



# The Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 7, 2025 at 8:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist: Rite One

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church ☞ Richmond, Virginia

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*Welcome to St. Stephen's Church. We are so glad you are here. This service of Holy Eucharist follows the order found in the Book of Common Prayer (the red book in the pew rack) beginning on page 323. This bulletin provides page numbers and other information to guide you through the service.*

## The Word of God

Opening Acclamation    *Please stand as you are able.*    The Book of Common Prayer, page 323

The Collect for Purity    page 323

The Summary of the Law    page 324

Kyrie, Trisagion or Gloria    page 324

The Collect of the Day    *Found on page 3.*

The First Lesson    *Found on page 3; please sit.*

The Psalm    *Found on page 3; please remain seated and read responsively by whole verse.*

The Gospel    *Found on page 3-4; please stand.*

The Sermon    *Please sit.*

The Nicene Creed    *Please stand.*    page 326

The Prayers of the People    *Please kneel as you are able.*    pages 328-330

The Confession of Sin    page 330

The Peace    *Please stand.*    page 332

Welcome and Announcements    *Please sit.*

# The Holy Communion

## At the Presentation of Alms

*All comes from God, so from what God has given, we offer gifts to sustain God's work in the world. If you wish to make your offering electronically, please scan the QR code or text STSTEPHENS RVA to 73256.*



All things come of thee, O Lord.  
And of thine own have we given thee.

The Great Thanksgiving    Please stand.

pages 340-343

*Please kneel after the Sanctus.*

The Lord's Prayer page 336The Breaking of the Bread page 337The Prayer of Humble Access page 337

## The Distribution of Holy Communion

*All are welcome at the altar in this place. Communion is distributed at the Communion rail in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd, and you may stand or kneel to receive. To receive Communion, extend your hands, one over another, palms up. You may consume the bread and then drink from the wine in the larger chalice. If you prefer to “intinct” or touch the edge of your bread to the wine, please use the smaller cup. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms against your chest. If you need us to bring the sacrament to you, please let the usher know.*

The Post-Communion Prayer page 339The Blessing and Dismissal page 339-340

# The Collect and Readings

## The Second Sunday of Advent

### The Collect of the Day

The Book of Common Prayer, page 159

Merciful God, who sent thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**The Lesson**      Isaiah 11:1-10      *Please sit.*

**Reader**      A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

**Reader**      The Word of the Lord.

**People**      **Thanks be to God.**      *A period of silence is kept.*

**Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19**      *Said responsively by whole verse, seated.*

Prayer Book, page 685

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, \*  
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 **That he may rule your people righteously \***  
**and the poor with justice;**
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, \*  
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 **He shall defend the needy among the people; \***  
**he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.**
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \*  
from one generation to another.
- 6 **He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \***  
**like showers that water the earth.**
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; \*  
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- 18 **Blessed be the LORD God, the God of Israel, \***  
**who alone does wondrous deeds!**
- 19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! \*  
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.  
Amen. Amen.

*A period of silence is kept.*

**The Gospel**     Matthew 3:1-12    *Please stand as you are able and face the reader of the Gospel.*

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

**People**         **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’”

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

**Celebrant**     The Gospel of the Lord.

**People**         **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

## Participants

CELEBRANT AND PREACHER: The Rev. John D. Rohrs; READER AND CHALICE BEARER: Anne Pinion

## The Parish Prayer List

Cassell V. Adamson, Leilani Allwine, Richelle Anderson, Patricia Atkins-Smith, Sue Atkinson, Robert Baker, Elizabeth Bannerman, Lash Barksdale, Nancy Beale, Ken Blaisdell, Christine Boeteger, Genie Borum, Julia Bouck, Gene Bowles, Sturges Brian, Leslie Brockman, Alex H. Brown, Pat Brown, Sarah Jo Bryce, Turner Bruneau, Matt Boyd, Patti Bullen, Tammy Carleton, Scott Carnohan, Paula Chambers, Nancy Cole, Sarah Cole, Susan Collier, Mary Cooke, Prior Cooper, Kathy Conrad, John Corey, Don Cowles, Michelle Crim, the Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, Barbara Dagger, Chris Davis, Patricia Delany, Jackie Dering, Ham DeRosa, Terry Dickinson, Davis Dunn Dillard, Susan Dull, Guy Frank, April Greenwood, Janis Hall, Rodger Hardy, Katie Hellebush, Dan Hill, Anna Hurdle, Alan Jamesieson, Lena Jones, Justin Jones-Nickerson, Jane Kelly, Dana King, Linda Lewis, Genie Lucyk, Joy Luke, Margaret Lyle, Pam Lynch, Ross Mackenzie, Barbara Mathison, Satin Matthews, Adrienne Maxwell, Michael McCabe, Schnucki McCabe, Morgan McCall, Stratton and Robin McCrady, Gertrude McLean, Nancy Meath, Jack Miller, Mary Miller, B. Millner, Susan Minyard, Sallie Moncol, Ashley Nickerson, Mary Beth Noel, Sallie Nolte, Jan Orgain, Tricia Payne, Beth Pearce, Ernest Perry, Courtney Phillips, Scott Pittman, Wilde Poole and family, Bob Pope, Lyn Presson, Luke Robertson, Ramona Ransone, Jason R., Ray, Jennifer Reed, Aleta Richards, *Ryan Rohadfox*, Kaley Rosenthal, Robert Sass, James Saunders and Harriet Covey, Melissa Schick, T. Logan Scott, *Todd Shelton*, Bette Shiflett, Maj. David Shuford, Jr., Chrys Sills, Aiden Thomas Smith, Mary Stagg, Regena Stith, Margaret Thompson, Kenneth Valke, Timothy W., Ozzie Wade, Carol and Don Wakeley, Suzanne Wallace, Tom White, Terri Wilcox, Donna Williams, Steve Williams, Martha Wilson, Claire Wood, Emily H. Wood, Rosalyn Wootten, Sue Wootton, Young, Margaret P. Young. **For those who have died**, especially *Bill Armstrong, Marsha Gillis, and Elizabeth Greene*. **For those expecting a child**, especially Maddie and Matthew Clites, Ian Hayes and Corinne Torres, *Preston and Cate Kendig*, and Michelle and Dane Olsson. **For our missionaries**, Heidi Schmidt and Monica Vega, and the people they serve in Argentina. **In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer**, we pray for *the Church of Bangladesh*. **For ReWork Richmond. For an end to gun violence. For peace and reconciliation** in Haiti, Iraq, Iran, Israel/Palestine, Nigeria, North Korea, South Sudan, Syria, and Ukraine, and at our borders. **For those serving overseas in the military or diplomatic service**: CPT Anna Broadbent-Evelyn, Lt. Jonathan Dean Hudson, and Lt. Alex Whitmire. *Names in italics were added to the prayer list this week.*

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St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church ☞ 6000 Grove Ave. Richmond, VA 23226 ☞ 804.288.2867 ☞ ststephensRVA.org