

# ST. STEPHEN'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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July 18, 2021 | Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

## WELCOME

We are blessed to have you worship with us. At St. Stephen's, visitors and newcomers are an important and expected part of our communal vitality. Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on life's journey, and whatever questions dwell in your heart, you are welcome here. Whatever your race, class, sexuality, beliefs, or talents, we hope that you join us in the radical hospitality of God's table.

## COVID-19 SAFETY

We are very pleased and blessed to be able to provide an in-person outdoor service (and eventually moving inside), but in order to do so safely and respectfully, we ask that you be aware of the following rules and adhere to them for everyone's sake:

- **Please wear your mask during the service, and in the vestibule before and after.**
- We will **abstain from shaking hands at the passing of the peace**, there will not be a reception line following worship.
- Communion will be "in one kind," meaning bread-only, until such time as our bishops direct.
- There will be **no coffee hour after in-person worship** for the time being.
- The **Parish Hall, Sanctuary, and Parish House will be closed** during in-person worship services.
- The **Parish Hall Bathrooms will be open for emergency use** but you will be responsible for disinfecting the bathroom both before and after each use, so we are trying to either eliminate or minimize bathroom use.
- You are welcome to sing, but please keep your mask on.

## CELL PHONES

We are excited that you want to share what you have found here at St. Stephen's, and encourage you to do so! In fact, you will find us on Facebook if you choose to check-in, and you can follow us on Twitter @saintstevens and Instagram @ststephens. We look forward to seeing what you have to say!

We also ask that you turn off the volume on your device out of respect for those sitting around you. We want to make sure that they have as wonderful a worship experience as you are having.



## PRELUDE

### OPENING HYMN

1. Children of the Heav'nly Father  
Safely in His bosom gather  
Nestling bird nor star in heaven  
Such a refuge e'er was given

### CHILDREN OF THE HEAVENLY FATHER

2. God His own doth tend and nourish  
In His holy courts they flourish  
From all evil things He spares them  
In His mighty arms He bears them

### OPENING SENTENCE

*Officiant:* I was glad when they said unto me, "We will go into the house of the Lord."

### CONFESSION OF SIN

*Officiant:* Let us humbly confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**People:** **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.**

*Officiant:* 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.

### INVITATORY & PSALTER

*Officiant:* Lord, open our lips.

**People:** **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

**All:** **Glory to the Father †, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now,**  
**and will be for ever. Amen!**

*Officiant:* Worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness:

**People:** **O come, let us adore him.**

### JUBILATE

**All:** **O be joyful in the Lord all ye lands; serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence**  
**with a song. Be ye sure that the Lord he is God; it is he that hath made us and not we our-**  
**selves; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture. O go your way into his gates with**  
**thanksgiving and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him and speak good of his**  
**Name. For the Lord is gracious; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth from genera-**  
**tion to generation.**

**PSALM 89:20-37**

I have found David my servant;  
with my holy oil have I anointed him.

**My hand will hold him fast  
and my arm will make him strong.**

No enemy shall deceive him,  
nor any wicked man bring him down.

**I will crush his foes before him  
and strike down those who hate him.**

My faithfulness and love shall be with him,  
and he shall be victorious through my Name.

**I shall make his dominion extend  
from the Great Sea to the River.**

He will say to me, 'You are my Father,  
my God, and the rock of my salvation.'

**I will make him my firstborn  
and higher than the kings of the earth.**

I will keep my love for him for ever,  
and my covenant will stand firm for him.

**I will establish his line for ever  
and his throne as the days of heaven."**

"If his children forsake my law  
and do not walk according to my judgments;

**"If they break my statutes  
and do not keep my commandments;**

I will punish their transgressions with a rod  
and their iniquities with the lash;

**But I will not take my love from him,  
nor let my faithfulness prove false.**

I will not break my covenant,  
nor change what has gone out of my lips.

