



Saint Stephen's Chapel

Order of Worship

“We seek to glorify God by preaching His Word and spreading the gospel of Grace in Boldness and Selflessness.”

In the Sanctuary, we cross the threshold of the secular to the sacred, from the common to the uncommon, from the profane to the holy, from darkness to light.

Order of Worship

Saint Stephen's Chapel

December 29, 2024

First Sunday after Christmas Day

The prelude is a sacred curtain dropped between the world and the sanctuary. The dimming of the lights signals the congregation to observe silence. During this time, be prayerful and reverent in preparation for the worship of our holy God in His sanctuary. (Please silence all phones and electronic devices.)

“What a comfort it is that Christ wears our nature still in heaven! He intercedes as one who knows our infirmities and has endured them Himself.” **Thomas Goodwin**

“The intercession of Christ, grounded upon His own sacrifice, is an everlasting work of grace, securing all that believe in Him with full assurance of faith.” **Stephen Charnock**

Invitation to Reflection

Mrs. Kristie Alaniz

Call to Solemn Worship

Rev. Manny Alaniz

*{God graciously invites us into His presence to worship Him.
He enters into our busy lives to speak to us.}*

Minister: For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised! Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and joy are in his place. Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength! Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering and come before him! Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.

1 Chronicle 16:23-25

*** Invocation**

*** Song of Adoration**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing
“Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth, and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With angelic host proclaim
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

(Continues next page)

**Congregation Stands*

(Chorus) Hark! the herald angels sing
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Christ, by highest Heav’n adored
Christ the everlasting Lord
Late in time, behold Him come
Offspring of a virgin’s womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see
Hail th’incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with man to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel (Chorus)

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings
Ris’n with healing in His wings
Mild, He lays His glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth (Chorus 2x).

Wesley

God’s Renewal

Scripture Warning

Rev. Don Kinkead

Leader: This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. (1 John 1:5-10)

Leader: Christian, let us affirm what we believe.

All: *That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.*

Silent Confession {Take a few moments to confess your failures and shortcomings silently.}

* **Assurance of Pardon and Comfort** 2 Corinthians 5:17, 21
{God reminds our forgetful hearts of the grace that is ours in Jesus.}

Leader: If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

*** Song of Renewal**

Come All Ye Faithful

Wade

Come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant

O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem

Come and behold Him, born the King of angels

(Chorus) O come, let us adore Him

O come, let us adore Him

O come, let us adore Him

Christ the Lord

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning

Jesus, to Thee be all glory given

Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing (Chorus)

True God of true God, Light from Light eternal

Humbly, He enters the virgin's womb

Son of the Father, begotten, not created (Chorus).

Announcements

Prayers of the People

The Greeting of Peace:

Leader: Let the peace of Christ dwell in your hearts. To this peace, we are called as members of a single body. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

**** Dismiss our children for *Training in the Pews Today*****

*Scripture Reading

Hebrews 5:5-10

Mrs. Alaniz

So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you";⁶ as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek."⁷ In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence.⁸ Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered.⁹ And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him,¹⁰ being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

The Sermon

Rev. Manny Alaniz

"Our Great High Priest"

Sermon Series: The Book of Hebrews

Celebration of Holy Communion

Rev. Alaniz

A Word About Communion at Saint Stephen's Chapel:

Communion is an opportunity for all of us to seek the Lord. It is an occasion for baptized Christians to be strengthened by our Savior. All who trust alone in Christ as Savior and Lord, embrace the Gospel, live at peace with their neighbor, and seek strength to live more faithfully are welcome to come forward. If you are not a Christian, please consider spending this time in prayer. Children who have not received their first communion should come forward with their hands folded, and the wine server will pray for them.

"Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself." (I Corinthians 11:27-29)

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Prayer of Consecration

Words of Institution

Minister: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died

Christ is risen

Christ will come again

Minister: Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast

Minister: The gifts of God are for the people of God

*** Song of Communion**

Angels We Have Heard on High

Chadwick

Angels we have heard on high

Sweetly singing o'er the plains

And the mountains in reply

Echoing their joyous strains

(Chorus) Gloria in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this jubilee?

Why your joyous strains prolong?

What the gladsome tidings be?

Which inspire your heavenly songs (Chorus)

Come to Bethlehem and see

Him whose birth the angels sing

Come, adore on bended knee

Christ the Lord, the newborn King (Chorus).

Communion & Offertory Prayers

***Benediction Doxology**

Praise God

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow

Praise Him, all creatures here below

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. A-men.

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**Congregation Stands*

***Benediction**

Rev. Alaniz

Leader: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. May the Lord turn his face to you and give you his peace.

People: **Amen! (With great enthusiasm)**

Postlude**

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Worship: (New time & Location)

Every Sunday, 1:30 p.m., at
9599 Braun Road, SATX 78254

Contact Information:

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Saint Stephen's Chapel

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SaintStephensChapel.org

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Serving Today, December 29th

- Childcare & Training in the Pews – No T.I.P.
- Hospitality –

Serving Next Sunday, January 5th

- Childcare & Training in the Pews – No T.I.P.
 - Hospitality –
-

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Prayer Gathering** – to be announced.
- **Virtual Bible Study** – to be announced.
- **Christian Education** – after worship! Coming soon.
- **Next Potluck Lunch**, to be announced!
- **5-Minute Bible Study Podcasts** – coming soon!!

Sermon Notes:

Main Idea: God welcomes everyone to come to Him, but only through Jesus Christ, the Great High Priest, who intercedes on behalf of all believers.