

# THE KALENDAR

S. Stephen's Church  
in Providence

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

20 DECEMBER 2020

SUNG MASS

10:00 AM

*Office of Holy Communion in D*  
Paul Calloway (1909 – 1995)

NOTE: Please turn all cell phones, pagers, and similar devices off,  
or to silent mode, while you are in church.

## THE OPENING RITE

**ORGAN VOLUNTARY** – *Improvisation on “Rorate Caeli”*

*Frank Campbell-Watson (1898 – 1980)*

**AN ADVENT PROSE** – *Drop down ye heavens from above*

*Rorate Caeli*



*Cantor* Drop down ye heavens from above, and let the skies pour down  
righteousness.

*People* **Drop down ye heavens from above, and let the skies pour down  
righteousness.**

*Choir* Be not wroth very sore, O Lord, neither remember iniquity for ever: thy  
holy cities are a wilderness, Sion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation:  
our holy and our beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee.

*People* **Drop down ye heavens...**

*Choir* We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing, and we all do fade as a  
leaf: and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away: thou hast hid  
thy face from us: and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities.

*People* **Drop down ye heavens...**

*Choir* Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know me and believe me, I, even I, am the Lord, and beside me there is no Saviour: and there is none that can deliver out of my hand.

*People* **Drop down ye heavens...**

*Choir* Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, my salvation shall not tarry: I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions: Fear not, for I will save thee, For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer.

*People* **Drop down ye heavens...**

**INTROIT** – *Rorate, Caeli (Please remain standing)*

Tone VII

Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness: let the earth open, and bring forth a Saviour. *Ps.* The heavens declare the glory of God: and the firmament showeth his handiwork. Glory be... Drop down, ye heavens...

## **COLLECT FOR PURITY**

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **SUMMARY OF THE LAW**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

## **KYRIE ELEISON**

Kyrie eleison.

*Lord, have mercy upon us.*

Christe eleison.

*Christ, have mercy upon us.*

Kyrie eleison.

*Lord, have mercy upon us.*

## **COLLECT OF THE DAY** (*Fourth Sunday of Advent*)

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

We beseech thee, Almighty God, to purify our consciences by thy daily visitation, that when thy Son Jesus Christ 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 forever.  
**Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING – *2 Samuel 7:1-11 (Please be seated)*

Now when the king dwelt in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies round about, the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent.” And Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart; for the Lord is with you.”

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, “Go and tell my servant David, “Thus says the Lord: Would you build me a house to dwell in? I have not dwelt in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”” Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David, “Thus says the Lord of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### GRADUAL – *Canticle III*

Tone VIII

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.

For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me; and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.

He hath showed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel; as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever.

**EPISTLE READING** – *Romans 16: 25-27*

Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery which was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed and through the prophetic writings is made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God be glory for evermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**ALLELUIA** – *Veni, Domine (Please stand)*

Tone VI

Alleluia. *V.* Come, O Lord, and tarry not: forgive the misdeeds of thy people.  
Alleluia.

**THE HOLY GOSPEL** – *Luke 1: 26 - 38*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* ✠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People* **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Hail, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there will be no end." And Mary said to the angel, "How shall this be, since I have no husband?" And the angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, your kinswoman Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For with God nothing will be impossible." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

## SERMON

Fr. Benjamin

### THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father;  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation  
came down from heaven,  
*and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man;*  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered and was buried;  
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;  
and he shall come again, with glory,  
to judge both the quick and the dead;  
whose kingdom shall have no end.

*(Genuflect or  
bow)*

And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,  
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped  
and glorified;  
who spake by the Prophets.  
And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,  
✠ and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(Please remain standing)*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of thy coming, we pray to thee, O Lord.

*Here and after every petition the people respond*

**Lord, have mercy.**

For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for Nicholas, our own Bishop; for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to thee, O Lord.

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to thee, O Lord.

For those in positions of public trust, especially the President, the President-Elect, the Courts, and Legislatures, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to thee, O Lord.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to thee, O Lord.

For this congregation (for those who are present, and for those who are absent), that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth thy glory in all that we do, we pray to thee, O Lord.

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to thee, O Lord.

For all who have ✠ died in the communion of thy Church, and those whose faith is known to thee alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to thee, O Lord.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, Blessed Stephen, our Patron, and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

**To thee, O Lord our God.**

*Silence.*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

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

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw

near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

*Celebrant & People, all kneeling*

Almighty God, **Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **ABSOLUTION**

*The Priest stands and says*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, ✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **THE PEACE** (*All stand*)

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* **And with thy spirit.**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

### **OFFERTORY ANTIPHON** – *Ave, Maria*

Tone II

Hail, Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.

### **HYMN 56** – O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

*Veni, Veni, Emmanuel*

1 O Come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

R Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel!

