

THE KALENDAR

S. Stephen's Church
in Providence

GAUDETE SUNDAY

13 DECEMBER 2020

SUNG MASS

10:00 AM

Missa XVII "Missa in Dominicis et Quadragesima"
Plainchant

*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 – *Fourth Organ Concerto in F* G. F. Handel (1685 - 1759)
III. Andante trans. William T. Best (1826 – 1897)

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

Drop down__ ye hea - vens from__ a - bove, __

and let the skies pour__ down right - eous - ness.

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 consumèd 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 – *Gaudete in Dómino (Please remain standing)*

Tone VII

Rejoice ye in the Lord, and again I say, rejoice ye; let your moderation be known unto all men, the Lord is at hand: be careful for nothing, nor troubled; but in all things, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving; let your requests be made known unto God. *Ps.* Lord, thou art become gracious unto thy land: thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob. Glory be... Rejoice ye...

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 (*Third Sunday of Advent*)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily

help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING – *Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11 (Please be seated)*

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrong; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring in the midst of the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge them, that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL – *Psalm 126*

Tone VI

- 1 WHEN the LORD turned again the captivity of Sion, *
then were we like unto them that dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, * and our tongue with joy.
- 3 Then said they among the heathen, *
The LORD hath done great things for them.
- 4 Yea, the LORD hath done great things for us already; * whereof we rejoice.
- 5 Turn our captivity, O LORD, * as the rivers in the south.
- 6 They that sow in tears * shall reap in joy.
- 7 He that now goeth on his way weeping, and beareth forth good seed, *
shall doubtless come again with joy, and bring his sheaves with him.

EPISTLE READING – 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit, do not despise prophesying, but test everything; hold fast what is good, abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you wholly; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA – Excita, Dómine (Please stand)

Tone VI

Alleluia. V. Stir up thy strength, O lord: and come and help us. Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL – John 1: 6-8, 19-28

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

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

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

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light. And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” He confessed, he did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” And they asked him, “What then? Are you Eli’jah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” And he answered, “No.” They said to him then, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” He said, “I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.” Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Eli’jah, nor the prophet?” John answered them, “I baptize with water; but among you stands one who you do not know, even he who comes after me, the thong of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.” This took place in Bethany beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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 – *Benedixisti, Dómine*

Tone II

O Lord thou art become gracious unto thy land; thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob: Thou hast forgiven the offence of thy people.

HYMN 444 – *Blessed be the God of Israel*

Thornbury

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Blessed be the God of Israel,
who comes to set us free:
he visits and redeems us,
he grants us liberty.
The prophets spoke of mercy,
of freedom and release;
God shall fulfill his promise
and bring his people peace. | Before him goes his herald,
forerunner in the way,
the prophet of salvation,
the harbinger of Day. |
| 2 He from the house of David
a child of grace has given;
a Savior comes among us
to raise us up to heaven. | 3 On prisoners of darkness
the sun begins to rise,
the dawning of forgiveness
upon the sinner's eyes.
He guides the feet of pilgrims
along the paths of peace.
O bless our God and Savior
with songs that never cease. |

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 shouldst come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON – *Dícite: Pusillánimes*

Tone I

Say to them that are of a fearful heart: Be strong, fear not; behold your God will come and save you.

ACT OF 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 Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY – *Fourth Organ Concerto in F*
IV. Allegro

G. F. Handel
trans. *William T. Best*

Members of the Schola Cantorum:
Jason Connell, *tenor*; Robert Henry, *bass*

*Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from
ONE LICENSE, License No. A-722555. All rights reserved.*

S. STEPHEN'S CHURCH
in Providence

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

www.sstephens.org