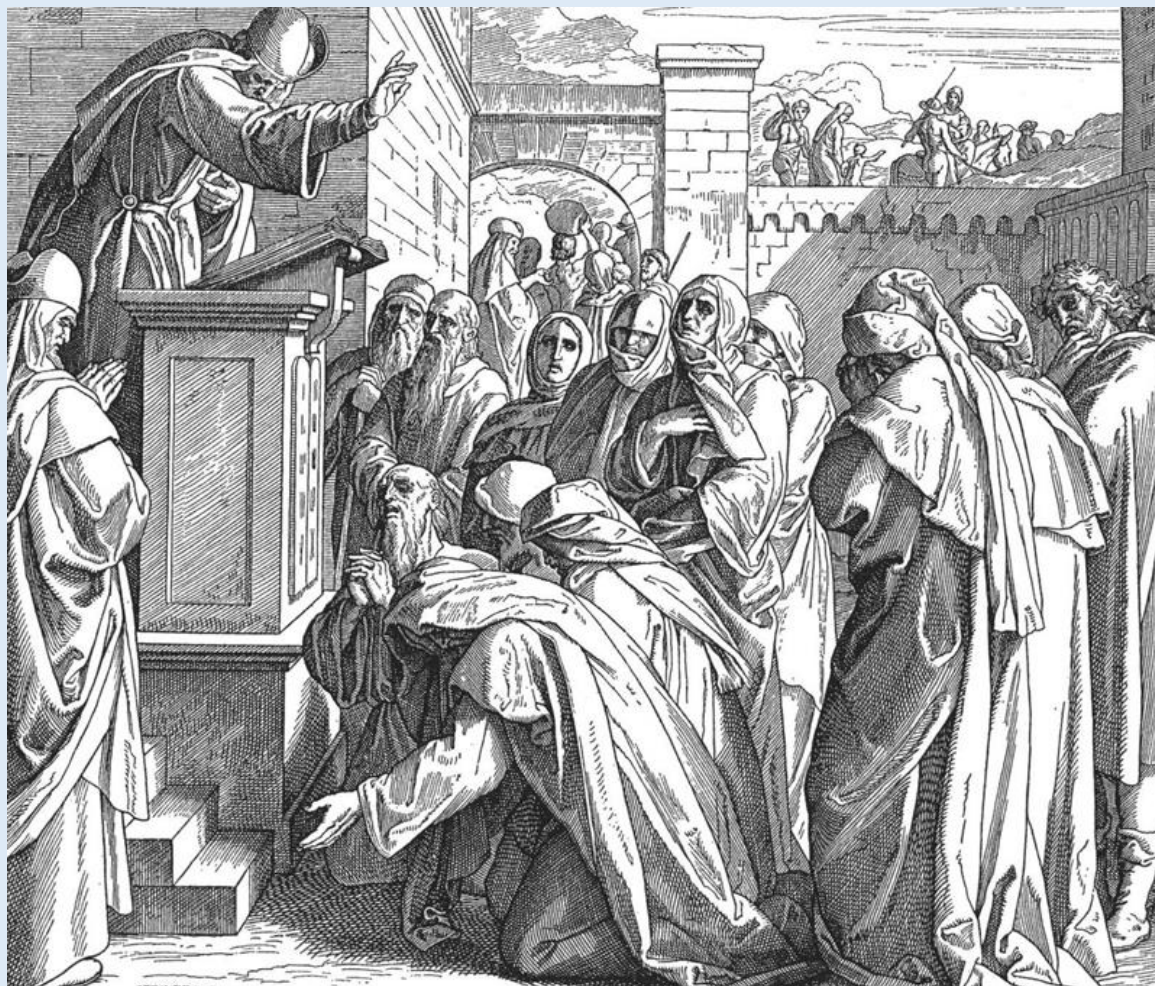


St Stephen the Martyr Anglican Church, Burnaby

Holy Eucharist

The Third Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday, January 26, 2025
10:00 AM



"Ezra Reads the Law" by Schnorr von Carolsfeld, 1860, Vanderbilt "Art in the Christian Tradition"


The Zoom codes for all our worship services are:

Meeting ID: 820 4853 6733 Passcode: 034102 Dial In: 778 907 2071

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82048536733?pwd=WDA1dG5nV1VqTnZmTUtmXJoczFZQT09>

The Gathering of the Community

Words of Welcome and a Territorial Acknowledgment


 **Opening Hymn** *“When Morning Gilds the Skies”* CP-02

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

All And also with you.

