

Welcome to St Stephen's BELVEDERE

Our Gospel lesson for this Sunday falls into the category of difficult texts to interpret and reconcile. Themes weave through the story of wedding guests who ignore invitations to joyful celebration; abuse meted upon messengers; wrathful retaliation visited upon those who ignore the host's invitation to the great feast; harsh punishment exacted upon the unprepared; exclusive privileges granted to a chosen few...

Jesus's parables possess the remarkable ability to engage our imaginations and challenge our assumptions. Through the medium of story, he invites us, in a less direct and threatening way, to reexamine some of our most cherished convictions about matters of relationship and eternal importance. As much as we might seek comfort and affirmation, Jesus's parables often unsettle rather than reassure.

Welcome to St Stephen's, a community willing to sit with challenge and discomfort in Christ, as a way through to realizing more robust equity, reconciliation, and true joy in living.

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.
- 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/>

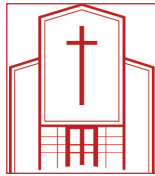
11th October 2020 | The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity



The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God,
by Lilian & DB Murray
in loving memory of
May Buntin Murray & Michael Alan Buhl.

Serving at the Altar Today

Scripture Reader	Martha Irmer [Exodus lesson]
Scripture Reader	Barbara Garcia-Romero [Philippians lesson]
Soprano	Judith Ward Hall
Alto	Matheus L. Coura
Tenor	Douglas Mandell
Bass	Wilford Kelly
Director of Parish Music	John Karl Hirten
Stream Team	Oliver Dugan, Alec Marasa, Kelly Perasso, Jack Putney, Phoebe Putney
Preacher	The Rev'd Phillip C. Ellsworth, Jr.
Celebrant	The Rev'd Christine Trainor



ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH

BELVEDERE

THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

11th October 2020 | 10:00 AM

Proper 23 | Holy Eucharist, Rite II

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.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Pledge Appeal 2021 Testimonial

At the Procession

Hymn 408 *Sing praise to God who reigns above* MIT FREUDEN ZART

Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation;
the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation;
with healing balm my soul he fills, and every faithless murmer stills:
to God all praise and glory.

What God's almighty power hath made, his gracious mercy keepeth;
by morning glow or evening shade his watchful eye ne'er sleepeth;
Within the kingdom of his might, lo! all is just and all is right:
to God all praise and glory.

Let all who name Christ's holy Name give God all praise and glory;
let all who know his power proclaim aloud the endless story!
Cast each false idol from its throne, the Lord is God, and God alone;
to God all praise and glory.

— Johann Jakob Schütz (1640 – 1690), *tr.* Frances Elizabeth Cox (1812 – 1897)

The Acclamation

<i>Celebrant</i>	The world belongs to God.
People	The earth and all its people.
<i>Celebrant</i>	How good it is, how wonderful
People	To live together in community.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Love and faith come together.
People	Justice and peace hold hands.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Were Christ's disciples to keep silent
People	These stones would shout aloud.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Open our lips, O God,
People	And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

Canticle *Holy is God*

Paul Inwood (b. 1951)

Refrain [r]

**Holy is God, holy and strong!
God ever living, alleluia!**

Sing the Lord's praise, every nation, give God all honor and glory.
Strong is God's love for all people, his faithfulness is eternal. — [r]

Praise to the Father almighty; praise to the Son, Christ the Lord;
praise to the life-giving Spirit; both now and forever. Amen. — [r]

©1984 by Paul Inwood. Published by OCP Publications, Inc.
Used with permission under OneLicense.net #A706505

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Collect for the Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

Celebrant May God be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The people sit.

The First Reading Exodus 32. 1 – 14

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron, and said to him, “Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.” Aaron said to them, “Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.” So

all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron. He took the gold from them, formed it in a mold, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, “These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!” When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, “Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord.” They rose early the next day, and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel.

The Lord said to Moses, “Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’” The Lord said to Moses, “I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.”

But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, “O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’” And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 106. 1 – 5 *Confitemini Domino, Et fecerunt vitulum*

Metrical

Give thanks to God, for God is good,
whose mercy lasts always;
Who can declare God's mighty acts
or show forth all God's praise?

Happy are those whose acts are just,
who always do the right.
Remember me, Lord, with your grace,
endow me with your might;

That I may see your chosen ones
in their prosperity,
That I may glory and be glad
with your posterity.

— Christopher L. Webber. Used with permission.

The Epistle Reading *Philippians 4. 1 – 9*

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there

is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

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.

At the Sequence *Alleluia*

Michael Vulpus (1570 – 1615)

Sung three times.



Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

The image shows a single line of musical notation on a five-line staff. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody consists of four measures of music, each corresponding to a syllable of the word 'Alleluia'. The notes are: Measure 1: C4, D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5. Measure 2: C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4, C4. Measure 3: C4, D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5. Measure 4: C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4, C4. The piece ends with a double bar line.

The Holy Gospel Matthew 22. 1 – 14

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Once more Jesus spoke to the people in parables, saying: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.”

“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

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

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

Liana, Tom, and Ann.

We pray for those who have died, including **Carol Treasure, Paul Martori,**
and **Richard Landvatter.**

And, on their Year's Mind, we remember **Miranda Pratt, Olive Sudders,**
and **Ray White.**

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 *Lord, for thy tender mercies' sake*

Richard Farrant (c. 1530 – 1580)

Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake, lay not our sins to our charge,
but forgive that is past, and give us grace to amend our sinful lives.

To decline from sin and incline to virtue,
that we may walk in an upright heart before thee,
this day, and evermore. Amen.

The Doxology *The people stand and sing.*

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 with 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,

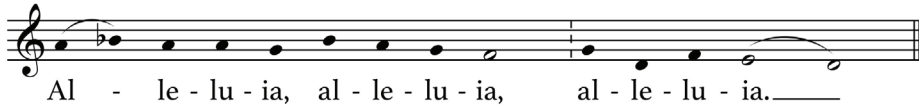
The Lord's Prayer *Together*

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.

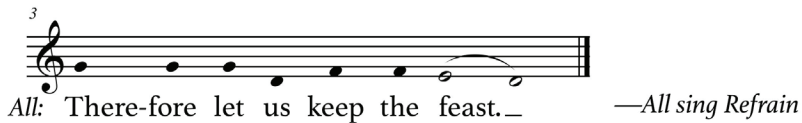
At the Breaking of the Bread

Peregrine Tone

Repeat refrain after the cantor the first time.



Choir: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.



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 *The people sit.*

Communion Hymn 321 *My God, thy table now is spread* ROCKINGHAM

Stanzas 1 – 4

My God, thy table now is spread,
thy cup with love doth overflow;
be all thy children thither led,
and let them thy sweet mercies know.

O let thy table honored be,
and furnished well with joyful guests:
and may each soul salvation see,
that here its sacred pledges tastes.

Drawn by thy quickening grace, O Lord,
in countless numbers let them come
and gather from their Father's board
the Bread that lives beyond the tomb.

Nor let thy spreading Gospel rest
till through the world thy truth has run,
till with this Bread shall all be blest
who see the light or feel the sun.

— Philip Doddridge (1702 – 1751) and Isaac Watts (1674 – 1748)

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 397 *Now thank we all our God*

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

Now thank we all our God
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
to keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
of this world in the next.

All praise and thanks to God
the father now be given,
the Son, and him who reigns
with them in highest heaven,
eternal, Triune God,
whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be, evermore.

— Martin Rinckart (1586 – 1649); *tr.* Catherine Winkworth (1827 – 1878)

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 —

Richard Farrant was a choirmaster, but he was more well known as a playwright and theatrical producer who created the Blackfriars Theatre that hosted children's companies. Very little else is known about him. He became a gentleman of the Chapel Royal in the reign of Edward VI, but resigned his post in 1564 on being appointed master of the children of St George's Chapel, Windsor. His plays, on classical themes, are all lost. In November 1569 he became Master of the Chapel Royal, holding this post concurrently with that at Windsor. Few of Farrant's compositions survive. The best known are a service and the anthems *Call to remembrance* and *Hide not thou thy face*. There are apparently other John Farrants who were active composers at this time and there are several compositions attributed simply to "Farrant" in early sources, which may be by him or by one of the others.

German poet, musician, and author Martin Rinckart trained as a clergyman in Leipzig and served briefly as Cantor at the church of St Nicholas (a position later held by Bach). He is known today for his hymns, the most famous being *Nun danket alle Gott* [*Now thank we all our God*]. Eventually he settled in Eilenburg on the Mulde, the town of his birth. The greater part of his service in the town was during the Thirty Years War. The walled town was overrun by refugees during the pestilence of 1637, and he had to officiate at the funerals of two of the town clergy, leaving him as the only clergyman. His biography states that he officiated at between 40 and 50 services a day, totaling close to 5000. This and other notable events, including dealing with famine, made him a hero in the town.

— St Stephen's Choir —

In order for the links to be active links, available to click through, they must be all on one line and the actual link.

Back virtually for your enjoyment, 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://bit.ly/3iMkEQy>

— All Saints Remembrance —

St Stephen's will remember in prayer on All Saints Day, the names of those who passed away between 28th October 2019 through 25th October 2020. Most names will already be on the list. Please check the list by clicking on the link below. If the name of someone you lost last year is not on the list, please add it to this live document.

