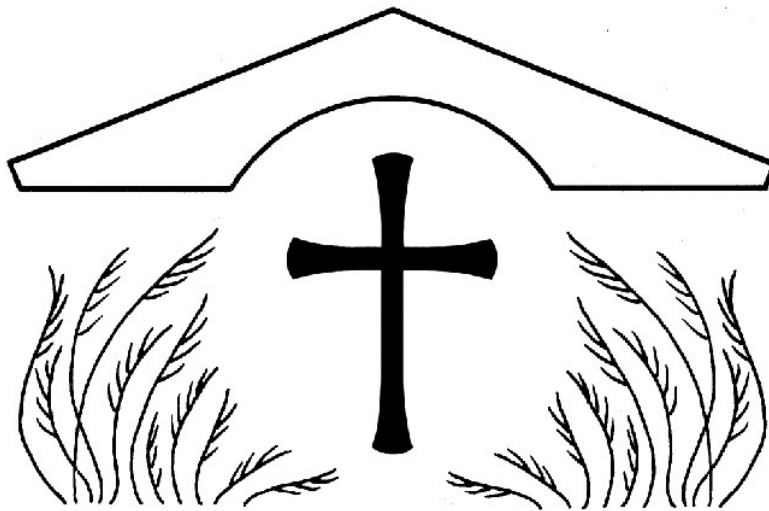


ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 4, 2024



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

The Gathering of the Community

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

God the Sculptor of the Mountains

please stand



1. God the sculp-tor of the moun-tains, God the mil-ler of the sand,
2. God the nui-sance to the Pha-raoh, God the cleav-er of the sea,
3. God the un-ex-pect-ed in-fant, God the calm, de-ter-mined youth,
4. God the dress-er of the vine-yard, God the plant-er of the wheat,



God the jewel-er of the heav-ens, God the pot-ter of the land:
God the pil-lar of the dark-ness, God the bea-con of the free:
God the ta-ble turn-ing pro-phet, God the res-ur-rect-ed Truth:
God the reap-er of the har-vest, God the source of all we eat:



you are womb of all cre-a-tion, we are form-less; shape us now.
you are gate of all de-liv'-rance, we are sight-less; lead us now.
you are pres-ent ev-ery mo-ment, we are search-ing; meet us now.
you are host at ev-ery ta-ble, we are hun-gry; feed us now.

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The Lord will be your everlasting light and your God will be your glory.

Thanks be to God.

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

Glory to God for ever and ever.

Christ our true and only Light: receive our morning prayers, and illumine the secrets of our hearts with your healing goodness, that no dark desires may possess us who are made new in the light of your heavenly grace. **Amen.**

KYRIE

The musical score for the Kyrie consists of three staves of music, each with two parts: 'Cantor or Choir' and 'All'. The first staff has the lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.' The second staff has the lyrics 'Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.' The third staff has the lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.' The music is written in a single melodic line on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The notes are connected by slurs, indicating a continuous melodic line.

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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.

Lord of fierce compassion, you name the forces of death in our hearts and institutions and even in the holy places: lift from us the canopy of fear that feeds on repression and pushes away what it cannot abide; go with us to dark and lonely places where we can learn again who we are called to be; through Jesus Christ, the healer of creation. **Amen.**

A READING FROM THE PROPHET ISAIAH (40:21-31)

please be seated

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;

who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to live in;
who brings princes to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.
Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.
To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.
Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?
He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength,
mighty in power,
not one is missing.
Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
"My way is hidden from the Lord,
and my right is disregarded by my God"?
Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.
Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 147:1-12, 21C