Celebrant Almighty God,

All to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. 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.

 **Hymn of Praise** *“Let All Creatures Bless the Lord”* CP-419

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant Let us pray.

All God of freedom, make us impatient to greet the time fulfilled, the poor lifted up, the oppressed set free and your love made manifest in Jesus Christ, the Anointed Servant. Amen.ⁱⁱ

The children and their teachers move to Sunday School.

The Proclamation of the Word

A reading from the prophet Nehemiah

Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10

read by Roxee

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law.

And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, “Amen, Amen,” lifting up

Persia has conquered Babylon. An edict from the Persian king, Cyrus, permits Jewish exiles to return home. The people now gather near one of the gates in the walls of Jerusalem to hear the prophet Ezra reading from Leviticus. He reads in Hebrew, and priestly assistants translate and interpret.

How can I tell how often I offend? cleanse me from my secret faults.
 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
 let them not get dominion over me;
 then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offence.
 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation
 of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O God, my strength and my redeemer.
[Refrain]: “The commandment of God is clear and gives light to the eyes.”

A Reading from Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31a)

Read by Sandra

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Paul has told the Christians at Corinth that spiritual gifts come through the Holy Spirit and are given by him, as he chooses, for the benefit of the whole community. Now he turns to the nature of the Church – using the analogy of the human body.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s People

All Thanks be to God

 **Gradual Hymn** *“In Christ There is no East or West”*

CP-484

A reading from the Gospel According to Luke

(Luke 4:14-21)

Reader The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

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

All Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

Jesus has been tempted by the devil in the wilderness – to misuse his power for his personal benefit, for worldly domination, and for protection from God’s plan fulfilled on the cross. While there he was “led by the Spirit”. Now he applies the words of Isaiah to himself: he is the predicted messiah; he will bring freedom to the oppressed.

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

The Gospel of Christ

All: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection

The Ven. Ruth Monette

 **Hymn: “I Believe in God Almighty”**

CP-44

Prayers of the People

led by Bob D

The leader will name aloud our parish’s known prayer concerns and conclude with the following prayer:

Leader Perfect Light of revelation, as you shone in the life of Jesus, whose epiphany we celebrate, so shine in us and through us. Hear and answer our prayers for those named aloud and remembered in our hearts. May we, like Christ, become beacons of truth and compassion, enlightening all creation with deeds of justice and mercy. Amen

All Amen.^{iv}

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Celebrant Most merciful God,
All 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 neighbours 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.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Peace


The Peace is an invitation for us to extend the blessing of God's absolution of our sins to our neighbours. You are invited to greet those sitting nearest to you with a wave, handshake, fist bump or other greeting.

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

All And also with you.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

During the singing of the Offertory Hymn, the greeters will bring the offering plates through the congregation. Financial offerings may be placed in the plates at the entrances to the worship space or made online at www.ststephenburnaby.ca/pages/donate. St Stephen's depends on the generosity of our members and visitors to continue to offer Christ's light to our neighbours.

 **Offertory Hymn:** "The Church of Christ in Every Age" CP-584

Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant Loving God, before the world began you called us. Make holy all we offer you this day, and strengthen us in that calling. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

All Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant We give you thanks and praise, almighty God, through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer. He is your living Word, through whom you have created all things.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh of the Virgin Mary and shared our human nature. He lived and died as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

In fulfilment of your will he stretched out his hands in suffering, to bring release to those who place their hope in you; and so he won for you a holy people.

He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows, and to give up his life on the cross, that he might shatter the chains of evil and death, and banish the darkness of sin and despair. By his resurrection he brings us into the light of your presence.

Now with all creation we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

 **Sanctus** *“Holy, Holy, Holy”*

SANC-74 (music on handout)

Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you!

My heart is glad to say the words: you are holy, Lord.

Celebrant Holy and gracious God, accept our praise, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread and gave you thanks, saying, “Take, and eat: this is my body which is broken for you.”

In the same way he took the cup, saying, “This is my blood which is shed for you. When you do this, you do it in memory of me.”

