

# Welcome to St Stephen's BELVEDERE

I am easily distracted whilst saying my prayers. Are you? “I throw myself down in my chamber, and I call in and invite God and his angels thither and when they are there I neglect God and his angels for the noise of a fly, for the rattling of a coach, for the whining of a door. I talk on in the same posture of praying — eyes lifted up, knees bowed down — as though I prayed to God. And if God or His angels should ask me when I last thought of God in that prayer, I cannot tell. A memory of yesterday’s pleasures, a fear of tomorrow’s dangers, a straw under my knee, a noise in my ear, a light in my eye, an anything, a nothing, a fancy, a chimera in my brain. It troubles me in my prayer. So there’s nothing, nothing in spiritual things perfect in this world. I turn to hardy and earnest prayer to God, and I fix my thoughts strongly as I think upon Him. And before I have perfected one petition, the spirit of slumber closes my eyes and I pray drowsily.”

That’s John Donne, Dean of St Paul’s, London and *the greatest poet in English letters*. If Donne had difficulty with wandering thoughts, there is hope for me, and for you. Welcome to St Stephen’s.

## To our visitors, newcomers, and seekers:

- If you’re new via the livestream, please email [office\[at\]ststephenschurch.org](mailto:office@ststephenschurch.org) to let us know who you are, to ask questions, or to make comments.
- Donations and Contributions can be made online at <http://ststephenschurch.org/styled-23%20Contribute/index.html>.
- If you are ready to inquire about membership, want us to pray for you or someone you name, or you’d like a call from one of our priests, please email [office@ststephenschurch.org](mailto:office@ststephenschurch.org).
- All currently available Livestream links, Christian Education forums, and classes can be accessed on the church website St Stephen’s Central page.
- Visit *Together Apart*, the daily clergy blog, at <https://ststephensbelvedere.squarespace.com/>

27TH SEPTEMBER 2020 | THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

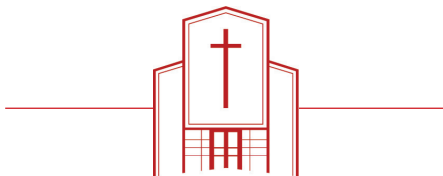


**The flowers at the altar today  
are given in memory of  
Ann Behrman  
by her friends.**

Floral donations support the livestream service.

### **Serving at the Altar Today**

<b>Scripture Reader</b>	Michelle Mayfield-Baske [Exodus lesson]
<b>Scripture Reader</b>	Andrew Purvis [Philippians lesson]
<b>Soprano</b>	Judith Ward Hall
<b>Alto</b>	Matheus L. Coura
<b>Tenor</b>	Douglas Mandell
<b>Bass</b>	Wilford Kelly
<b>Director of Parish Music</b>	John Karl Hirten
<b>Stream Team</b>	Oliver Dugan, Alec Marasa, Kelly Perasso, Jack Putney, Phoebe Putney
<b>Preacher</b>	The Rev'd Phillip C. Ellsworth, Jr.
<b>Celebrant</b>	The Rev'd Christine Trainor



# ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH

BELVEDERE

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

27th September 2020 | 10:00 AM

Proper 21 | Holy Eucharist, Rite II

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*Worship is a verb. from the Altar of this sacred space to the altar of your heart in the sacred space of your home. We welcome you to join us in the active worship of God. This service is based on the Holy Eucharist Liturgy of the Scottish Episcopal Church, 1982, printed herein.*

*For ease of use, this leaflet contains the live stream congregation portions of the liturgy, service music, and hymn lyrics.*

## Pledge Appeal 2021 Testimonial

### At the Procession

**Hymn 679** *Surely it is God who saves me*

THOMAS MERTON

Surely it is God who saves me; trusting him, I shall not fear.  
For the Lord defends and shields me and his saving help is near.  
So rejoice as you draw water from salvation's living spring;  
in the day of your deliverance thank the Lord, his mercies sing.

Make his deeds known to the peoples; tell out his exalted Name.  
Praise the Lord, who has done great things;  
all his works his might proclaim.  
Zion, lift your voice in singing; for with you has come to dwell,  
in your very midst, the great and Holy One of Israel.