**Once for all I have sworn by my holiness:  
'I will not lie to David.**

His line shall endure for ever  
and his throne as the sun before me;

**It shall stand fast for evermore like the moon,  
the abiding witness in the sky.' "**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the  
Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and will be for ever. Amen.**

**FIRST READING**

**2 SAMUEL 7:1-14A**

When the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you." But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

## THE GOSPEL

MARK 6:30-34, 53-56

*Officiant:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

**People:** **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

*Officiant:* The Gospel of the Lord

**People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## REFLECTION

*Joy Anderson*

## THE APOSTLE'S CREED

**All:** **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Officiant:* Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Leader:* Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Lord, in your mercy;

**People: Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. We pray especially for our President, Joe; our governor, Ned; and for military personnel known to us: Dan Gardella, Neil Hickey, Dan Piccola, Michael Shea,

Liz Peeler, Mark Benjamin, Philip Austin, Joshua Bradbury, Nick Foydl, Charles Whately, James Matthews, and Will Owen. Lord, in your mercy;

**People: Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Give us a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Lord, in your mercy;

**People: Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We rejoice with those who have cause for joy, especially those who celebrate birthdays this month: Debby Duncan, Emily Kloo, Lynda Hickey, Lori Inferrera, Ava Rose Weissbach, Ava Pear, Anna Ruth Masters, Clay Little, Timothy Cavrell, Janet Whitty, Katie Klinck, John Van Steenburgh, Rosalie Hoffman, Eleanor Grosso, Marsha Brielmann, Mason Benjamin, Janie Lange, Susan Sevigny, and Ruth Vitale; Lord, in your mercy;

**People: Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We pray especially for all who are sick with COVID-19, for essential workers who face increased health risks, and for those who have commended themselves to our prayers: Melissa Bergman, Frank DiFiglia; Elisabeth; Josephine Howard; Meg; John; Debbie; Mary; Ann; Jane Brothers; Lori Saltus; Jeff Sultaire; Pat Goodrich; Chris Fazzino; Dan Hamel; Maureen Sheehan; Chris Morgen; Ann Johnson; Gary Savona; Jim McKerley; and Sonny. Lord, in your mercy;

**People: Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially the Rev. Richard Payne, and all who have passed away during this pandemic; that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy;

**People: Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

#### **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*Officiant:* Let us humbly confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**People: 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.**

*Officiant:* 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.

## PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

*Officiant:* Let us pray.

**All:** Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

## THE PEACE

*Officiant:* The peace of the Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTHDAYS, AND ANNIVERSARIES

*Thank you for your generous support. Text your donation to 860.333.6860*

We celebrate and congratulate all those who have wedding anniversaries this month, and offer this prayer: O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that it represents the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send your blessing upon these your servants as they celebrate their anniversary, that they may continue to 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 forever. Amen.

And to all those with birthdays this week, known and unknown to us, we pray: O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## THE BLESSING

*Celebrant:* Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us. So, be swift to love, and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God, who made us, who loves us, and who travels with us be with you now and forever.

**All:** Amen.

## DISMISSAL

*Leader:* Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**People:** Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

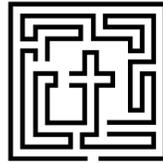
## POSTLUDE

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THE WORSHIP IS OVER. THE SERVICE BEGINS.

## THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHENS

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Tuesday, July 20   | 8:00am Morning Prayer (online)<br>7:00pm AA                    |
| Wednesday, July 21 | 7:00pm AA  |
| Thursday, July 22  | 8:00am Morning Prayer (online)<br>6:30pm AA Step               |
| Sunday, July 25    | 8:00am Morning Prayer with Communion<br>10:00am Holy Eucharist |



## ST. STEPHEN'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**  
Tuesday & Thursday 12pm—6pm  
Other times by appointment

**Priest-in-Charge**  
**Music Director**  
**Christian Education**  
**Communications Director**  
**Parish Sexton**  
**Prayer Hotline**

The Reverend Erin Flinn  
Maryann McCary  
Lynda Hickey  
Evan Brown  
Dennis Whitty  
Betsy Barney

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