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we offer you this bread and this cup, giving thanks that you have made us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

We ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon the offering of your holy Church. Gather into one all who share in these sacred mysteries, filling them with the Holy Spirit and confirming their faith in the truth, that together we may praise you and give you glory through your Servant, Jesus Christ.

All glory and honour are yours, Father and Son, with the Holy Spirit in the holy Church, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**^v

Celebrant As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:

🎵 **The Lord's Prayer "Our Father"**

See handout for music

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name;
your kingdom come, your will be done on earth, as in heav'n.
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
forever. Amen.**

The Breaking the Bread

Celebrant We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

All **God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.**

Celebrant We are here because Jesus has called us –
strangers and friends, regulars and visitors,
believers and doubters, the certain and the curious.
It is always a mixed company that Jesus gathers and invites to his table
where, in bread and wine, he meets us and through him
we, who are different, are joined to each other.
So come, not because you understand, but because you are understood.
Come, not because of how you feel, but because God has food for you.
Come, not because you deserve a place,
but because Jesus invites you, just as you are.^{vi}

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God.

All **Thanks be to God.**

The Communion

To Receive Communion:

Please come forward to the step before the Altar to receive. We begin with the choir, the tech team, and the pews behind them and then move to the other side. Be attentive to physical distancing as you move within the space. To receive, extend both hands, one on top of the other so that the wafer may be placed on your palm. For the wine, you may take a sip from the chalice. We do not dip the wafer into the wine.

If you are not receiving wine, you may stay until the chalice is offered to you or return to your seat immediately.

If you would prefer a blessing instead, please ask for one.

If you need Communion brought to you, please alert a greeter or wave at the priest when everyone else has received.

Those on Zoom will say this prayer together.

If you are attending in-person, but are not receiving communion at this time, you may also wish to say the following prayer.

In union, O God, with all your faithful people gathered wherever the eucharist is celebrated this day, we offer you praise and thanksgiving for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption given to us through the life, death and resurrection of Christ, and for the means of grace and the hope of glory.

We pray that we may know you in heart, and soul and mind. Let nothing separate us from you. May we serve you in this life until, by your grace, we come to your promised reign of justice and peace; through Christ and in the unity of the Spirit. Amen.

Communion Hymns

“One Bread, One Body”

CP-73

“The Voice of God Goes Out”

CP-627

“Confitemini Domino”

CP-402 (if needed)

The Sending Forth of the Community

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant All your works praise you, O Lord.

All **And your faithful servants bless you.**

Gracious God we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. May we, who share his body, live his risen life; we, who drink his cup, bring life to others; we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world.

Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so that we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

+ Blessing

Celebrant May God the Father, 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.

All **Amen.**

Celebrant May God the Son, who turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts.

All **Amen.**

Celebrant May God the Holy Spirit, who came upon the beloved Son at his baptism in the river Jordan, pour out his gifts on you who have come to the waters of new birth.

All **Amen.**

Celebrant And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen^{vii}.**



Closing Hymn *“Thy Word”*

SB 117- see page 11

Dismissal

Leader Let us bless the Lord.

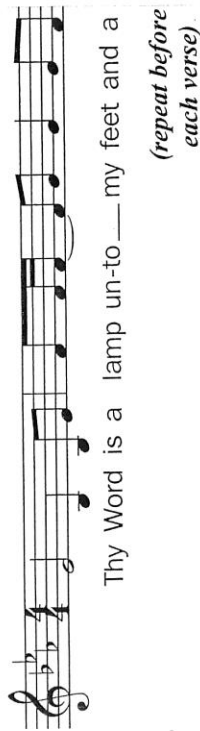
All **Thanks be to God.**



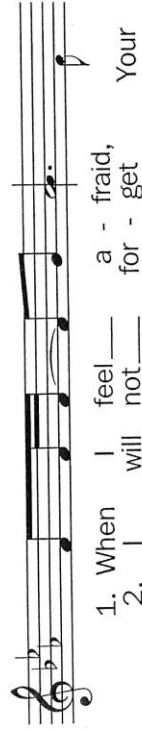
117. Thy Word - p. 2

117. Thy Word

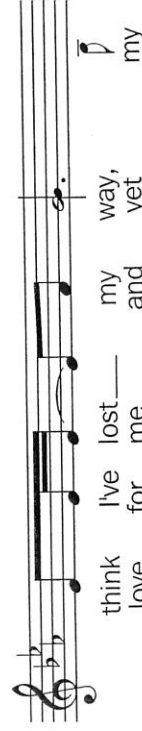
Words and music by Amy Grant & Michael W. Smith (c) 1984 Bug and Bear Music
 Administered by LCS Entertainment Group and Meadowgreen Music Company
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Thy Word is a lamp un-to my feet and a
 light un-to my path.
(repeat before each verse)