— Carl P. Daw (b. 1944)

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### The Acclamation

*Celebrant* The world belongs to God.

*People* **The earth and all its people.**

*Celebrant* How good it is, how wonderful

*People* **To live together in community.**

*Celebrant* Love and faith come together.

*People* **Justice and peace hold hands.**

*Celebrant* Were Christ's disciples to keep silent

*People* **These stones would shout aloud.**

*Celebrant* Open our lips, O God,

*People* **And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.**

**Canticle 13** *Benedictus es, Domine*

THE IMPERIAL TUNE (c. 1630)

Glory to you, Lord God of our ancestors;  
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.

Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name;  
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you in the splendor of your temple;  
on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.

Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim;  
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you, beholding the depths;  
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.

Glory to you, Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier;  
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**The Collect for the Feast of Saint Michael and All Angels**

*Celebrant* May God be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**E**verlasting God, you have ordained and constituted in a wonderful order the ministries of angels and mortals: Mercifully grant that, as your holy angels always serve and worship you in heaven, so by your appointment they may help and defend us here on earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*The people sit.*

## The First Reading Exodus 17. 1 – 7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?” But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 78. 1 – 4, 12 – 16** *Attendite popule*

Anglican Chant [Stewart]

Hear my teaching, O my people; \*  
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

I will open my mouth in a parable; \*  
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.

That which we have heard and known,  
and what our forefathers have told us, \*  
we will not hide from their children.

We will recount to generations to come  
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD, \*  
and the wonderful works he has done.

He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers, \*  
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.

He split open the sea and let them pass through; \*  
he made the waters stand up like walls.

He led them with a cloud by day, \*  
and all the night through with a glow of fire.

He split the hard rocks in the wilderness \*  
and gave them drink as from the great deep.

He brought streams out of the cliff, \*  
and the waters gushed out like rivers.

**The Epistle Reading** **Philippians 2. 1 – 13**

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own

interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death —  
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**


*The people stand and remain standing for the Holy Gospel.*



## The Sequence *Alleluia*

John Karl Hirten (b. 1956)

*Repeat each phrase after the cantor the first time.*



al - le - lu - ia,

The first musical staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It contains the melody for the first phrase of the Alleluia: 'al - le - lu - ia,'. The notes are: A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (beamed eighth notes), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), and D4 (quarter). There is a repeat sign at the end of the staff.



al - le lu - ia,

The second musical staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It contains the melody for the second phrase of the Alleluia: 'al - le lu - ia,'. The notes are: A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), B3 (quarter), and A3 (quarter). There is a repeat sign at the end of the staff.

*A verse will be sung, after which, all repeat Alleluia*

## The Holy Gospel Matthew 21. 23 – 32

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

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

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did

the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

*Gospeller*      The Gospel of the Lord  
People          **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*The preacher says a prayer and then bids the people to sit.*

**The Homily**

Phil Ellsworth

*After the homily, the people stand to say the Nicene Creed.*

## The Nicene Creed *Standing*

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  $\times$ resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## The Prayers of the People

Cantor: We pray . . .

Leader All

Lord, in your mer - cy Hear our prayer.

*During the Prayers of the People, please join the intercessor in reading aloud the names on the prayer list.*

We pray for those needful or desirous of our prayers, including  
**Tom, Ann, Ruth, Allison, Kareem, Dan, and Betty.**

We pray for those who have died, including **Carol Treasure, Paul Martori, Richard Landvatter, Robert Turkle, Sr., William A. King, Pat McDonald, Midge Moore, and Ruth Bader Ginsberg.**

And on their Year's Mind, we remember and pray for  
**Adrian Laverne Askeland, Ann Nelson Behrman, Edward Russell Rice, and Colleen McKettrick.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

**The Confession** *Said by all, kneeling or standing.*

*The Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Celebrant and People* The people respond with the **bolded** sentences.

Gracious God, we have come to see that our lives fall far short of your glory.

**Have mercy and forgive us.**

You have given your Son for us, and poured out your Spirit, yet we fail to return your love with all our heart.

