher Ortiz, David Piper

Greeter Lucy Claxton

Chalice Bearer. Dee Taylor, Lisa Sudar

Usher. Mike Claxton

Verger John Edmiston

Vestry Presence Heather Niemi, Lisa Sudar

Coffee Hour Michele Waite

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!



Connect with St. Stephen's!

Please leave your name and email/phone number and Fr. Nic will connect with you this week with an invitation to enjoy a cup of coffee on us!

Your Name: _____


Your Phone Number: _____

Your Email: _____




O come, O come, Emmanuel sing verses 1-4


The Hymnal 1982, #56




(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 (Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
 (Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
 (Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from
 (Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
 (Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us
 (Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the
 (Dec. 23) 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
 3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
 4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to
 5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
 6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
 7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions
 8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.
 3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
 4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
 6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
 7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.
 8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

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

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

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.**

The Pageant

NARRATOR: Christmas begins with the book of Genesis: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth . . . and God saw everything that He made, and behold it was very good." Then sin came into the beautiful world to mar it. Humankind disobeyed God, and fellowship with God was broken. But God planned a gift for all humankind - a way to bring His children back to Him. This way was Christmas. God decided to send His son into the world, and He chose the people of Israel to prepare an earthly home for Him. "There shall come a star out of Jacob." He said, "and a scepter shall rise out of Israel." God told His people, through the prophet Isaiah, about the Savior who was coming.

PROPHET ISAIAH: "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given. And the government will be upon his shoulder; And his name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace."

NARRATOR: Where was this child to be born? Through a man named Micah, God gave the answer:

PROPHET MICAH: "Bethlehem, you are one of the smallest towns in Judah, but out of you I will bring a ruler for Israel."

Hark, the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - oners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the wound - ed
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long! Let ev - ery heart pre -
bond - age held; the gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

pare a throne, and ev - ery voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - bled poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

NARRATOR: God chose a young girl named Mary, who lived in the town of Nazareth in Galilee to be the mother of His Son. Mary was engaged to a man named Joseph of the house of David. God sent His angel, Gabriel, to tell Mary that she has been chosen.

GABRIEL: "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will give birth to a child, a son, and you shall call His name Jesus . . . and of His Kingdom there will be no end."

MARY: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord, let it be to me according to your word."

NARRATOR: At that time Emperor Augustus ordered a census to be taken throughout the Roman Empire . . . Everyone then went to register himself, each to his own home town. Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to the town of Bethlehem in Judea . . . He went to register with Mary, who was going to marry him. While they were in Bethlehem, the time came for her to have her baby. She gave birth to her first son, wrapped him in cloths and laid him in a manger - there was no room for them to stay in the inn.

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed

The Hymnal 1982, #101

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are arranged in four lines, each corresponding to a measure of the melody. The first line starts with a '1' indicating the first verse. The second line starts with a '2' indicating the second verse. The third line starts with a '* 3' indicating a third variation. The fourth line is a continuation of the third line. The lyrics are: 1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, 2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes, * 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head. but lit - tle Lord Je - sus no cry - ing he makes. close by me for ev - er, and love me I pray. The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, I love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky, Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay. and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh. and fit us for hea - ven to live with thee there.

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,
* 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay
the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus no cry - ing he makes.
close by me for ev - er, and love me I pray.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
I love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,
Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,
the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.
and fit us for hea - ven to live with thee there.

Words: Traditional carol. Music: *Cradle Song*, melody William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).


NARRATOR: There were some shepherds in that part of the country who were spending the night in the fields, taking care of their flocks. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone over them. They were terribly afraid; but then the angel spoke:

ANGEL: "Don't be afraid, I am here with good news for you, which will bring great joy to all the people. This very day, in David's town, your Savior was born - Christ the Lord! And this is what will prove it to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."


NARRATOR: Suddenly a great army of heaven's angels appeared with the angel, singing praises to God:

Angels we have heard on high

The Hymnal 1982, #96



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;




and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

Refrain



Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -



- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt. Music: *Gloria*, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958).

NARRATOR: The shepherds said to one another,

SHEPHERD: Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened,
which the Lord has told us.

O little town of Bethlehem

The Hymnal 1982, #79

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!
*4 Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child,
5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
2 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
4 where mis - er - y cries out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild;
5 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
2 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
3 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
4 where char - i - ty stands watch - ing and faith holds wide the door,
5 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
2 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
4 the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes once more.
5 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893). Music: St. Louis, Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908).

NARRATOR: Today we can come to the Christ Child just as truly as the shepherds did. God will give us that joyous fellowship with Him - lost so long ago. This is the Christmas gift we anticipate on this final Sunday of Advent, a gift that God gives to you and to me and to everyone on earth.

Homily--Fr. Nic Mather



Fresco at Chapel of the Angels, Shepherd's Field, Beit Sahour (outside Bethlehem), West Bank

The Nicene Creed

(please stand in body or spirit)

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.

