



SAINT MARK'S  
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE FEAST OF ST. STEPHEN

December 26, 2020 ♦ 6:30 PM

*Merry Christmas, and welcome to Saint Mark's Cathedral's livestream service of worship on this second day of Christmas: the Feast of St. Stephen. We encourage you to participate fully from home. We welcome feedback on your experience as we strive to gather virtually in these extraordinary times.*

## THE OPENING RITE

### WELCOME

*All rise, as able.*

### OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The Book of Common Prayer, p. 355*

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

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

### COLLECT FOR PURITY

*Presider* Almighty God,

*All* to you all hearts are open,

all desires known,

and from you no secrets are hid:

Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts

by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,

that we may perfectly love you,

and worthily magnify your holy Name;

through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### GLORIA

*Presider* Glory to God in the highest,

*All* and peace to God's 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.

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*Assembly* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Let us pray.

**W**E GIVE you thanks, O Lord of glory, for the example of the first martyr Stephen, who looked up to heaven and prayed for his persecutors to your Son Jesus Christ, who stands at your right hand; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.

*All* **Amen.**

*Please be seated for the readings.*

## THE READINGS

**READING** *Acts 6:8-7:2a,51c-60*

**S**TEPHEN, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and others of those from Cilicia and Asia, stood up and argued with Stephen. But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. Then they secretly instigated some men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." They stirred up the people as well as the elders and the scribes; then they suddenly confronted him, seized him, and brought him before the council. They set up false witnesses who said, "This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law; for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses handed on to us." And all who sat in the council looked intently at him, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

Then the high priest asked him, "Are these things so?"

And Stephen replied: "Brothers and fathers, listen to me. You are forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers. You are the ones that received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it."

When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

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

*Assembly* **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM***Psalm 35:1-5 ♦ read by all in unison**In te, Domine, speravi*

**I**N YOU, O LORD, have I taken refuge;  
 let me never be put to shame; \*  
 deliver me in your righteousness.

- 2 Incline your ear to me; \*  
 make haste to deliver me.
- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
 for you are my crag my stronghold; \*  
 for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.
- 4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
 for you are my tower of strength.
- 5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
 for you have redeemed me,  
 O LORD, O God of truth. ♦

*After a brief silence the Presider stands; all rise as able for the proclamation of the Gospel.*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL** *Matthew 23:34-39*

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

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

**J**ESUS SAID, “Therefore I send you prophets, sages, and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will flog in your synagogues and pursue from town to town, so that upon you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. Truly I tell you, all this will come upon this generation.

“Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you, desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

*Preacher* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**HOMILY**

The Very Reverend Steven L. Thomason

**THE NICENE CREED**

*The Book of Common Prayer, p. 358*

*Presider* We believe in one God,  
*All* 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**

*The Book of Common Prayer, p. 387*

*Intercessor* Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
*Assembly* **That we all may be one.**  
*Intercessor* Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
*Assembly* **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**  
*Intercessor* We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
*Assembly* **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**  
*Intercessor* We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
*Assembly* **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**  
*Intercessor* Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
*Assembly* **That our works may find favor in your sight.**  
*Intercessor* Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*Assembly* **That they may be delivered from their distress.**  
*Intercessor* Give to the departed eternal rest.  
*Assembly* **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**  
*Intercessor* We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
*Assembly* **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**  
*Intercessor* Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*The people may add their own petitions.*

*The Presider concludes the prayers with a collect. All respond: Amen.*

**THE PEACE**

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*Assembly* **And also with you.**

*If you would like, you are invited to take a moment at this point in the service to text or email someone with whom you would like to share the peace of Christ.*

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

## OFFERTORY

*An offering of money is received. Everyone participating in Saint Mark's Cathedral's worship at this time in any way is invited to make an offering as an expression of gratitude for God's generosity. Together, our gifts make possible this community of welcome, reconciliation and service. If you are joining this morning's livestream from another congregation, please consider making a gift to your local church.*

*Links to donate to Saint Mark's online are located on the livestream page. Visit [saintmarks.org/give](https://saintmarks.org/give), or use the Venmo mobile app (@SaintMarksCathedralSeattle, or scan the code at right), or visit this link on your mobile device: <https://venmo.com/saintmarkscathedralseattle>. If Venmo asks you for a four-digit code, enter **2076**.*



*You may also mail your gift to the cathedral: 1245 10th Ave. E, Seattle, WA 98102.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *Eucharistic Prayer B*

*The Book of Common Prayer, p. 367*

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*Assembly* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

*Assembly* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*Assembly* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*Presider* 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:

**All 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.**

*Presider* We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

**All** We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;

*Presider* And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary, Mark, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.

**All** AMEN.

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*Presider* Our Father in heaven,

**All** 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.

#### **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

*A period of silence is kept. Then may be said:*

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

*Assembly* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

#### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

*Presider* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*All may be seated for the time of communion.*

**PRAYER AT THE TIME OF COMMUNION**

from *Saint Augustine's Prayer Book* (Forward Movement, 2014)

*During this time of pandemic, we trust that the spiritual grace offered in the sacrament is abundantly offered by God to all who are present in community, wherever you may be. We are nourished by that love.*

O Christ, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament,  
and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart.  
I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind.  
Let nothing separate me from you;  
let me serve you in this life until, by your grace,  
I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

*All rise, as able.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*The Book of Common Prayer, p. 365*

*Presider* Eternal God, heavenly Father,

**All** 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** *The Presider asks God's blessing on the Assembly. All respond: Amen.*

**DISMISSAL** *The Presider dismisses the Assembly. The Assembly responds: Thanks be to God.*



# MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

**PRESIDER & PREACHER**

The Very Reverend Steven L. Thomason

**LECTOR**

Cheri Thompson

**SACRISTAN**

Michael Seewer

**VIDEOGRAPHY**

Gregory Bloch

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