**Have mercy and change us.**

Too often we are selfish and proud, ignoring you and neglecting others.

**Have mercy and cleanse us.**

When we do not truly trust and obey you, we are overwhelmed by self-pity, fear and worry.

**Have mercy and deliver us.**

In Christ we are given a sure hope and secure love, yet we follow the false hopes and desires of this world.

**Have mercy and renew us.**

O God, through the redeeming death of your Son, by your Spirit, and through your word, enable us to follow you with joy.

**All this we ask, confident of your faithfulness and love. Amen.**

*The Absolution* The Celebrant pronounces an absolution.

## Welcome and Announcements

### Offertory Sentence

*Please remember to support the church financially through your pledge or contribution, which you can send by mail to St Stephen's Episcopal Church, PO Box 97, Belvedere, CA 94920 or donate online by way of St Stephen's Paypal account button at <http://ststephenschurch.org/styled-23%20Contribute/index.html>.*

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

At the Offertory *Christus factus est*

Eleanor Daley (b. 1955)

Christ became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise  
God, all crea tures here be - low; praise God a-bove, ye  
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost.

## The Great Thanksgiving

— *From the Eucharistic Liturgy of the  
Scottish Episcopal Church, 1982*

*Celebrant* May God be with you.

People **And also in you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant*

Worship and praise belong to you, maker of light and darkness. Your wisdom draws beauty from chaos, brings a harvest out of sorrow, and leads the exiles home. In Christ your Son, enemies are reconciled, debts forgiven and strangers made welcome.

*The Celebrant proceeds.*

We who by Christ's power follow the way of the Cross, sharing the joy of his obedience, now offer you our praise, with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, we sing the hymn of your unending glory:

**Sanctus** *Rose Hill Mass*

John Karl Hirten (b. 1956)

*The people remain standing and sing.*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,



God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are



full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, ho -



san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na, ho -



san - na in the high - est. Blest is the



One who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho -



san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est!



*The people stand or kneel.*

*The Celebrant continues.*

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving God, for Christ in whom the world is reconciled. Lifted on the cross, his suffering and forgiveness spanned the gulf our sins had made. Through that dark struggle, death was swallowed up in victory, that life and light might reign.

Before he was given up to suffering and death, and at supper with his disciples, he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you."

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

We now obey your Son's command. We recall his blessed passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension; and we look for the coming of your Kingdom. Made one with him, we offer you these gifts and with them ourselves, a holy and living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful God, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by his life-giving power, they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for service.

Help us, who are gathered into the community of Christ's body to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the apostles, and prophets, and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be to you, world without end. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

## The Lord's Prayer

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.

## At the Breaking of the Bread

Peregrine Tone

*Repeat refrain after the cantor the first time.*



*Choir:* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.



*All:* There-fore let us keep the feast.\_\_\_\_\_

—*All sing Refrain*

## The Peace

### Invitation

## At the Communion

*How will I receive the Sacrament if not by mouth? By faith. The Church has been through pestilence and passed its wisdom down to us in the Book of Common Prayer. Here's the rubric [instruction] from the 1689 Prayer Book translated into contemporary Californian: "But if a person, either by reason of extremity of sickness or . . . by any other just impediment, cannot receive the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood: the Clergy shall instruct them that if they repent of their sins, and believe that Jesus Christ has suffered death upon the Cross for them, and shed his Blood for their redemption, earnestly remembering the benefits they have received thereby . . . they eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Savior Christ profitably to their soul's health, although they do not receive the Sacrament with their mouth."*

*Via live stream you will receive what Tradition calls Spiritual Communion. Inclining your hearts, you will eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ to your soul's health, although you do not receive the Sacrament with your mouth.*

## Communion Music

**Communion Hymn 554** *'Tis the gift to be simple*

SIMPLE GIFTS

*'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,  
'tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,  
and when we find ourselves in the place just right  
'twill be in the valley of love and delight.*

*When true simplicity is gained  
to bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed,  
to turn, turn will be our delight  
'til by turning, turning, we come round right.*

— Joseph Brackett, Jr. (1797 – 1882)

**The Post-Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving** *The people stand.*

*After Communion, the Celebrant says* Let us pray.