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- 1 **Alleluia! How good it is to sing praises to you, O God; *
how pleasant it is to honor you with *praise!***
- 2 **For you rebuild *Je-rusalem* *
and gather the exiles of *Israel*.**
- 3 **You heal the *broken-hearted* *
and bind up their *wounds*.**
- 4 **You count the number of the *stars* *
and call them all by their *names*.**
- 5 **Great are you and mighty in *power*; *
there is no limit to your *wisdom*.**
- 6 **You lift up the *lowly*, *
but cast the wicked to the *ground*.**
- 7 **We sing to you, Most High, with *thanks-giving*; *
we make music to you upon the *harp*,**
- 8 **For you cover the heavens with *clouds* *
and prepare rain for the *earth*;**
- 9 **You make grass to grow upon the *mountains* *
and green plants to serve human-*kind*.**
- 10 **You provide food for flocks and *herds* *
and for the young ravens when they *cry*.**
- 11 **You are not impressed by the might of a *horse*; *
you have no pleasure in human *strength*;**
- 12 **But you have pleasure in those who *fear you*, *
in those who await your gracious favor. *Alle-luia!***

A READING FROM PAUL'S FIRST LETTER TO THE CORINTHIANS (9:16-23)

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING

Mark 1:29-39

please stand

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

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

After Jesus and his disciples left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I

came out to do.” And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

People The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON The Rev. Christy Laborda Harris *please be seated*

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon

HYMN God of Mercy *please stand*

**God of mercy and forgiveness,
God who heals the broken heart,
Deepest source of all our longing:
Keep us near to you, close to your heart.**

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE—Common Worship from the Church of England

Let us worship the Savior with joy and make our prayer to God. Saying,
Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

The magi came from the east to worship your Son: God, grant to Christians everywhere the
spirit of adoration.
Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

The infant Christ received gifts of gold, incense and myrrh: God, accept the offering of our
hearts and minds at the beginning of this year.
Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ: God, grant
an abundance of peace to your world. We pray especially for the Holy Land, Ukraine, and all
lands torn by war and death.
Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

The Holy Family lived in exile and in the shadow of death: God, look in mercy on all who are poor and powerless, and all who suffer, especially those we now name...

Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

Your Son shared the life of his home and family at Nazareth: God, protect in your love our neighbors, our families and this community of which we are a part. We pray especially for those we love but can no longer see...

Lord of glory, **hear our prayer.**

Presider God, we rejoice in our fellowship with the shepherds, the angels, the magi, the Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph and all the faithful departed. In your unfailing love for us and for all people, hear and answer our prayers through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

CONFESSION

Trusting in God's saving grace, let us confess our sins.

Loving God, hear our prayer:

our hearts are heavy.

We have trusted too much in our own strength.

We have hidden our faces from those who suffer.

We have turned away from neighbors in need.

We have given up hope instead of seeking your help.

O God, be gracious to us.

Forgive our sin.

Heal our brokenness,

and fill our hearts with songs of joy. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

God the Creator brings you new life, forgives and redeems you. Take hold of this forgiveness and live your life in the Spirit of Jesus. **Amen.**

PEACE

Christ is our peace. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. The old has passed away: behold, everything has become new. 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

Bless His Holy Name
Andraé Crouch

please be seated

DOXOLOGY

please stand

**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—Common Worship from The Church of England (Prayer D)



The Lord_ be with you **And al - so 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 thanks and praise.

Almighty God, good Father to us all, your face is turned towards your world. In love you gave us Jesus your Son to rescue us from sin and death. Your Word goes out to call us home to the city where angels sing your praise.



We join with them in hea-ven's song:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



hea-ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho-san - na ___ in the high-est.



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na ___ in the high-est.

Father of all, we give you thanks for every gift that comes from heaven. To the darkness Jesus came as your light. With signs of faith and words of hope he touched untouchables with love and washed the guilty clean.



This is his sto - ry.



This is our song: Ho-san - na ___ in the high-est.

The crowds came out to see your Son, yet at the end they turned on him. On the night he was betrayed he came to table with his friends to celebrate the freedom of your people.

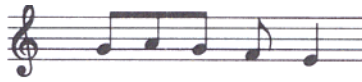


This is his sto-ry.



This is our song: Ho-san - na ___ in the high-est.

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food; he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: This is my body, given for you all. Jesus then gave thanks for the wine; he took the cup, gave it and said: This is my blood, shed for you all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me.



