

WELCOME TO ST. STEPHEN'S

Come Find God

10:00 a.m. Sunday, January 10, 2020

First Sunday after Epiphany



ST. STEPHEN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

MORNING PRAYER

PRELUDE

OPENING SENTENCE

Celebrant: As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and forever. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN:

“PRAISE TO THE LIVING GOD”

THE HYMNAL 1982

CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant: Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

People: Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will,

and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your name. **Amen.**

Celebrant: The Almighty and merciful Lord grant us absolution and remission of all our sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

INVITATORY & PSALTER

Celebrant: Lord, open our lips.

People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

All: Glory to the Father †, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. **Amen!**

Celebrant: The mercy of the Lord is everlasting:

People: O come, let us adore him.

VENITE*

All: 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 world and the peoples with his truth.

PSALM 29

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his
Name;
worship the Lord in the beauty of
holiness.**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders;
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

**The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice;
the voice of the Lord is a voice of
splendor.**

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees;
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

**He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild
ox.**

The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;
the voice of the Lord shakes the
wilderness;
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

**The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees
writhe
and strips the forests bare.**

And in the temple of the Lord
all are crying, "Glory!"

**The Lord sits enthroned above the flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as King for
evermore.**

The Lord shall give strength to his people;
the Lord shall give his people the blessing
of peace.

FIRST READING

GENESIS 1:1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE

A SONG OF CREATION (I)

All: Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord, praise him and highly exalt him for ever. In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, praise him and highly exalt him for ever. Glorify the Lord, you angels and all powers of the Lord, O heavens and all waters above the heavens. Sun and moon and stars of the sky, glorify the Lord, praise him and highly exalt him for ever. Glorify the Lord, every shower of rain and fall of dew, all winds and fire and heat. Winter and Summer, glorify the Lord, praise him and highly exalt him for ever. Glorify the Lord, O chill and cold, drops of dew and flakes of snow. Frost and cold, ice and sleet, glorify the Lord, praise him and highly exalt him for ever. Glorify the Lord, O nights and days, O shining light and enfolding dark. Storm clouds and thunderbolts, glorify the Lord, praise him and highly exalt him for ever. *Amen.*

SECOND READING

ACTS 19:1-7

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come

after him, that is, in Jesus.” On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— altogether there were about twelve of them.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE

A SONG OF CREATION (II)

All: Let the earth glorify the Lord, praise him and highly exalt him for ever. Glorify the Lord, O mountains and hills, and all that grows upon the earth, praise him and highly exalt him for ever. Glorify the Lord, O springs of water, seas, and streams, O whales and all that move in the waters. All birds of the air, glorify the Lord, praise him and highly exalt him for ever. Glorify the Lord, O beasts of the wild, and all you flocks and herds. O men and women everywhere, glorify the Lord, praise him and highly exalt him for ever. Let us glorify the Lord: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; praise him and highly exalt him for ever. In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, praise him and highly exalt him for ever. *Amen.*

THE GOSPEL

MARK 1:4-11

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

Celebrant: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Rev. Erin Flinn

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect and restore the beauty and integrity of all creation?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

THE PRAYERS

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: **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.**

Celebrant: Show us your mercy, O Lord;

People: **And grant us your salvation.**

Celebrant: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

People: **Let your people sing with joy.**

Celebrant: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

People: **For only in you can we live in safety.**

Celebrant: Lord, keep this nation under your care;

People: **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

Celebrant: Let your way be known upon earth;

People: **Your saving health among all nations.**

Celebrant: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

People: **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Celebrant: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

People: **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

THE COLLECT

Celebrant: Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed 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 you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Lord, in your mercy;

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. We pray especially for our President, Donald; our President-Elect, Joe; our governor, Ned; for military personnel known to us: Dan Gardella, Neil Hickey, Dan Piccola, Michael Shea, Liz Peeler, and Mark Benjamin; and for all who fight and struggle for freedom and justice for every person in this land. Lord, in your mercy;

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Give us a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Lord, in your mercy;

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We rejoice with those who have cause for joy, especially those who celebrate birthdays this month: Betsy Barney, Elsie Snell, Joe Labbadia, Evelyn Morgen, Juliana Martin, Kim Martin, Vincent Garofalo, Kathleen Klinck, Abigail Marciniac, Maryann McCary, Dennis Whitty, Bernie Gillis, Glenn Brielmann, and Elizabeth Salie; Lord, in your mercy;

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We pray especially for all who are sick with COVID-19, for essential workers who face increased health risks, and for those who have commended themselves to our prayers: Elisabeth; Kathy King; Josephine Howard; Meg; John; Debbie; Mary; Ann; Jane Brothers; Lori Saltus; Jeff Sultaire; Pat Goodrich; Chris Fazzino; Dan Hamel; Maureen Sheehan; Chris Morgen; and Ann Johnson. Lord, in your mercy;

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially Dennis Carlson and Ida Mae Willis, and all who have passed away during this pandemic; that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy;

People: Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in the world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you for your generous support. Don't carry cash or check? Text your donation to 860.333.6860

We celebrate and congratulate all those who have wedding anniversaries this month, and offer this prayer: O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that it represents the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send your blessing upon these your servants as they celebrate their anniversary, that they may continue to love, honor and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

And to all those with birthdays this week, known and unknown to us, we pray: O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

BLESSING*

Celebrant: Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the church, and in Christ Jesus. May the blessings of God† our Creator, Redeemer, and Giver of Life be with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE WORSHIP IS OVER. THE SERVICE BEGINS.

THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHENS

Sunday, January 10	11am Zoom Coffee Hour (Online)
Tuesday, January 12	8am Morning Prayer (Online)
Thursday, January 14	8am Morning Prayer (Online)
Sunday, January 17	10am Morning Prayer (Online)

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE



www.ststeves.org



[Facebook.com/St.Steves](https://www.facebook.com/St.Steves)



[@saintsteves](https://twitter.com/saintsteves)



[@ststephensepiscopal](https://www.instagram.com/ststephensepiscopal)

* Indicates places where it is appropriate to stand (or kneel), as you are able.

† Indicates places where it is traditional to cross yourself, should you desire.