



ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

All Saints' Day

November 5, 2023



Ministers

Rector

Deacon

Senior Warden

Junior Warden

Minister of Music

Cantor

Administrative Assistant

The People of the Parish

The Rev. Christy Laborda Harris

The Rev. Kate Sefton

Jean Farmer

Meg Nalley

Miles McKenzie

Kristina Ibarra

Jun Kim

All hymns listed by number can be found in the blue 1982 hymnal in front of you.

The Gathering of the Community

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

287 For all the Saints (vss. 1-4)

please stand

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and ever. Amen.

Beloved God, as we approach your Presence, guide and stir us with your Holy Spirit, that we may become one body, one spirit in Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

TRISAGION

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im -
mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us. Ho - ly God,
Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy
up - on us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

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The Liturgy of the Word

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

God of all people from every tribe and language; you call true witnesses who sing your praise, live your grace and work for peace: may we share their faith and know our need for you that we might be a blessing to the hunger of your world; through Jesus Christ, whose body we are.
Amen.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF REVELATION (7:9-17)

please be seated

After this I, John, looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

"For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;

the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;
for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 34:1-10, 22



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- 1 I will bless God at all *times*, *
and praise shall ever be in my *mouth*.
- 2 I will glory in the Most *High*; *
let the humble hear and *re-joyce*.
- 3 Proclaim with me the greatness of *God*; *
let us exalt God's Name *to-gether*.
- 4 I sought, and God *answered me* *
and delivered me out of all my *terror*.
- 5 Look upon the Most High and be *radiant*, *
and let not your faces be *a-shamed*.
- 6 I called in my affliction, and God *heard me* *
and saved me from all my *troubles*.
- 7 The angels encompass those who fear *God*, *
and God will *de-liver them*.

- 8 Taste and see that God is *good*; *
happy are they who trust in the Most *High*!
- 9 Fear the Most High, you that are God's *saints*, *
for those who fear God lack *nothing*.
- 10 The young lions lack and suffer *hunger*, *
but those who seek God lack nothing that is *good*.
- 22 O God, you will ransom the life of your *servants*, *
and none will be punished who trust in *you*.

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A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF JOHN (3:1-3)

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 5:1-12

please stand

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON

The Rev. Rod McAulay

please be seated

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon

HYMN

Sacred is the Call

please stand

Refrain:

**Sacred is the call, awesome indeed the entrustment,
Tending the holy, tending the holy.**

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE—Church of England Common Worship

United in the company of all the faithful and looking for the coming of the kingdom, let us offer our prayers to God, the source of all life and holiness.

Merciful Lord, strengthen all Christian people by your Holy Spirit, that we may live as a royal priesthood and a holy nation to the praise of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless Michael our presiding bishop, Megan our bishop, and all ministers of your Church, that by faithful proclamation of your word we may be built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets into a holy temple in the Lord.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Empower us by the gift of your holy and life-giving Spirit, that we may be transformed into the likeness of Christ from glory to glory.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give to the world and its peoples the peace that comes from above, that they may find Christ's way of freedom and life.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Hold in your embrace all who witness to your love in the service of the poor and needy; all who minister to the sick and dying; and all who bring light to those in darkness.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Touch and heal all those whose lives are scarred by sin or disfigured by pain, that, raised from death to life in Christ, their sorrow and suffering may be turned to eternal joy. We name those in need of your healing either silently or aloud...

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Remember in your mercy all those gone before us who have been well-pleasing to you from eternity; we now name, either silently or aloud, all those we remember this All Saints' Day... Preserve in your faith your servants on earth, guide us to your kingdom and grant us your peace at all times.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Hasten the day when many will come from east and west, from north and south, and sit at table in your kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks for the whole company of your saints in glory, with whom in fellowship we join our prayers and praises; by your grace may we, like them, be made perfect in your love.

Blessing and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honour and power, be to our God for ever and ever. Amen.

CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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.**

ABSOLUTION

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you.
And also with you.

*You are invited to pass the peace
distanced and respectfully.*

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Song of Simeon
Janèt Sullivan Whitaker

please be seated

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise God, all creatures here below;
 Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A—The Book of Common Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For in the multitude of your saints you have surrounded us with a great cloud of witnesses, that we might rejoice in their fellowship, and run with endurance the race that is set before us; and, together with them, receive the crown of glory that never fades away.

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:

The musical notation is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The first staff covers the first line of lyrics, the second staff covers the second line, and the third staff covers the third line. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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.**

As Jesus taught, we now pray.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.**

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Wherever you are on your journey of faith,
You are welcome at this table.

All are welcome at the Lord's table. You are invited to come forward when the ushers indicate. Please extend your hands together to receive the bread. If you are gluten free, please let us know. If you prefer a blessing, please cross your arms across your chest. If you would like your bread intincted (dipped in the chalice) please let the clergy person with the bread know before the bread is handed to you. It will be intincted for you and handed to you. We are no longer able to allow you to intinct the bread yourself nor are we able to place it in your mouth. Alternately, you may sip directly from the chalice or choose to receive the bread only.

COMMUNION HYMN

Taste and See

Refrain

The musical notation is written on three staves in a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is as follows:

Staff 1: Taste and see, taste and see the good - ness of the

Staff 2: Lord. O taste and see, taste and see the

Staff 3: good - ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

Verses

1. I will bless the Lord at all times.
2. Glo - ri - fy the Lord with me.
3. Wor - ship the Lord, all you peo - ple.

Praise shall al - ways be on my lips;
To - geth - er let us all praise God's name.
You'll want for noth - ing if you ask.

my soul shall glo - ry in the Lord
I called the Lord who an - swered me;
Taste and see that the Lord is good;

for God has been so good to me.
from all my troub - les I was set free.
in God we need put all our trust.

D.C.

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POST COMMUNION PRAYER

please stand

Let us pray,

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

BLESSING

May God,
who kindled the fire of God's love in the hearts of the saints,
pour upon you the riches of God's grace. **Amen.**

May God give you joy in their fellowship
and a share in their praises. **Amen.**

May God strengthen you to follow them in the way of holiness
and to come to the full radiance of glory. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you,
and remain with you always. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

please stand

Following God's saints in the ways of holiness and truth, go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia.
Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

CLOSING HYMN

293 I sing a song of the saints of God