Prayers of the People

Celebrant: Loving God, you know our needs more deeply than we can ever know them ourselves. Open our eyes to see as you do, that we may know your peace and grace in our own lives. Bend our hearts through our prayer to know you and to love you more perfectly, as we say, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Reader: Help those who follow you to see in each other the fullness of Christ, that we might work together in joy to further your vision of our world. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Protect and bless your church in all its diversity and grant wisdom and strength to those who guide and shape its life. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Shower your blessings on the leaders of the nations, that they might seek solutions to the world's problems through peaceful cooperation. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Help us to be witnesses to your promises in our own communities, that your glory might be reflected through us, that all may know the possibilities of your loving way, and guard and protect all who feel alone or forgotten and comfort those who are reminded of their griefs. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bring wholeness to what is broken, relief to what causes pain, and healing to our illnesses. Lift up all who suffer that they may find peace through you. Especially we ask for Ron & Harriet Byrnes, Reed Nunnelee, Cheryl Karr, Don Willows, Mark Haase, Lois Larson and those you now name silently or aloud.
Pause.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Assure us of your loving care for those who have died and bolster our faith that we may be reunited with them again someday. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: You have loved us enough to take on human life as your own and to know our hopes and our fears. Hear now our prayers and fulfill them as may be best for us and all this we ask through your Son, our Lord and advocate, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Confession & Absolution (please kneel in body or spirit)

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.**

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 (please stand in body or spirit)

The Peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you!**

The Offertory

God of our future, whose compassion is unlimited, all that we have is yours and to you we shall render account for all you have given us. As we offer you these gifts we enjoy from your bounty, grant that we may live well, love generously, and seek first your kingdom, on earth as in heaven, through Jesus Christ our most kind Judge and Savior. **Amen.**

HOLY EUCHARIST

(please stand in body or spirit)

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:

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.

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 has 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.**

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 leave the bread in your hand and the chalice minister will intinct for you. 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 by 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.

Prayer for Eucharistic Visitor

As you go to the sick and homebound, take with you not only the sacrament that we have celebrated, but also the Word of God which we have heard, as well as the affection of this parish community. Ask for the prayers of those whom you visit in return. Go, now, with God's peace and blessing. **Amen.**

Creator of the stars of night

The Hymnal 1982, #60



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



1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,
 2 should doom to death a u - ni - verse,
 3 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,
 4 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow:
 5 re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;
 6 and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,
 2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free
 3 not as a mon - arch, but the child
 4 all things on earth with one ac - cord,
 5 de - fend us while we dwell be - low
 6 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



1 we pray you hear us when we call.
 2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.
 3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.
 4 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.
 5 from all as - saults of our dread foe.
 6 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

Words: Latin, 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Conditor alme siderum*, plainsong, Mode 4; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956).

Postcommunion

(please stand in body or spirit)

God of abundance,
you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior.
Amen.

Holy eternal Majesty, Holy incarnate Word, Holy abiding Spirit, Bless you for evermore. **Amen.**

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

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 and coffee mug (found at the front door)!

Join us for Christmas Services:


Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24 @ 4pm, Lessons & Carols with Festive Eucharist

Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25 @ 10:30am, Intimate Family Service with your favorite Christmas Hymns


First Sunday of Christmas, Sunday December 28 @ 10:30am, Continuing the celebration of Christmas

O come, O come, Emmanuel sing verses 5-8


The Hymnal 1982, #56




(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 (Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
 (Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
 (Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from
 (Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
 (Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us
 (Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the
 (Dec. 23) 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
 3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
 4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to
 5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
 6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
 7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions
 8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.
 3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
 4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
 6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
 7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.
 8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.

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2026 Save the Dates:

- **January Newcomers Class: Sundays in January @ Coffee Hour**

- Soup Lunch Provided
- Learn about the Episcopal Church & St. Stephen's
- See Mary Lyons at 360-560-5272 or Fr. Nic to RSVP



- **Reel Theology Returns in January**

- Sundays 1/11, 1/18, 2/1 @ 6pm
- Join us as we watch films exploring the Immigrant Experience



- **Annual Meeting, Sunday January 25 @ 5pm**

- RSVP to the Office!

- **The Path, A Bible Study Program**

- Begins Sunday February 1 @ 9am
- Meets most Sundays for 12 weeks, you can attend as often or as infrequent as your schedule allows
- Uses **The Path: A Journey Through the Bible**, study guide taking excerpts from Genesis through Revelation to bring forward the consistent themes of our faith as experienced through the text (The Path uses excerpts from the NRSV). Can be purchased at Amazon or Forward Movement (Episcopal Publisher).

- **Ash Wednesday, February 18 @ Noon**

- **Baptism, Confirmation, Reception, & Reaffirmation Class**

- Wednesdays in Lent beginning February 25 @ 6pm
- Learning about our faith and preparation for baptism (Easter) or a formal commitment to the Episcopal Church with our Bishop (visiting on Sunday April 12)