

St. Stephen's

Episcopal Church

Welcoming Worshiping Working

The Holy Eucharist
for the Sundays during Lent
March 22 and 29, 2020



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ststephensslo.org

The Word of God

The Decalogue: Contemporary

Sung by the Choral Scholars

Penitential Litany

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

His mercy endures for ever.

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:8,9*

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.

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.

The Trisagion

The People and Ministers say at 8am and sing at 10am

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

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

Processional Hymn

March 22 – Hymnal #567: Thine arm, O Lord, in days of old

1 Thine arm, O Lord, in days of old was strong to
 2 And lo! thy touch brought life and health, gave hear - ing,
 3 Be thou our great de - liv - erer still, thou Lord of

heal and save; it tri - umphed o'er dis - ease and death,
 strength, and sight; and youth re - newed and fren - zy calmed
 life and death; re - store and quick - en, soothe and bless,

o'er dark - ness and the grave. To thee they went, the
 owned thee, the Lord of light: and now, O Lord, be
 with thine al - might - y breath: to hands that work and

blind, the deaf, the pal - sied, and the lame, the lep - er
 near to bless, al - might - y as of yore, in crowd - ed
 eyes that see, give wis - dom's heaven - ly lore, that whole and

set a - part and shunned, the sick with fe - vered frame.
 street, by rest - less couch, as by Gen - nes - aret's shore.
 sick, and weak and strong, may praise thee ev - er - more.

Words: Edward Hayes Plumtre (1821-1891), alt. Music: *St. Matthew*, from *Supplemental to the New Version of Psalms* by Dr. Brady and Mr. Tate, 1708

March 29 – Hymnal #547: Awake, O sleeper, rise from Death



1. A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, And
 2. To us on earth he came to bring From
 3. There is one Bod - y and one Hope, One
 4. Then walk in love as Christ has loved Who
 5. For us Christ lived, for us he died And



Christ shall give you light. So learn his love— its
 sin and fear re - lease, To give the Spir - it's
 Spir - it and one Call, One Lord, one Faith, and
 died that he might save; With kind and gen - tle
 con - quered in the strife. A - wake, a - rise, go



length and breadth, Its full - ness, depth and height.
 u - ni - ty, The ver - y bond of peace.
 one Bap - tism, One Fa - ther of us all.
 hearts for - give As God in Christ for - gave.
 forth in faith, And Christ shall give you life.

Text: Ephesians 3-5; F. Bland Tucker, 1895-1984, © 1980, Augsburg Publishing House
 Tune: AZMON, CM; Carl G. Gläser, 1784-1829; harm. by Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

March 22

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

March 29

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Lessons

March 22: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

After each Reading, the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

March 29: Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act," says the Lord.

The Psalm



March 22: Psalm 23

1 The Lord is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.
2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.
3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of
death, I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those
who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.
6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the
days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

March 29: Psalm 130

1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear my voice; *
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.
2 If you, Lord, were to note what is done amiss, *
O Lord, who could stand?
3 For there is forgiveness with you; *
therefore you shall be feared.
4 I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him; *
in his word is my hope.
5 My soul waits for the Lord,
more than watchmen for the morning, *
more than watchmen for the morning.
6 O Israel, wait for the Lord, *
for with the Lord there is mercy;
7 With him there is plenteous redemption, *
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

The Lessons

March 22: Ephesians 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light – for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

March 29: Romans 8:6-11

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law~ indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Sequence Hymn

March 22 – WLP #773: Heal me, hands of Jesus, v 1-2, 3-4

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!

March 29 – Hymnal #635: If thou but trust in God to guide thee, v1, 2

Unison or harmony

1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee, and hope in him through
 2 Sing, pray, and keep his ways un-swerv-ing; so do thine own part

all thy ways, he'll give thee strength what-e'er be-tide thee,
 faith-ful-ly, and trust his word, though un-de-serv-ing;

and bear thee through the e-vil days. Who trusts in God's un-
 thou yet shalt find it true for thee; God nev-er yet for-

chang-ing love builds on a rock that nought can move.
 sook in need the soul that trust-ed him in-deed.

Words: Georg Neumark (1621-1681); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: *Wer nur lieben Gott*, Georg Neumark (1621-1681)

The Gospel

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

March 22: John 9:1-41

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not

March 29: John 11:1-45

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last

know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

The Sermon

March 22: The Rev Ian M Delinger, Rector

March 29: Berkeley Johnson, Canterbury Chaplain

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, 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.

The Prayers of the People

The People are invited to pray:

With confidence and trust let us pray to God.

The Intercessor leads the prayers, starting with:

*The response to: Lord, in your mercy, is: **Hear our prayer.***

The Celebrant adds the following prayer and the concluding collect

A Prayer in the Time of the Coronavirus

Almighty and All-loving God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

we pray to you through Christ the Healer

for those who suffer from the Coronavirus COVID-19 in California and across the world.

We pray too for all who reach out to those who mourn the loss

of each and every person who has died as a result of contracting the disease.

Give wisdom to policymakers, skill to healthcare professionals and researchers,

comfort to everyone in distress and a sense of calm to us all in these days of uncertainty and distress.

This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord

who showed compassion to the outcast, acceptance to the rejected

and love to those to whom no love was shown.

Amen.

Archbishop Michael Jackson, Dublin & Glendalough

Heavenly Father, You have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son:

Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray,

not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness,

but as You know and love us in Your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Peace

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

who has given us access to His grace: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Welcome, Birthdays, Anniversaries, Announcements

Birthdays

O God, our times are in Your hand:

Look with favor, we pray, on Your servant *N.*
as s/he begins another year.