*Said by all.*

Almighty Creator of all, we give you thanks and praise that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit enlightens, give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**The Blessing** *The people remain standing and respond Amen at the conclusion.*

*Celebrant*

Life is short, and we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us, so be quick to love and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you and those you love this day and always. **Amen.**

## At the Retiring Procession

**Hymn 686** *Come, thou fount of every blessing*

NETTLETON

Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace!  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount! O fix me on it, mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I find my greatest treasure; hither, by thy help, I've come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee:  
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart, O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

— Robert Robinson (1735 – 1790) *altered*

## The Dismissal

*Priest* Go in peace, caring for creation, serving Christ,  
and sharing the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

## The Postlude

## – Music Notes –

Born and raised in Parry Sound, Ontario, Eleanor Daley received her Bachelor of Music Degree in Organ Performance from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario and holds diplomas in piano and organ from the Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto and Trinity College, England. She has been the Director of Music at Fairlawn Avenue United Church since 1982. During this time, she has established a thriving choral program for which much of her music has been composed.

Robert Robinson, the author of the hymn “Come, thou fount of every blessing,” was born of humble parents. He could not afford schooling for the ministry, so he was apprenticed at fourteen to a London barber and hairdresser. After a dissolute youth, he was converted by hearing a discourse preached by George Whitefield (an Anglican priest whose preaching would figure greatly in America’s “Great Awakening”) on “The Wrath to Come.” Robinson was so moved by this that he studied for and became a Methodist minister. The words of the hymn are about providence and grace, referencing the mountain of God and echoing Jacob’s indebtedness to God. The tune now known as NETTLETON first appeared in print in a two-part version in 4/4 time in a shape-note hymnal. It was paired with this same text.

If you miss hearing the St Stephen’s Choir, please visit this link to a Zoom recording of them singing, *Ave Verum Corpus*, (Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791):

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/f3iycb3umin7wkk/AAD3NVe6FMmmvgUkmdqkUtwa?dl=0>

— Blessing of the Animals —

The Feast of St Francis of Assisi, 4th October, falls on a Sunday this year. The clergy want to put their hands on your beloved pets to bless them on camera.

Phil and Christine will be blessing animals in the Courtyard **today from 11:10 to 12:20**. You'll know how to keep a proper distance from each other. Please wear a mask and have your pet on a 6' leash. If necessary wait your turn.

Every blessing will be recorded in a short video clip. The Stream Team will stitch each clip together to create a video that they will integrate into our livestream broadcasting on the 4th of October. Look for a surprise near the beginning of the service. It could be ruff. —PCE+

— Announcements —

For all St Stephen's live streams and virtual offerings, please go to the **ST STEPHEN'S CENTRAL** page on our website at <http://ststephenschurch.org/>.

Visit *Together Apart*, the almost daily clergy blog, at <https://ststephensbelvedere.squarespace.com/>

**Stay Connected with Bible Studies and discussions** that continue online via Zoom. Go to St Stephen's Central at [ststephenschurch.org](http://ststephenschurch.org) for all links.

**Live Stream** | We seek your feedback on your experience with the quality of the livestream. Are you having technical difficulties with livestream sound? Video? Glitches? Please email Elizabeth Gravely to let us know.

- St Stephen's has moved the livestream channel to YouTube. All upcoming livestreams, as well as those from 8.16.20, and forward, are available on this channel. Go to what is now St Stephen's unique url for this channel: <https://www.youtube.com/ststephensbelvedere> Save this in your browser favorites.

**Pledge Appeal 2021:** Pledge appeal packages were mailed on the 17th of September. If you have not received yours, pledge cards can be downloaded from [Ststephenschurch.org](http://Ststephenschurch.org), or contact the office. Look for the pledge link on

the bottom right side of the home page. You can fill out, scan, and email it to office[at]ststephenschurch.org or send by mail. By submitting your pledge card by 27th October, you partner with your Parish in planning St Stephen's future.

