

THE KALENDAR

S. Stephen's Church
in Providence

SAINT STEPHEN, DEACON & MARTYR (*Transferred*) 30 JANUARY
2022

SOLEMN MASS & PROCESSION

10 AM

Communion Service in G
Francis Jackson (1917-2022)

*NOTE: Hymns can be found in the blue hymnals in front of you in the pew rack.
(with the exception of this morning's opening hymn in procession)*

THE OPENING RITE

VOLUNTARY – *Prelude & Fugue on a theme of Victoria* Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

Please stand when the bell is rung.

AT THE PROCESSION

Deacon Let us go forth in peace.

People **In the Name of Christ. Amen.**

HYMN – “Stephen, first of Christian martyrs” vv. 1-2

Abbot's Leigh



1. Stephen, first of Christian martyrs,
Let the Church in hymns proclaim;
Following close the Saviour's passion,
Thus he won immortal fame:
For his foes he prayed forgiveness
While they stoned him unto death,
To the Lord his soul commending
As he yielded up his breath.

2. Holy Spirit, gift of Jesus,
Shed thy light upon our eyes,
That we may behold with Stephen
That fair realm beyond the skies,
Where the Son of Man in glory
Waits for us at God's right hand,
King of saints and hope of martyrs,
Lord of all the pilgrim band.

STATION AT THE SHRINE OF S. STEPHEN

Celebrant Be glad, O ye righteous and rejoice in the Lord.

People **And be joyful all ye that are true of heart.**

Celebrant Let us pray:

O Almighty God, who didst give to thy servant Stephen boldness to confess the Name of our Savior Jesus Christ before the rulers of this world, and courage to die for this faith: Grant that we may always be ready to give a reason for the hope that is in us, and to suffer gladly for the sake of the same our Lord Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Celebrant censes the shrine and the procession continues.

HYMN – “Stephen, first of Christian martyrs” vv. 3-4

Abbot's Leigh



3. See him who went on before us
Heavenly mansions to prepare,
Who for us is ever pleading
By his wounds of glory there;
In that blessed home of splendour
Christ our Saviour reigns above,
Calling us to share his rapture
In the Father's boundless love.

4. Glory be to God the Father,
Glory to his only Son,
Dying, risen, ascending for us,
Who the heavenly realm has won;
Glory to the Holy Spirit,
To one God in Persons Three,
From the saints in earth and heaven,
Glory, endless glory, be.

INTROIT – *Etenim sederunt* (*Please remain standing*)

Tone VII

Princes moreover did sit, and did witness falsely against me, and the ungodly pressed sore upon me: O Lord my God, stand up to help me; for thy servant is occupied continually in thy commandments. *Ps.* Blessed are those that are undefiled in the way: and walk in the law of the Lord. Glory be... Princes moreover did sit...

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

(sung by the choir)

Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christe eleison.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high ✠ in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

COLLECT OF THE DAY *(Saint Stephen)*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

We give thee thanks, O Lord of glory, for the example of the first martyr Stephen, who looked up to heaven and prayed for his persecutors to thy Son Jesus Christ, who standeth at thy right hand; where he liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING – *Jeremiah 26:1-9, 12-15 (Please be seated)*

In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, this word came from the LORD, “Thus says the LORD: Stand in the court of the Lord’s house, and speak to all the cities of Judah which come to worship in the house of the LORD all the words that I command you to speak to them; do not hold back a word. It may be they will listen, and every one turn from his evil way, that I may repent of the evil which I intend to do to them because of their evil doings. You shall say to them, “Thus says the LORD: If you will not listen to me, to walk in my law which I have set before you, and to heed the words of my servants the prophets whom I send to you urgently, though you

have not heeded, then I will make this house like Shiloh, and I will make this city a curse for all the nations of the earth.” The priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking these words in the house of the LORD. And when Jeremiah had finished speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak to all the people, then the priests and the prophets and all the people laid hold of him, saying, “You shall die! Why have you prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying, “This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate, without inhabitant?”” And all the people gathered about Jeremiah in the house of the LORD. Then Jeremiah spoke to all the princes and all the people, saying, “The LORD sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the words you have heard. Now therefore amend your ways and your doings, and obey the voice of the LORD your God, and the LORD will repent of the evil which he has pronounced against you. But as for me, behold, I am in your hands. Do with me as seems good and right to you. Only know for certain that if you put me to death, you will bring innocent blood upon yourselves and upon this city and its inhabitants, for in truth the LORD sent me to you to speak all these words in your ears.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 31:1-6, *In te, Domine speravi*

chant: George M. Garrett 1834-1897)

In thee, O LORD, have I put my trust; let me never be put to confusion; * deliver me in thy righteousness.

