



# SAINT STEPHEN'S CHURCH

PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY: THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

12 JANUARY 2025

MORNING PRAYER & LOW MASS

## MORNING PRAYER

*¶ The Officiant may begin with a sentence of Scripture.*

### THE INVITATORY

*Officiant* O Lord, ✠ open thou our lips.

*People* And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

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.

### VENITE

*Psalm 95:1-7*

*Antiphon:* The Lord hath manifested his glory:

O come, let us adore him.

O come, let us sing unto the LORD; :  
let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving :  
and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.

For the LORD is a great God, :  
and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are all the corners of the earth, :  
and the strength of the hills is his also.

The sea is his, and he made it, :  
and his hands prepared the dry land.

O come, let us worship and fall down, :  
and kneel before the LORD our Maker.

For he is the LORD our God, :  
and we are the people of his pasture  
and the sheep of his hand.

O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; :  
let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

**For he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth, : and with righteousness to judge the world and the peoples with his truth.**

*Antiphon:* The Lord hath manifested his glory:  
**O come, let us adore him.**

**PSALM 89:20-29** *Inveni David servum* **¶** *Read responsively by whole verse.*

**I** have found David my servant :  
with my holy oil have I anointed him.

**My hand shall hold him fast :  
and my arm shall strengthen him.**

The enemy shall not be able to do him violence :  
the son of wickedness shall not hurt him.

**I will smite down his foes before his face :  
and plague them that hate him.**

My truth also and my mercy shall be with him :  
and in my Name shall his horn be exalted.

**I will set his dominion also in the sea :  
and his right hand in the floods.**

He shall call me, Thou art my Father :  
my God, and my strong salvation.

**And I will make him my first-born :  
higher than the kings of the earth.**

My mercy will I keep for him for evermore :  
and my covenant shall stand fast with him.

**His seed also will I make to endure for ever :  
and his throne as the days of heaven.**

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.**

#### **THE FIRST LESSON**

*Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7*

**B**ehold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him, he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not fail or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law. Thus says God: "I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to

the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.”

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

**TE DEUM LAUDAMUS** *¶ Said by all, standing*

We praise thee, O God; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.

All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting.

To thee all Angels cry aloud,

the Heavens and all the Powers therein.

To thee Cherubim and Seraphim continually do cry:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;

Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of thy glory.

The glorious company of the apostles praise thee.

The goodly fellowship of the prophets praise thee.

The noble army of martyrs praise thee.

The holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge thee,

the Father, of an infinite majesty,

thine adorable, true, and only Son,

also the Holy Ghost the Comforter.

Thou art the King of glory, O Christ.

Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.

When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man,

thou didst humble thyself to be born of a Virgin.

When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death,

thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

Thou sittest at the right hand of God, in the glory of the Father.

We believe that thou shalt come to be our judge.

We therefore pray thee, help thy servants,

whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.

Make them to be numbered with thy saints,

in glory everlasting.

*℣* O Lord, save thy people and bless thine heritage;

*℟* Govern them and lift them up for ever.

*℣* Day by day we magnify thee;

*℟* And we worship thy Name ever, world without end.

*℣* Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin;

*℟* O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.

*℣* O Lord, let thy mercy be upon us;

*℟* As our trust is in thee.

∇ O Lord, in thee have I trusted;  
℞ **Let me never be confounded.**

### A COLLECT FOR GRACE

O Lord, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day: Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings, being ordered by thy governance, may be righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### INTERCESSIONS

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer**

**Intercession Paper for the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament**

**Intercession Paper for the Guild of All Souls**

M<sup>A</sup>y their souls, ✠ and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

### CONCLUDING VERSICLES

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy Spirit.**

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord.

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

T<sup>H</sup>e grace ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

## LOW MASS

### OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

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

### COLLECT FOR PURITY

A<sup>L</sup>mighty 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

H<sup>E</sup>ar 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

**K**yrie eleison. **Kyrie eleison.** Kyrie eleison.  
**K**Christe eleison. Christe eleison. **Christe eleison.**  
Kyrie eleison. **Kyrie eleison.** Kyrie eleison.

## 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 Almighty.  
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, 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

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And with thy spirit.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**F**ather in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan didst  
proclaim him thy beloved Son and anoint him with the Holy Spirit: Grant  
that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made,  
and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with thee and the same Spirit  
liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### THE EPISTLE

*Acts 10:34-38*

**P**eter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I perceive that God shows no partiality, but in every nation any one who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the word which he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace by Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), the word which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism which John preached: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.”

*Subdeacon* The Word of the Lord.

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

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

### THE HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 3:15-16, 21-22*

*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.**

**A**s the people were in expectation, and all men questioned in their hearts concerning John, whether perhaps he were the Christ, John answered them all, “I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.” Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form, as a dove, and a voice came from heaven, “Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased.”

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### SERMON

*The Rev'd Fr. Benjamin Straley*

### NICENE CREED *¶ Said by all, standing*

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; (Genuflect or  
bow)  
 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.  
 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

*℟ Celebrant*

Jesus calls us out of darkness into his marvelous light. Washed clean by the waters of baptism, let us pray that we may live the life to which he has called us.

Lord Jesus, eternal Word, proclaimed as the Christ by John the forerunner, hear us as we pray for all who proclaim thy word.

℣ Lord, in thy mercy

℟ Hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, baptizing with the Spirit and with fire, strengthen us to withstand all the trials of our faith.

℣ Lord, in thy mercy

℟ Hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, fulfilment of the promises of old, give hope to all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit.

℣ Lord, in thy mercy

℟ **Hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, beloved Son of the Father, anoint us with the gifts of thy Holy Spirit.

℣ Lord, in thy mercy

℟ **Hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, bringer of hope, share with all the faithful the riches of eternal life.

℣ Lord, in thy mercy

℟ **Hear our prayer.**

*℟ Celebrant*

**L**ord Jesus Christ, in thee the Father makes us and all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of thy grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known thy heavenly glory. **Amen.**

## CONFESSIO OF SIN

*℟ Celebrant*

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*℟ Said by 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 Celebrant stands and says*

**A**lmighty 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

*Celebrant* The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

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



**OFFERTORY PRAYERS** (*Please be seated*)

*Celebrant* Blessed art thou, Lord God of all creation; through thy goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth hath given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

*People* **Blessed be God for ever.**

*Celebrant* Blessed art thou, Lord God of all creation; through thy goodness we have this wine to offer: fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

*People* **Blessed be God for ever.**

**ORATE, FRATRES** (*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**

*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.**

**I**t 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 in the mystery of the Word made flesh, thou hast caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of thy glory in the face of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. 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**

**H**oly, 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 *¶ All kneel.*

**A**lmighty 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 for the 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, for the 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 sons and daughters; through 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,

**O**ur 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 BREAD**

*Celebrant* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:

*People* Therefore let us keep the feast.

### **AGNUS DEI**

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.

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION: 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.

## THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*Please come forward to the altar rail. If you are unable to come forward, communion can be brought to you. 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.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *g All kneel.*

*Celebrant* 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.

**M**ay 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 Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. Amen.

## DISMISSAL *g Please stand.*

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

*People* Thanks be to God.