Grant that s/he may grow in wisdom and grace,
and strengthen his/her trust in Your goodness
all the days of his/her life;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anniversaries

O God, You have so consecrated the covenant of marriage
that in it is represented the spiritual unity
between Christ and His Church:

Send therefore Your blessing upon these Your servants,
that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other
in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness,
that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,

who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Holy Communion

The Offertory and Anthem

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due His Name; bring offerings and come into His courts.

The Choir sings an anthem. Please mail your pledge to the Office with Attn: Treasurer.

The Offering of the Gifts

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation;
through Your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.
Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are You, Lord God of all creation;
through Your goodness we have this wine to set before You,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become the cup of our salvation.
Blessed be God for ever.

**Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendor, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is Yours.
All things come from You, and of Your own do we give You.**

The Great Thanksgiving

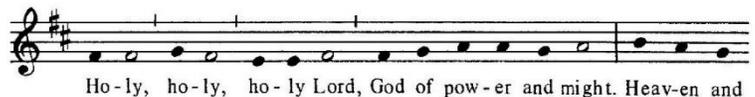
Eucharistic Prayer F from "Common Worship" (Church of England)

The Lord be with you.
Lift up your hearts.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

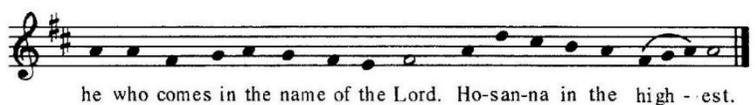
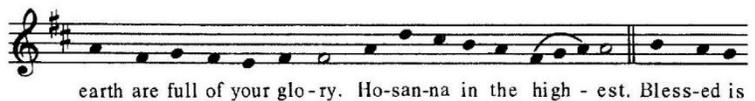
**And also with you.
We lift them to the Lord.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant recounts what God has done for us through Jesus Christ.

The preface culminates with the Sanctus, said at 8am and sung at 10am...



*Then, the words of Institution are said as the Bread and Wine are consecrated. At the end, the congregation says:
Amen.*



The Lord's Prayer

As at the Day of Pentecost, use any form or language with which you most feel comfortable, or in general, at 8am

And now, as our Savior Christ has 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.

As at the Day of Pentecost, use any form or language with which you most feel comfortable, or in general, at 10am

As our Savior Christ has taught us, 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.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Angus Dei

Then the following is said at 8am and sung at 10am

**Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.**
**Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.**
**Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.**

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: grant... us peace.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

(St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

During the Communion anthem, we will spend time in Adoration of the Sacrament. While not a custom in traditional Anglicanism, this time of self-isolation is an appropriate time to look upon the Sacrament of Bread and Wine, Body and Blood, and reflect on your relationship with Jesus.

Post-Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
You have graciously accepted us as living members of Your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and You will again feed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of His Body and Blood.
Give to us now, and to the world, peace, and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve You with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The Blessing

An Eastertide blessing seems more needed at this time...

May Christ, who brings new hope and a new future,
fill you with His new life;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Closing Hymn

March 22 – Hymnal #646: The King of love my shepherd is (Omit verses 3 and 4)

1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my
 *3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but
 *4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with
 5 Thou spread'st a ta - ble in my sight; thy

1 good - ness fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 2 ran - somed soul he lead - eth, and where the ver - dant
 3 yet in love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
 4 thee, dear Lord, be - side me; thy rod and staff my
 5 unc - tion grace be - stow - eth; and oh, what trans - port

1 I am his, and he is mine for ev - er.
 2 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 3 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 4 com - fort still, thy cross be - fore to guide me.
 5 of de - light from thy pure chal - ice flow - eth!

6 And so through all the length of days
 thy goodness faileth never:
 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
 within thy house for ever.

Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877); para. of Psalm 23 Music: *Dominus regit me*, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876); desc. David Willcocks (b. 1919) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

March 29 – Hymnal # 457: Thou art the Way, to thee alone

1 Thou art the Way, to thee a - lone from sin and death we flee;
 2 Thou art the Truth, thy word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
 3 Thou art the Life, the rend - ing tomb pro - claims thy con - quering arm;
 4 Thou art the Way, the Truth, the Life: grant us that way to know,

and all who would the Fa - ther seek, must seek him, Lord, by thee.
 thou on - ly canst in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
 and those who put their trust in thee nor death nor hell shall harm.
 that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

Words: George Washington Doane (1799-1859), alt. Music: *St. James*, Raphael Courteville (d. 1735)

Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

Notices

Every weekday at 12:15 for “*Midday Moment*” will be available on Facebook Live.

On Wednesdays, join on Zoom for Morning Prayer at 12:15 or Facebook Live if you want to listen.

- To access the Facebook Live stream, go to www.facebook.com/ststephensslo No account or login is required.
- To access Zoom, go to <https://zoom.us/j/4912760586> or use your landline or cell phone to call +16699006833 and enter this Meeting ID: 491 276 0586.

Getting Closer to Our Goal!

Though the bowling event our Acolytes are participating in to support Transitions Mental Health Association, in their 39th Annual "Strike out Stigma" Bowl-a-Thon has been postponed, they are continuing their fund raising efforts through March. The goal is to raise \$1,000 for TMHA mental health programs in San Luis Obispo, and the acolytes have raised over \$600 so far. Thank you to everyone who's already contributed! If you haven't, please consider supporting our acolytes and ultimately mental health services in our community. Give cash or a check to one of the acolytes at coffee hour, or drop in the offering plate or at the church office. Make checks payable to St. Stephen's and write "TMHA Bowl-a-thon" on the memo line. Donate online at <https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/banana-splits-and-i-cant-believe-its-not-gutter1> Together we can strike out stigma. Thank you for your support!