This is his sto-ry.



This is our song: Ho-san - na ___ in the high-est.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate the cross on which he died to set us free. Defying death he rose again and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.



This is his sto-ry.



This is our song: Ho-san - na ___ in the high-est.

Send your Spirit on us now that by these gifts we may feed on Christ with opened eyes and hearts on fire. May we and all who share this food offer ourselves to live for you and be welcomed at your feast in heaven where all creation worships you,



Fa-ther, Son _ and Ho-ly Spi-rit:



As Christ teaches us, we 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.

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

Come Light of Lights

**Come light of lights into my heart.
Come wisdom of spirit into my heart.**

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COMMUNION HYMN

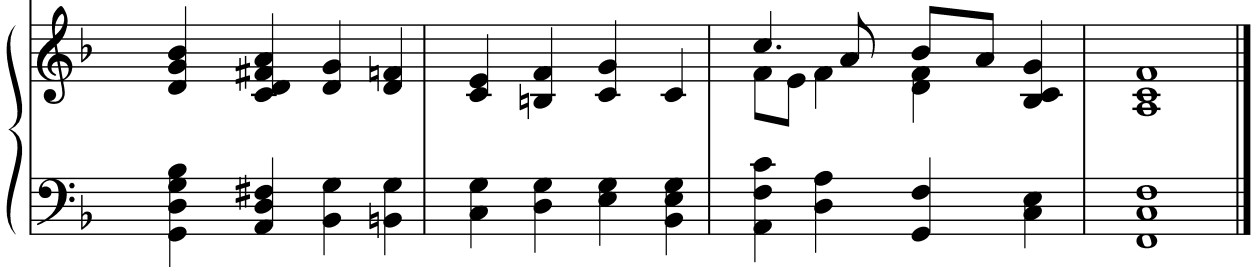
Heal me, Hands of Jesus



1. Heal me, hands of Je - sus, and search out all my pain: re -
2. Cleanse me, blood of Je - sus, take bit - ter-ness a - way; let
3. Know me, mind of Je - sus, and show me all my sin; dis -
4. Fill me, joy of Je - sus: anx - i - e - ty shall cease and



store my hope, re - move my fear and bring me peace a - gain.
me for - give as one for-given and bring me peace to - day.
pel the mem - o - ries of guilt, and bring me peace with - in.
heaven's se - ren - i - ty be mine, for Je - sus brings me peace!



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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 Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also, in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord. And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN

On Eagle's Wings

please stand

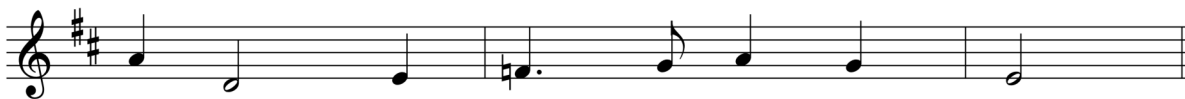
Verse 1



1. You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, who a -



bide in his shad-ow for life, say to the Lord: "My



ref - uge, my rock in whom I trust!"

 Refrain



And he will raise you up on ea - gle's wings, bear you on the

breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and

hold you in the palm of his hand. *Last time to coda* ⊕ *To verses*

Verse 2

snare of the fowl-er will nev-er cap-ture you, and

fam-ine will bring you no fear: un-der his wings your

ref-uge, his faith-ful-ness your shield. **D.S.**

Verse 3

3. You need not fear the ter-ror of the night, nor the

ar-row that flies by day; though thou-sands fall a-

bout you, near you it shall not come. **D.S.**

Hymn continued on following page

Verse 4

4. For to his an - gels he's giv - en a com - mand to

guard you in all of your ways; up - on their hands they will

bear you up, lest you dash your foot a - gainst a stone. **D.S.**

⊕ Coda

And hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

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DISMISSAL

Alleluia. Alleluia. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it. Go in light and love.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.