

# St. Stephen's Episcopal Church



## The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

### The Holy Eucharist Rite II

July 5, 2026 | 8:00 am and 10:00 am

*The 8:00 am service is a spoken service*

*Welcome to St. Stephen's!*

*Thank you for joining us for worship this morning.*

# The Liturgy of the Word

**The Prelude**

America, the beautiful

arr. Marianne Kim

**The Procession In**

Jesus shall reign

Hymnal 544

**The Opening Acclamation**

*Presider* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. *Amen*

**The Gloria (8am)**

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**The Hymn of Praise (10am)**

Love Astounding

1. Love a - stound - ing, Love con - found - ing lim - its fear - ful minds im - pose.  
2. Love re - ceiv - ing Love be - liev - ing, we re - joice with thanks and song,  
Love re - new ing, Love pur - su - ing - ev - ery heart un - til it knows  
faith re - gain - ing, hope pro - claim - ing; Love has taught us, we be - long  
Love's trans - form - ing, heal - ing good - ness, Love's a - bid - ing gen - tle grace,  
safe with - in Love's ten - der keep - ing, safe from fear's per - sis - tent call.  
Love's en - dur - ance, Love's as - sur - ance, Love's con - sol - ing strong em - brace.  
Love de - fend - ing, Love un - end - ing, Love of God en - fold - ing all.



- 12 That the peoples may know | **of your power** \*  
 and the glorious splendor | **of your kingdom.**
- 13 Your kingdom is an ever- | **lasting kingdom;** \*  
 your dominion endures through- | **out all ages.**
- 14 The LORD is faithful in | **all his words** \*  
 and merciful in | **all his deeds.**
- 15 The LORD upholds all | **those who fall;** \*  
 he lifts up those who | **are bowed down.**



## The Second Reading

Romans 7:15-25a

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

## The Hymn

Lord of all hopefulness

Hymnal 482

## The Gospel

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

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

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to the crowd, "To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.'

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

*Clergy* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## **The Sermon**

The Rev. Kyle Dice Seage

## **The Nicene Creed**

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 resurrection of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen

*(The congregation will join in saying names in **bold**)*

Father, we pray for your holy catholic church;  
*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest;  
*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, silently or aloud  
*Silence*

We pray for those who have died, especially **Herb**.

We pray especially for **David, Linda, Dick, Wyatt, Stephen, and Suzette**.

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays this week, especially **Jennie and P.J.**

*The Presider adds a concluding Collect.*

### **The Confession**

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.

### **The Absolution**

## The Peace

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* And also with you.

## The Liturgy of the Table

### The Offertory Sentence

### The Offertory Anthem

With Songs and Honors

Elisha West

*With songs and honors sounding loud,  
address the Lord on high;  
Over the heavens He spread His clouds,  
And waters veil the sky.  
He sends His showers of blessings down  
To cheer the plains below;  
He makes the grass the mountains crown;  
And corn in valleys grow. -Isaac Watts*

### The Doxology

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

## The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

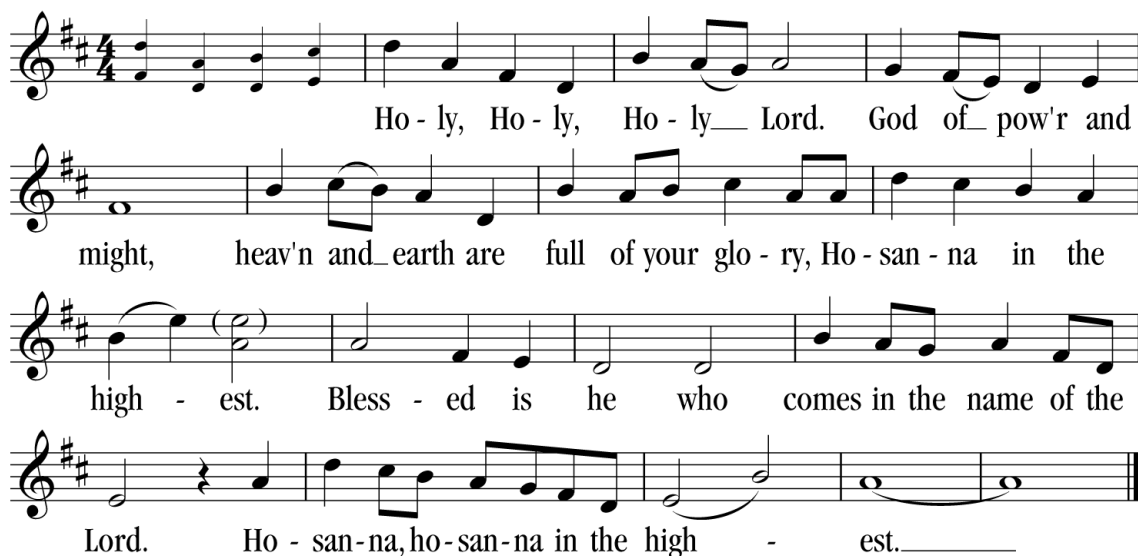
*People* We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth through Jesus Christ our Lord. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord. God of pow'r and  
might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san-na, ho-san-na in the high - est.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again;

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

### **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.

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

*Presider* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People* Therefore let us keep the feast.

*All are welcome to receive communion at God's altar.*

*If you desire prayers of healing by the laying on of hands, please proceed to the Mary Corner after receiving Communion.*

### **The Distribution of Communion**

**The Prayer after Communion**      *(please stand)*

BCP 365

*Presider* Let us pray.