2 Bow down thine ear to me; * make haste to deliver me.

3 And be thou my strong rock, and house of defence, * that thou mayest save me.

4 For thou art my strong rock, and my castle: * be thou also my guide, and lead me for thy Name's sake.

5 Draw me out of the net that they have laid privily for me; * for thou art my strength.

6 Into thy hands I commend my spirit; * for thou hast redeemed me, O LORD, thou God of truth.

NEW TESTAMENT READING – *Acts 6:8–7:2a, 51c-60, 8:1-2*

Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, arose and disputed with Stephen. But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. Then they secretly instigated men, who said, “We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God.” And they stirred up the people and the elders and the scribes, and they came upon him and seized him and brought him before the council, and set up false witnesses who said, “This man never ceases to speak words against this holy place and the law; for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place, and will change the customs which Moses delivered to us.” And gazing at him, all who sat in the council saw that

desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

SERMON

Fr. Straley

THE NICENE CREED *(Please stand)*

I be-lieve in one God, the Fa-ther Al-migh-ty, ma-ker of hea-ven and earth,
and of all things vi - si-ble and in - vi - si-ble; And in One Lord Je - sus Christ,
the on-ly-be-got-ten Son of God; be-got-ten of his Fa-ther be - fore all worlds, God of God,
Light of Light, ver - y God of ver - y God, be - got - ten, not made,
be - ing of one sub-stance with the Fa - ther; by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our sal - va - tion came down from hea - ven,
here genuflect or bow
and was in - car-nate by the Ho - ly Ghost of the Vir-gin Ma - ry, and was made man;
here rise
and was cru - ci - fi - ed al - so for us un - der Pon-tius Pi - late;
he suf-fer-ed and was bur - i - ed; and the third day he rose a - gain ac - cord - ing to the Scrip - tures,
and as - cend - ed in - to hea - ven, and sit - teth on the right hand of the Fa - ther;
and he shall come a - gain with glo - ry, to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose king - dom shall have no end. And I be - lieve in the Ho - ly Ghost the Lord,

and Giv-er of Life, who pro-ceed-eth from the Fa-ther and the Son; who with the Fa-ther
 and the Son to-geth-er is wor-ship-ped and glo-ri - fi - ed; who spake by the Pro - phets.
 And I be - lieve one ho - ly Cath - o - lic and A - pos - tol - ic Church;
 I ac - know-ledge one Bap - tism for the re - mis - sion of sins;
 and I look for the re-sur-rec-tion of the dead, and the life of the world to come.
 A - - - - - men.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(led by the Deacon)*

Father, we pray for thy holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve thee;
That thy Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of thy Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do thy will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in thy sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the ✠ departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise thee for the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Stephen our Patron,
 Blessed Charles, King and Martyr, and all thy saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in thy heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence is held for our own private prayer intentions to be offered.

The Celebrant concludes by praying

O Lord Jesus Christ, who saidst unto thine Apostles, Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: Regard not our sins, but the faith of thy Church; and grant to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Ghost thou livest and reignest, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY ANTIPHON– *Elegerunt*

Tone II

The Apostles chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost: whom the Jews stoned, calling upon God, and saying; Lord Jesus receive my spirit.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM – *Jubilare Deo*

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

O be joyful in the LORD, all ye lands: serve the LORD with gladness, and come before his presence with a song. Be ye sure that the LORD he is God; it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name. For the LORD is gracious, his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth from generation to generation. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

All stand for the hymn as the offering is brought forward, and the gifts, altar, & people are censed.

HYMN 564 – “He who would valiant be”

St. Dunstan’s

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 art greatly glorified in the assembly of thy saints. All thy creatures praise thee, and thy faithful servants bless thee, confessing before the rulers of this world the great Name of thine only Son. 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

(sung by the choir)

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 II *(Please kneel if you are able to do so)*

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke 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 this, all of you;

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.”

✠

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory. And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful

Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy ✠ grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

✠ By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost 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 Fa-ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed be thy Name,
thy king-dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in hea-ven.
Give us this day our dai - ly bread. And for-give us our tres-pas - ses,
as we for-give those who tres-pass a-against us. And lead us not in - to
temp-ta - tion, but de-liv-er us from e - vil. For thine is the king-dom,
and the power, and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A- men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Host. Silence is kept. Then is sung

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

AGNUS DEI

(sung by the choir)

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.

THE INVITATION – ECCE AGNUS DEI

Celebrant Behold the Lamb of God; behold him that taketh away the sin 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 – *Video caelos*

Tone I

Lo, I see the heavens opened, and Jesus standing on the right hand of the power of God: O Lord Jesus receive my spirit, and lay not this sin to their charge for they know not what they do.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Please come forward to the crossing via the center aisle. If you are unable to come forward, communion can be brought to you in your pew. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Eucharist at the Lord's Table. Gluten-free wafers are available. If you are not receiving, you are invited to come forward for a blessing (indicated by crossing your arms over your chest). If you have not been baptized, and find yourself drawn to Jesus Christ and life in him, please let one of our clergy know. We would be honored to have a conversation with you about baptism, or answer any other questions. Baptism and life in the Body of Christ is open to all.

HYMN 238 – “Blessed feasts of blessed Martyrs”

Holy Manna

THE CLOSING RITE

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *(Kneeling as you are able)*

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.

THE BLESSING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL *(Please stand)*

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN 545 – “Lo! what a cloud of witnesses”

St. Fulbert

VOLUNTARY – *Fanfare*

John Cook (1918-1984)

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S. STEPHEN’S CHURCH in Providence

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Thomas Bledsoe, *Senior Warden*

Alison Huff, *Junior Warden*

Muriel Jobbers, *Treasurer*

Molly Bledsoe Ellis, *Clerk*

Vestry

Karl Benziger, Joy D’Ambra, Lynne deBenedette, Leana Hooks,
Sharon Lloyd Clark, Bobby Rose, Louis Verdelotti

The Rev’d Benjamin Straley, *Rector*

The Rev’d William Locke, *Assisting Priest*

The Rev’d Michael A. Pearson, *Assisting Priest*

James Busby, D.Mus., *Organist & Choirmaster*

Jennifer Long, *Office Administrative Assistant*

Andrew Lonardo, *Sexton*

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