



SAINT STEPHEN'S CHURCH

PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

ADVENT SUNDAY
1 DECEMBER 2024 AT 8AM
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

Psalms 95:1-7

Antiphon: Our King and Savior draweth nigh:

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: Our King and Savior draweth nigh:

O come, let us adore him.

PSALM 50:1-6 *Deus deorum* **¶ Read responsively by whole verse**

The LORD, even the most mighty God, hath spoken : and called the world, from
the rising up of the sun, unto the going down thereof.

Out of Sion hath God appeared :

in perfect beauty.

Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence :

there shall go before him a consuming fire, and a mighty tempest shall be stirred
up round about him.

He shall call the heaven from above :

and the earth, that he may judge his people.

Gather my saints together unto me :

those that have made a covenant with me with sacrifice.

And the heaven shall declare his righteousness :

for God is Judge himself.

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

Zechariah 14:4-9

On the day of the Lord his feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives which lies
before Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two
from east to west by a very wide valley; so that one half of the Mount shall
withdraw northward, and the other half southward. And the valley of my
mountains shall be stopped up, for the valley of the mountains shall touch the side
of it; and you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzzi'ah king
of Judah. Then the LORD your God will come, and all the holy ones with him. On
that day there shall be neither cold nor frost. And there shall be continuous day
(it is known to the LORD), not day and not night, for at evening time there shall
be light. On that day living waters shall flow out from Jerusalem, half of them to
the eastern sea and half of them to the western sea; it shall continue in summer as

in winter. And the LORD will become king over all the earth; on that day the LORD will be one and his name one.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTUS DOMINUS DEUS ¶ *Said by all, standing*

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, :
for he hath visited and redeemed his people;
And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us :
in the house of his servant David,
As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, :
which have been since the world began:
That we should be saved from our enemies, :
and from the hand of all that hate us;
To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers, :
and to remember his holy covenant;
To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather Abraham, :
that he would give us,
That we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies :
might serve him without fear,
In holiness and righteousness before him, :
all the days of our life.
And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest, :
for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;
To give knowledge of salvation unto his people :
for the remission of their sins,
Through the tender mercy of our God, :
whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us;
To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, :
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
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 SUFFRAGES

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy Spirit.

Officiant Let us pray.

℣. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;
℟. **And grant us thy salvation.**
℣. Endue thy ministers with righteousness;
℟. **And make thy chosen people joyful.**
℣. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
℟. **For only in thee can we live in safety.**
℣. Lord, keep this nation under thy care;
℟. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
℣. Let thy way be known upon earth;
℟. **Thy saving health among all nations.**
℣. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
℟. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
℣. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
℟. **And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.**

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

May 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.**

The 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

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. **Kyrie eleison.** Kyrie eleison.
Khriste eleison. Christe eleison. **Christe eleison.**
Kyrie eleison. **Kyrie eleison.** Kyrie eleison.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE EPISTLE

1 *Thessalonians* 3:9–13

What thanksgiving can we render to God for you, for all the joy which we feel for your sake before our God, praying earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith? Now may our

God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you; and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all men, as we do to you, so that he may establish your hearts unblamable in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 21:25-31

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.**

Jesus said, "There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and upon the earth distress of nations in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves, men fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world; for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." And he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees; as soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near."

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, | *(Genuflect or*
and was made man; | *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

Watchful at all times, let us pray for strength to stand with confidence
before our Maker and Redeemer.

That God may bring in his kingdom with justice and mercy,
let us pray to the Lord.

℟ Lord, have mercy.

That God may establish among the nations his sceptre of righteousness,
let us pray to the Lord.

℟ Lord, have mercy.

That God may bind up the brokenhearted, restore the sick and raise up all who
have fallen, let us pray to the Lord.

℟ Lord, have mercy.

That the light of God's coming may dawn on all who live in darkness and the
shadow of death, let us pray to the Lord.

℟ Lord, have mercy.

That, with the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Stephen, our Patron, and all the saints in light, we may shine forth as lights for the world, let us pray to the Lord.

℟ Lord, have mercy.

℟ Celebrant

Grant, O Almighty God, that as thy blessed Son Jesus Christ at his first advent came to seek and to save that which was lost, so at his second and glorious appearing he may find in us the fruits of the redemption which he wrought; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God world without end. **Amen.**

CONFESSIOIN 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*

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

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.**

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

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 *¶ All kneel.*

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 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 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,

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 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 and then return to your pew via the passageway on the right. 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.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER ¶ *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.

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 Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. Amen.

DISMISSAL ¶ *Please stand.*

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