2 O come, thou Wisdom from on high,  
who orderest all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show,  
and teach us in her ways to go. R

3 O come, O come thou Lord of might,  
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times didst give the law,  
in cloud and majesty, and awe. R

4 O come, thou Branch of Jesse's tree,  
free them from Satan's tyranny  
that trust thy mighty power to save,  
and give thme victory o'er the grave. R

5 O come, thou Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heavenly home;  
make safe thy way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery. R

6 O come thou Dayspring from on high  
and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadow put to flight. R

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind  
in one the hearts of all mankind;  
bid thou our sad divisions cease,  
and be thyself our King of Peace R

8 O Come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear. R

### ORATE, FRATRES *(Please remain standing)*

*Celebrant* Pray, brothers and sisters, that this my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the Father Almighty.

*People* **May the Lord receive this Sacrifice at thy hands, to the praise and glory of his Name, both to our benefit, and that of all his holy Church.**

### SURSUM CORDA & PREFACE

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

*People* **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Because thou didst send thine 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 with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

### **SANCTUS ET BENEDICTUS**

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Domine  
Deus Sabaoth: Pleni sunt caeli et  
terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.  
✠ Benedictus qui venit in nomine  
Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:  
Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.  
✠ Blessed is he that cometh in the name of  
the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

### **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B** *(Please kneel if you are able to do so)*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we give thanks unto thee for the goodness and love which thou hast revealed unto us in creation; in the calling of Israel as thine own people; in thy Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, thy Son Jesus Christ. For in the fulness of time thou didst send him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, thou hast delivered us from evil and made us worthy to stand before thee. In him, thou hast 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 unto thee, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat,

THIS IS MY BODY,  
WHICH IS GIVEN FOR YOU.  
Do this in remembrance of me."



Likewise, after supper he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this;

FOR THIS IS MY BLOOD,  
OF THE NEW COVENANT, WHICH IS SHED FOR YOU  
AND FOR MANY FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS.  
Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in 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 unto thee, O Father, this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, presenting unto thee from thy creation, O Lord of all, this bread and this cup.

We beseech thee, gracious Father, to send thy 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 thy Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being ✠ sanctified by the Holy Spirit. At the last day, put all things in subjection under thy Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the ever Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Stephen our Patron, and all thy saints, we may enter into the everlasting heritage of thy Son, 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 be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

And now as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say

*People and Celebrant*

**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**

*Celebrant* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People* Therefore let us keep the feast.

## **AGNUS DEI**

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
Miserere nobis. Agnus Dei, qui tollis  
peccata mundi, Miserere nobis.  
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
Dona nobis pacem.

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins  
of the world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb  
of God, that takest away the sins of the  
world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of  
God, that takest away the sins of the  
world, grant us thy peace.*

## PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

## THE INVITATION – ECCE AGNUS DEI

*Celebrant* ✠ Behold the Lamb of God; behold him that taketh away the sins of the world.

*People* Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON – *Ecce Virgo*

Tone I

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son: and his name shall be called Emmanuel.

## SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

In union, O Dear Lord, with the faithful at every altar of thy Church, where thy blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to offer thee praise and thanksgiving. I present to thee my soul and body, with the earnest wish that I may ever be united to thee. And since I cannot now receive thee sacramentally, I beseech thee to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to thee, and embrace thee with all the affections of my soul. O let nothing ever separate me from thee. Let me live and die in thy love. Amen.

Grant, O Lord Jesus Christ, that as the hem of thy garment, touched in faith, healed the woman who could not touch thy Body, so the soul of thy servant may be healed by like faith in thee, whom I cannot now sacramentally receive; through thy tender mercy, who livest and reignest with the Father in the unity of the Holy Ghost ever one God. Amen.

## THE CLOSING RITE

### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *(Kneeling)*

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

### ADVENT BLESSING

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, The Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

### DISMISSAL *(Please stand)*

*Celebrant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### ORGAN VOLUNTARY – *Fanfare*

*Percy Whitlock (1903 – 1946)*

Members of the Schola Cantorum:

Lori Harrison, *soprano*

Cory McLean, Celia Russo, *altos*

Matthew Buono, *tenor*

Robert Henry, Devon Russo *basses*

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**S. STEPHEN'S CHURCH**  
**in Providence**

114 George Street, Providence RI 02906  
(401) 421-6702

The Rev'd Benjamin Straley, *Rector*  
The Rev'd William Locke, *Assisting Priest*  
The Rev'd Michael A. Pearson, *Assisting Priest*  
The Rev'd Gary K. Sturni, *Assisting Priest*  
James Busby, D.Mus., *Organist & Choirmaster*  
Andrew Welch, *Office Administrator*

[www.sstephens.org](http://www.sstephens.org)  
[communications@sstephens.necoxmail.com](mailto:communications@sstephens.necoxmail.com)