Please know that whatever amount you pledge is sincerely appreciated. By simply making a pledge of any amount, you cast your heart and thoughtful support for St Stephen's and the church community you want it to be.

### **Stewardship Ingathering on Sunday, 18th October**

To help the vestry plan for the next calendar year, you are encouraged to get your 2021 pledge into the office by 27th October. And to celebrate your generosity and faithful support of the mission and ministry of this parish, we will hold a joyful Ingathering at the 10 am service on 18th October with a special blessing at the Offertory of all pledges received into the office by Wednesday, 14th October.

**Virtual Prayer Corner** | To light a candle in the virtual prayer corner, please see the instructions on the *St Stephen's Central* webpage of the website <http://ststephenschurch.org/> under Pastoral Care or download the pdf link in your Saturday morning *Tidings* (*St Stephen's Church News*).

**Floral Donations** | In order to protect the health of St Stephen's Altar Guild members, the floral display will remain a phalaenopsis orchid plant until the church can resume physical services, and it is once again safe to create changing floral arrangements. Your continued floral donations help support the livestream services.

**Clergy Pastoral Care** | The clergy may be contacted at the office number: 415-435-4501 by leaving a voicemail. After hours, if you have a pastoral emergency, call or text the Clergy On Call number, 415-328-8812.

**Please make sure that St Stephen's has your correct email** and that you are currently receiving the weekly email and eNews from us. If you have updates to your contact information, please email Elizabeth Gravely, Rector's Executive Assistant, as soon as possible: elizabeth[at]ststephenschurch. Don't miss the Live stream Sunday Services, Zoom Bible Studies, and teleconference events that are available to you. If you do not receive *St Stephen's Tidings* on Saturday at



6:00a, look in your junk mail first. It helps to add dee[at]ststephenschurch.org into your address book.

## — Fall Adult Bible Studies and Sunday Forums —

**Today, 27th September 27, 9:00 – 10:00 am | Zoom Links on St Stephen's Central**

Weeds, thorns, fruits, and harvests: Agricultural imagery of the New Testament. An end of summer special for all you successful and not so successful gardeners. Reading will be sent out by email. Led by Karl Belgum.

**Sunday 4th October, 9:00 — 10:00 am Zoom**

Slow Religion: The Foundations of Christian Faith in the 21st Century  
Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit

Life, ministry, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ, and the increasing prominence of the Holy Spirit as witnessed in the Gospels. Comparative views of the evolution of the creed and prayer life from 1st century Judaism to Jesus. Sources include Gospels and Roman texts. We will reflect on how do we discern God's presence and command and how do we respond when God becomes active in our lives? The series is led by Joe Jennings and the Rev'd Zoila Schoenbrun.

**Sunday 11th, October 11, 9:00 — 10:00 am Zoom**

Slow Religion: The Foundations of Christian Faith in the 21st Century  
Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit

Please read above content from 4th October. The series is led by Joe Jennings and the Rev'd Zoila Schoenbrun.

**Sunday, 18th October, 9:00 — 1:00 am Zoom**

Slow Religion: The Foundations of Christian Faith in the 21st Century  
The Early Church (40 — 400 CE)

How the early Christian community experienced the Holy Spirit, expanded its communal prayer life, built the foundation of the Church and creeds (confession and profession of faith) and differentiated and defended itself from the influences of Judaism and Greek philosophy. We will reflect on how do we

connect with the Holy Spirit in our lives, experience God's love and acceptance, and find the strength to love and serve God in the world around us? The series is led by Joe Jennings and the Rev'd Zoila Schoenbrun.

**Sunday 25th October, 9:00 — 1:00 am Zoom**

Religion as romanticism. Was William Blake a Christian and, if so, what kind? And is religion fundamentally a romantic, as opposed to rational, endeavor? We will discuss his wonderful poem, *Jerusalem*, which is also a song/hymn. We might try a Zoom singalong. Perhaps one of our literature or art majors will step forward to help with this given my lack of expertise with art history. Led by Karl Belgum

**Sunday 1 November, 9:00 — 10:00 am Zoom**

Slow Religion: The Foundations of Christian Faith in the 21st Century  
The Early Church (40 — 400 CE)

Please read the description above from 18th October. The series is led by Joe Jennings and the Rev'd Zoila Schoenbrun.