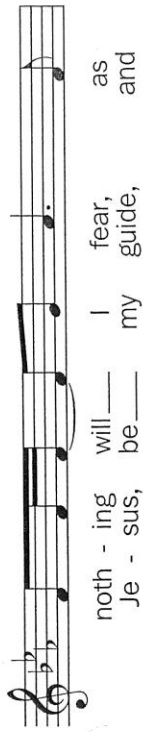
1. When I feel a - fraid, for - get Your
 love for me and yet my
 still you're there right be - side me and
 heart for - ev - er is wan - d'ring.



noth - ing will I fear, as
 Je - sus, be my guide, and
 long as You are near. and
 hold me to Your side, and



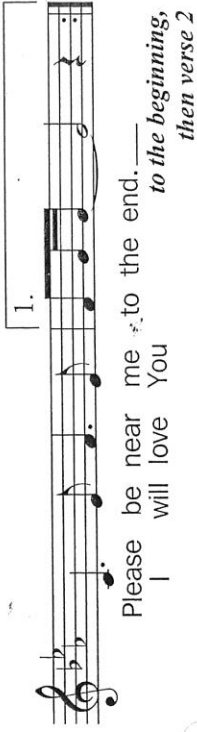
Please be near me to the end. to the beginning,
 then verse 2



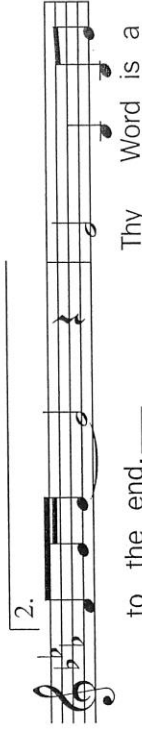
noth - ing will I fear, as
 Je - sus, be my guide, and



long as You are near. and
 hold me to Your side, and



Please be near me to the end. to the beginning,
 then verse 2



to the end. Thy Word is a



lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my



path. You're the light un-to my path.

ST STEPHEN THE MARTYR ANGLICAN CHURCH

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Music Director: Ugo Onwujiobi
Parish Administrator: Lois Holmlund
Rentals: rentals@ststephenburnaby.ca
Wardens: Val Krause and Sara Shaw

THANK YOU to our choir members, our readers, our tech support, and to our other volunteer servers this Sunday: our Zoom host Barb, Parish host Val, our greeters Man and Pat H, Val our Lay Administrator, Sara our Sacristan, our Offering caretaker Dawn, Altar Guild Elaine and Lisa, and Sunday School Betty and Josie

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR IS LOCATED ON THE UNCEDED LANDS OF THE COAST SALISH PEOPLES, ON THE SHARED TRADITIONAL TERRITORY OF SK̓W̓X̓W̓Ú7MESH (SQUAMISH), TSLEIL-WAUTUTH, X̓M̓Ə̓K̓Ə̓Y̓Ə̓M (MUSQUEAM) AND KWIKWETLEM FIRST NATIONS.

ENDNOTES:

This service is based on resources from the Book of Alternative Services with additional material as listed below.

i Saget, Father George. Altar of Keur Moussa Abbey, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56078> [retrieved January 13, 2025]. Original source: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:KeurMoussaAutel.jpg>

ii The Collect is from Prayers for an Inclusive Church (2009)

iii The Psalms are taken from the George Black Psalter at the Church of the Redeemer website, Anglican Church of Canada. <https://theredeemer.ca/music/george-black-psalter/>

iv The concluding prayer for the Prayers of the People ending is modified from "Pray without Ceasing".

v Eucharistic Prayer 2 from BAS.

vi The Breaking of the Bread is from the Iona Community.

vii The Blessing is from "Times and Seasons", Church of England.