*People* Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**The Blessing**

**The Procession Out**

O beautiful for spacious skies

Hymnal 719

**The Dismissal**

*Clergy* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

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

**The Postlude**

Variations on “America”

Charles Ives

**Altar Flowers**

The flowers on the altar are given  
to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving  
for the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our country  
by Barbara Gloger

**Birthday Blessings**

Jennie Taylor                      July 8

P.J. Perring                         July 10

## Music Notes

Welcome to worship at St. Stephen's! Worship in our tradition is participatory, so you are encouraged to join in the singing of the hymns and liturgy as they appear in the bulletin and the Hymnal 1982 in the pew racks in front of you. If a hymn has harmony indicated, you're welcome to sing it on the inner stanzas, leaving the first and last stanzas for unison singing.

--

During the summer months, the choir takes a hiatus from our regular Thursday rehearsals, but we will meet on Sunday mornings at 9:00 in the choir loft to learn one simple anthem, and to rehearse the hymns and liturgy. Because we do not robe or process, and because it is also possible to sit downstairs for the majority of the service, the summer season is an excellent time to dip in and give singing in the choir a try. Please let me know if you're interested- music is provided in advance.

The offertory anthem comes from *The Sacred Harp*, a distinctly early American singing tradition that began in New England and spread through the South in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. The music uses shape-note notation, which replaces the usual round noteheads with diamond, triangle, and square shaped notes to correspond with specific solfege syllables in an effort to make the music easier to read and more accessible. As such, the emphasis in this style of singing is not on performance but the communal act of singing together. **Elisha West** (1756-1832) was born in North Yarmouth, Maine and spent most of his working years in Vermont, where his collection of 54 pieces, *The Musical Concert* was published.

Equally famous in composing and insurance circles, **Charles Ives** wrote his *Variations on America* in 1891 at seventeen years of age for a Fourth of July celebration at the Methodist church in Brewster, New York, where he served as organist. Biographer Jan Swafford notes that, though we certainly hear the satirical nature of the piece, in all likelihood Ives meant the work to be a sincere exercise in composing variations on a common tune. Ives was certainly capable of musical jokes, though they are usually carried out on a broader plain than these short variations. Ives fully knew the comic potential of the piece, however, noting that his father "didn't let me do it much, as it made the boys laugh" in church.

Though his music didn't receive much acclaim until later in life, Ives made a substantial name for himself as an insurance executive and actuary. Specializing in the needs of the wealthy, he devised creative ways to structure life-insurance packages which ultimately laid the foundation of the modern practice of estate planning. His considerable fame in the insurance industry came about from the publication of a book in 1918, *Life Insurance with Relation to Inheritance Tax*.

See you at worship, and at work in the world,

Brad

[brad@ststephenschurch.org](mailto:brad@ststephenschurch.org)

## Announcements

**St. Stephen's Baseball Caps** – We have a few caps left for purchase! If you would like one, please contact the office. The price is \$20.

**Tidings-** The weekly roundup of news, photos, and events taking place at St. Stephen's is sent to our mailing list every Friday morning. If you are not currently receiving the Tidings and would like to be added to the list, please let Elizabeth in the office know.

**Gospel Reflection Hour** - St. Stephen's offers a weekly Bible study session that requires no homework or ongoing obligation. Just bring your inquiring mind and an interest in reflecting upon the Gospel lesson for the upcoming Sunday. Lead by Zoila Schoenbrun, the group meets Wednesday mornings at 8:30 a.m. by Zoom. All are welcome. The link to the Zoom can be found on our website, [www.ststepenschurch.org](http://www.ststepenschurch.org). Go to events, click on the calendar and the event details.

### Giving to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

If you would like to donate this morning, but are not carrying cash, feel free to donate with this QR code:



WiFi Guest Network: St Stephens Guest (password: allarewelcome)





## Serving in Worship

<b>Presider</b>		The Rev. Kyle Dice Seage
<b>Minister of Music</b>		Dr. Brad Schultz
<b>Verger</b>		Jo Ann Haseltine
<b>Readers</b>	8 a.m.	Ivan Weinberg Linda Fairchild
	10 a.m.	Juliana Jensen Larisa Lucaci
<b>Intercessors</b>	8 a.m.	Ivan Weinberg
	10 am	Satoko Boris
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	8 a.m.	Altar Guild
	10 a.m.	Ewa Zaborowski Caroll Louie
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Team 4	Martha Irmer Linda Fairchild Michele Larsen Melody Key Joanne Bentley
<b>Ushers</b>		Paul Rosenlund Tom Cromwell Charlie Coleman
<b>Coffee Connections</b>	Team 8	Gina Hector, Lead
<b>Stream Team</b>		Claire Ciranni
<b>Newcomers Greeters</b>		Cary White

# STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## Vestry

Dawn Vroegop, *Senior Warden*  
Leslie Cohl, *Clerk*  
Karl Belgum  
Marsha Dugan  
Gina Hector  
Jill Hinds  
Carol Louie

Jim Purvis, *Junior Warden*  
Bob McCaskill, *Treasurer*  
Elliott Main  
Mary-Ann Milford  
Philip Norris  
Andrew Purvis  
Jennie Taylor

## Staff

Kyle Dice Seage  
Satoko Akuhara Boris  
Elizabeth Gravely  
Angela Huang  
Brad Schultz

Rector  
Events Coordinator  
Parish Administrator  
Bookkeeper  
Minister of Music

If you need assistance during the week, please call or email the church office.  
Our telephone number is 415-435-4501 and the email address is [office@ststephenschurch.org](mailto:office@ststephenschurch.org).

If you would like to reach a member of the staff by email,  
please use their first name (only) followed by [@ststephenschurch.org](mailto:@ststephenschurch.org).

The church office is open Tuesday to Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

If you call and no one is available to answer, please leave a message  
and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church**  
**3 Bayview Avenue, Belvedere, CA 94920**  
**[www.ststephenschurch.org](http://www.ststephenschurch.org)**  
**415-435-4501**