**Sunday 15 November, 9:00 — 10:00 am Zoom**

An oldie, but this has been recommended to me so many times I feel we have to do it: *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*. Also, to some extent, a meditation on the rational vs the romantic life. Led by Karl Belgum.



Normally during the school year we teach Godly Play classes to students, but since we are separated by County Health and Bishop Marc's directives, we will be sending you videos you can watch on demand. We understand that many children are dealing with more screen time than usual, but we're not willing to cede that space entirely to schools. It is important to find spiritual help for your children from your church.

**This week, 27th September 2020**, the story is *The Holy Bible*. Here is the link to the story:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bPxFp9iqMb4>

I recommend that you watch each Godly Play story as a family, at a set time convenient each week if possible. You are raising a child in the knowledge and love of the Lord, to love God and neighbor. That is a huge responsibility. And it is at the same time a great privilege, a gift.

Here is a republishing of the link from last week, in case you did not have time to watch it yet. The video link below will help your child understand how the Church marks time. The Church Year:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JPTWq1AsCao>

Please feel free to contact directly Victoria Ellsworth if you have any questions

## — Pledging Process —

Pray. Begin in prayer by asking God to guide you.

Give proportionally. Proportional giving is offering to God a portion of what God has given us. A traditional guideline for tithing is 10 percent of one's income, given in gratitude for God's blessings and to further God's work in the world. Giving a percentage of our income— increasing each year toward or beyond the tithe — is a way of deepening our awareness of the abundance of God's love.

Decide how you want to make your pledge. There are several options:

1. Make a one-time gift. Place a check in the mail it to us at St Stephen's Church, PO Box 97, Belvedere, CA 94920.
2. Make a pledge of a weekly, monthly, quarterly, or yearly gift. Email Elizabeth Gravely [elizabeth@ststephenschurch.org] or Betsy Menzel [betsy@ststephenschurch.org], or leave a voicemail for either one of them at 415-435-4501. Elizabeth will receive your voicemail on the main number, and Betsy can be reached at ex. 15.
3. Give online. Click the contributions link on our website to: <http://ststephenschurch.org/styled-23%20Contribute/index.html> then click the donate button to go directly to St Stephen's PayPal Account. If you don't have or wish to use a PayPal Account and prefer to use your credit card, scroll to the bottom of the PayPal page where it reads "Don't have a PayPal account?" and click the continue button to open the credit card page.
4. Gifts of Stock. Donating your securities to St Stephen's Church provides you a tax deduction based upon current market values and saves you paying capital gains taxes on your donated investment. Please contact the office to execute this transaction.
5. Join our Legacy Society. Make a legacy gift in your estate planning. Contact the Rev'd Richard Schaper [rlschaper@gmail.com].

## Regathering for In-Person Worship Reservations

This Eventbrite Link below activates at Noon, Monday, 28th September 2020  
Closes at Noon, Thursday, 1st October. The link is for the 4th October, 8:15 am  
Sunday service.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/118384329717>

The outdoor worship service offers 18 reserved spots and 10 waitlist spots. If no reservations are made by Thursday Noon, there will be no outdoor service.

Reservations are only available by booking directly with the above Eventbrite link during the 4-day window noted above. The reservation site will always be booking six days prior to the upcoming Sunday. The office needs to manage reservations through a single system.

Check-in for the service will be at 8:00 am, with worship beginning at 8:15 am. A word liturgy, the service will combine prayers and music with a focus on scripture and preaching. Brief and accessible, the worship service aspires to appeal to all ages. While we hope to be able to offer holy eucharist/communion before too long, and are preparing for a safe method of distribution, we are still awaiting episcopal approval for the sharing of this sacrament.

All reservations will only be made directly through Eventbrite. All who want to come will have a fair opportunity to reserve a spot(s) over time. Seating will be assigned. Social distancing will be observed, and masks must be worn at all times. People will not be permitted to congregate before or after the service. Please see your *Tidings* for a pdf link to the service sheet and the customary.