<https://bit.ly/36KWsvr>

— Floral Donations for 2021 —

The 2021 Flower Chart is virtual this year. Please sign up for your special Sunday. The regular donation for flowers is \$150. You will be contacted the week prior to your Sunday week for your floral dedication which appears in the online pdf of the leaflet, in *Tidings*, and on Facebook. You may send your check with Altar Flowers written in the memo line, and your dedication to the office in advance, or the week of your dedication, or email the office with permission to charge your credit card. If you have any questions, please email Barbara Garcia-Romero at [barbara.c.garciaromero \[at\] gmail.com](mailto:barbara.c.garciaromero@gmail.com) or Barbara Berling at [berling1\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:berling1[at]gmail.com). Although, until services safely begin again, the arrangement will be an orchid plant, your donation will also go to the Livestream. St Stephen's 2021 Altar Flower Chart Live Document:

<https://bit.ly/3iFUSgH>

– 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/>.

Eventbrite Link for 18th October, 8:00 am service.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/courtyard-service-registration-123524660585>

Registration for 26 people, 10 on the wait list. Goes live this Saturday, 10th October and closes on 15th October at Noon. If it is raining the service will be cancelled.

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 for all links. Please see the next set of pages for all St Stephen's Bible Studies and Forum offerings.

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. If you subscribe with your Google account, you can always doublecheck for the most recent version of the current livestream, as well as view those archived since the changeover. 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, 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](mailto: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. To help the vestry plan for the next calendar year, you are encouraged to get your 2021 pledge into the office by 27th October.

Stewardship Ingathering Next Sunday, 18th October

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. Please see the link on the previous page to sign up for 2021.

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 —

This 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 | Resurrection the Historical Inerrancy View

Resurrection is the central starting point of the Christian faith. Controversial from the start it beckons us across 2,000 years as both mystery and history. This week's class will look at Resurrection through the Historical Inerrancy View. That is the view that the Resurrection is a historical fact interpreted through a theological lens.

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, 18th October, 9:00 — 10:00 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 — 10:00 am Zoom TBA

Religion as romanticism. Led by Karl Belgum

Sunday 1st 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 15th November, 9:00 — 10:00 am Zoom

Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance. Led by Karl Belgum.



This Sunday's Video Link: Creation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yBZSfu9TyrY>

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, each week we send 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. 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.

Prior Video Links:

Introduction for parents: <https://youtu.be/wJAYfWzmHPg>

The Church Year: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JPTWqIAsCao>

The Holy Bible: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bPxFp91qMb4>

The Holy Family: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=arZJPdXrEV4>

Please feel free to contact directly Victoria Ellsworth if you have any questions or need any advice on how to share your faith lovingly with children.

– Pledge Appeal 2021 –

Pledge and Participate in St Stephen's Growing Ministry Today

Meg & Steve Abbott

Kay Moore Harris

Debbie & Shawn Bennett

Jo Ann Haseltine

Linda Berg

Jennifer & Eric Henerlau

Barbara Berling

John Karl Hirten

DeWitt Bowman

Martha & David Irmer

Lois Cannady

John Jenkins

Timothy Curtin

Barbara Johnson

Janice & Lance Dalzell-Piper

Anne Johnston

Nida DeVoto

Dorothy Jones

Ginny Doyle

Sharon & Bob Kahn

Chuck Eaton

Gretchen Kimball

Claudia Feurey

Leah & Bill Lambrecht

Barbara Garcia-Romero

Diana Long

Phyllis Garrick

Denise & Elliott Main

Barbara Gloger

Claire McAuliffe

Ann Green & John McComish

Katie & David McGee

(continued)

Pledges received as of 7th October 2020.

Thanks to your support of St Stephen's.

– Pledge Appeal 2021 –

Pledge and Participate in St Stephen’s Growing Ministry Today

Jane & Carl Martin

Jerry South

Elizabeth “Betsy” Menzel

Karen Young & J. Morrow

Mary Ann Milford

Diana & Robert “Bobby” Moore

D.B. Murray

Lilian Murray

Alexandra & Philip Norris

Mike North

Anita Ostrom & Richard Schaper

Zebiya Rigby

Helen Sandeman

Deborah Sorondo

Juli & John Tantum

Jennie Taylor

Georgene Tozzi

Christine Trainor

Pledges received as of 7th October 2020.

Thanks to your support of St Stephen’s.

— 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].

— St Stephen's Sunday Zoom Coffee Hour —



Join In This Sunday, 11th October 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—

Hurricane Laura

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/HurricaneLaura20FB>

California Wildfires

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

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