



# SAINT STEPHEN'S CHURCH

PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

6 OCTOBER 2024

MORNING PRAYER & LOW MASS AT 8 AM

## 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:* Worship the Lord in the beauty of holines :

**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:* Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:  
**O come, let us adore him.**

**PSALM 128** *Beati omnes* **J** *Read responsively by whole verse.*

**B**lessed are all they that fear the Lord :  
and walk in his ways.

**For thou shalt eat the labours of thine hands :  
O well is thee, and happy shalt thou be.**

Thy wife shall be as the fruitful vine :  
upon the walls of thine house.

**Thy children like the olive-branches :  
round about thy table.**

Lo, thus shall the man be blessed :  
that feareth the Lord.

**The Lord from out of Sion shall so bless thee :  
that thou shalt see Jerusalem in prosperity all thy life long.**

Yea, that thou shalt see thy children's children :  
and peace upon Israel.

**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**

*Genesis 2:18-24*

**T**hen the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him." So out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper fit for him. So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh; and the rib which the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and cleaves to his wife, and they become one flesh.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

**BENEDICTUS ES, DOMINE** *¶ All stand*

**B**lessed art thou, O Lord God of our fathers; :  
praised and exalted above all for ever.

**Blessed art thou for the Name of thy Majesty; :**  
praised and exalted above all for ever.

**Blessed art thou in the temple of thy holiness; :**  
praised and exalted above all for ever.

**Blessed art thou that beholdest the depths,**  
**and dwellest between the Cherubim; :**  
praised and exalted above all for ever.

**Blessed art thou on the glorious throne of thy kingdom; :**  
praised and exalted above all for ever.

**Blessed art thou in the firmament of heaven; :**  
praised and exalted above all for ever.

**Blessed art thou, O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; :**  
praised and exalted above all for ever.

**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 THE RENEWAL OF LIFE

**O** God, the King eternal, who dividest the day from the night and turnest the shadow of death into the morning; Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep thy law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done thy will with cheerfulness while it was day, we may, when the night cometh, rejoice to give thee thanks; 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**ay 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**he 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**lmighty 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**ear 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**yrrie 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.

**A**lmighty and everlasting God, who art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire or deserve: Pour down upon us the abundance of thy mercy, forgiving us those things whereof our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### THE EPISTLE

*Hebrews 2:9-18*

**W**e see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for every one. For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through suffering. For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified have all one origin. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying, "I will proclaim thy name to my brethren, in the midst of the congregation I will praise thee." And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Here am I, and the children God has given me." Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same nature, that through death he might destroy him who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong bondage. For surely it is not with angels that he is concerned but with the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to be made like his brethren in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make expiation for the sins of the people. For because he himself has suffered and been tempted, he is able to help those who are tempted.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

### THE HOLY GOSPEL

*Mark 10:2-9*

*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.**

**T**he Pharisees came up and in order to test him asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of divorce, and to put her away." But Jesus said to them, "For your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man put asunder."

*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*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess thy Name may be united in thy truth, live together in thy love, and reveal thy glory in the world.

℣ Lord, in thy mercy

℟ **Hear our prayer.**

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.

℣ Lord, in thy mercy

℟ **Hear our prayer..**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as thine own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to thine honor and glory.

℣ Lord, in thy mercy

℟ **Hear our prayer.**

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.

℣ Lord, in thy mercy

℟ **Hear our prayer.**

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 thy salvation.

℣ Lord, in thy mercy

℟ **Hear our prayer.**

We commend to thy mercy all who have ☩ died, that thy will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Stephen, our patron, and with all thy saints in thine eternal kingdom.

℣ Lord, in thy mercy

℟ **Hear our prayer.**

*℟ Celebrant*

**L**ord, hear the prayers of thy people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## CONFESSON OF SIN

*℟ Celebrant*

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*℟ Celebrant & People, 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.**

*¶ Announcements may be made. The Celebrant then begins the Offertory with a sentence of scripture.*

OFFERTORY PRAYERS ¶ *All sit.*

*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 ¶ *All stand.*

*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. Creator of the light and source of life, who hast made us in thine image, and called us to new life in 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**ll glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke 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 this, all of you;

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.”



Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory. And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy ✠ grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost 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. 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 ¶ *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.

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**DISMISSAL** *¶ Please stand.*

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

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