The livestream service will continue at 10 am.

— St Stephen's Sunday Zoom Coffee Hour —



Join In This Sunday, 27th September 2020, For A Zoom Coffee Hour

Grab a cup of coffee after the livestream worship service this Sunday and join in for a social hour! Father Schaper and Donald Sung will co-host a casual conversation. Join in when you can following the service. The gathering will run from 11:00 am until 11:45 am.

Get the Zoom link from your *Tidings* or St Stephen's Central webpage:

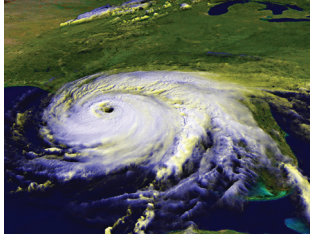
<http://ststephenschurch.org/styled-11%20Worship/styled-4%20St%20Stephens%20Central/index.html>

Meeting ID: 822 8734 2504

Passcode: 229564

Participants will be muted on the Zoom call upon entry. [Zoom directions and etiquette as pdfs on St Stephen's Central.]

## DISASTER RELIEF



As the Episcopal Relief Development acts quickly to assist those impacted by #Hurricane Laura and other devastating storms, we urgently ask for your support. Make a donation to our hurricane relief fund and help us assist Episcopal dioceses in the Gulf Coast, who have extensive experience responding to disasters — not to mention powerful communications networks.

Please give today: <http://bit.ly/HurricaneLaura2oFB>



Neighboring relief providers have asked that instead of items, monetary donations be directed to the North Coast Opportunities/Mendo Lake Credit Union Lake County Wildfire Relief Fund:

<https://www.ncoinc.org/disaster-recovery/>

with a memo for “Valley Fire.” The Red Cross suggests visiting:

[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

to contribute financial aid or texting the word “REDCROSS” to 90999 to make a \$10 donation.

# ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH

## St Stephen's Vestry

Phil Ellsworth, Rector	Bobby Moore, Senior Warden
Michelle Mayfield-Baske	Joe Jennings
George Brown	Katherine "Kathy" Hill Perasso
Janet Brown	Christopher "Chris" Porter
Heather Findlay	Jock Putney
David Irmer	Sarah Sung
Emory Williams	
Bob McCaskill, Treasurer	David Patterson, Clerk

## A Guide to St Stephen's

Staff Work at Home: Preference for quickest response is to email staff directly.

St Stephen's Church Office is closed to the public.	Voicemail only (415) 435-4501
Clergy On Call (Pastoral Emergencies)	(415) 328-8812
The Rev'd Phillip C. Ellsworth, Jr., Rector (ext. 11)	fr.ellsworth[at]ststephenschurch.org
The Rev'd Christine Trainor, Assoc. Rector (ext. 12)	christine[at]ststephenschurch.org
The Rev'd Richard Schaper, Assisting Priest	rlschaper[at]gmail.com
The Rev'd Zoila Schoenbrun, Assisting Priest	dicknzoila[at]aol.com
The Rev'd Shari M. Young, Assisting Priest	shariyoung37[at]gmail.com
The Venerable Dorothy Jones, Assisting Deacon	office[at]ststephenschurch.org
John Karl Hirten, Music Director (ext. 17)	johnkhirten[at]ststephenschurch.org
Elizabeth Gravely, Rector's Exec. Assistant (ext. 10)	elizabeth[at]ststephenschurch.org
Betsy Menzel, Financial Accounts Mgr. (ext. 15)	betsy[at]ststephenschurch.org
Dee Bell-Becker, Communications Assoc. (ext. 23)	dee[at]ststephenschurch.org
Sally Burr (Lead), Ann Muengnoi	Professional Caregivers, Nursery
JoAnn Haseltine, Verger	Roger Felton, Sexton
Satoko Boris, Spec. Events Mgr. (ext. 14)	satoko[at]ststephenschurch.org
American Bach Soloists, Artists in Residence	(415) 621-7900