

**December 25, 2022  
10:00 AM**

**Christmas Day**

## **Holy Eucharist**



### ***St. Stephen's in-the-Field Episcopal Church***

7269 Santa Teresa Boulevard  
San Jose, CA 95139  
(408) 629-1836  
[www.ssitf.org](http://www.ssitf.org)

*We the people of Saint Stephen's in-the-Field  
seek to know Christ, to share Christ, and to serve Christ,  
recognizing his presence in all people,  
and reaching out in love to each other and to the world around us.*

*“Whoever and wherever you are on your spiritual journey,  
you are welcome here!”*



## THE WORD OF GOD

### *Prayers at the Creche*

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

Almighty God, who in the Incarnation of your Son has revealed to us the holiness of creation, bless and hallow this image of his sacred birth, so that those who gaze upon it may behold this mystery, whereby humanity shares in your very nature; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### *Advent Candle Lighting*

*Leader:* Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given!

*All:* **God has brought light into every darkness.**

*(The four Advent candles are re-lighted)*

*Leader:* The promises of God are fulfilled! Wonderful Counselor! Mighty God! Everlasting Father! Prince of Peace!

*All:* **We hear, even today, a chorus of angels bringing good news of great joy to all people.**

*Leader:* We light the Candle of Christ –witness to the Savior who is Christ the Lord.

*(The Candle of Christ is lighted)*

### *Opening Sentences*

*Presider:* Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all people; for to you is born this day in the city of David, a savior who is Christ the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## ***Gloria***

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## ***Collect for the Nativity of our Lord***

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## *The Lessons*

### *First Reading*

*Isaiah 62:6-12*

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels;  
all day and all night  
    they shall never be silent.

You who remind the LORD,  
    take no rest,  
and give him no rest  
    until he establishes Jerusalem  
        and makes it renowned throughout the earth.

The LORD has sworn by his right hand  
    and by his mighty arm:

I will not again give your grain  
    to be food for your enemies,  
and foreigners shall not drink the wine  
    for which you have labored;  
but those who garner it shall eat it  
    and praise the LORD,  
and those who gather it shall drink it  
    in my holy courts.

Go through, go through the gates,  
    prepare the way for the people;  
build up, build up the highway,  
    clear it of stones,  
    lift up an ensign over the peoples.

The LORD has proclaimed  
    to the end of the earth:

Say to daughter Zion,  
    "See, your salvation comes;  
his reward is with him,  
    and his recompense before him."

They shall be called, "The Holy People,  
    The Redeemed of the LORD";  
and you shall be called, "Sought Out,  
    A City Not Forsaken."

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**All:**

- 1 The LORD is King; let the earth rejoice; \*  
    let the multitude of the isles be glad.
- 2 Clouds and darkness are round about him, \*  
    righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.
- 3 A fire goes before him \*  
    and burns up his enemies on every side.
- 4 His lightnings light up the world; \*  
    the earth sees it and is afraid.
- 5 The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the LORD, \*  
    at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
- 6 The heavens declare his righteousness, \*  
    and all the peoples see his glory.
- 7 Confounded be all who worship carved images  
    and delight in false gods! \*  
    Bow down before him, all you gods.
- 8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, \*  
    because of your judgments, O LORD.
- 9 For you are the LORD most high over all the earth; \*  
    you are exalted far above all gods.
- 10 The LORD loves those who hate evil; \*  
    he preserves the lives of his saints  
    and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
- 11 Light has sprung up for the righteous, \*  
    and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.
- 12 Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, \*  
    and give thanks to his holy Name.

**Second Reading*****Titus 3:4-7***

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

The Word of the Lord.

**All:**                   **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

## **Gospel Reading**

*Luke 2:8-20*

*Celebrant:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*All:* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*All:* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **Sermon**

*The Rev. Karen Cuffie*

## *Nicene Creed*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
    he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
    and was made man**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
    he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
        in accordance with the Scriptures;  
    he ascended into heaven  
        and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
    and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
    who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
    and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## ***Prayers of the People***

*Leader:* Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

***People:* That we all may be one.**

*Leader:* Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

***People:* That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

*Leader:* We pray for all bishops, priests and ministers, especially Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, for Lucinda, our Bishop, and for Karen, our rector

***People:* That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

*Leader:* We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world.

***People:* That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

*Leader:* Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

***People:* That our works my find favor in your sight.**

*Leader:* Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble.

***People:* That they may be delivered from their distress.**

*Leader:* Give to the departed eternal rest;

***People:* Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

*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. **Amen.**

## ***The Peace***

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

***People:* And also with you.**

*Exchange peace.*

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

**People:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### *Celebrant*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

### *Celebrant and People*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

### *The Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is

my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you:

This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.” Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

*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:* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People:* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

*Celebrant:* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

### *Post Communion Prayer*

*Please stand*

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**God our Father.**

**in this night you have made known to us again  
the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him  
until the day dawns  
and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts.  
To him be glory both now and for ever.**

### *The Blessing*

### *The Dismissal*

*Celebrant:* Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia,  
alleluia.

*People:* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia**