

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church



The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Holy Eucharist Rite II

August 30, 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.

Children of all ages are welcome to worship with their parent(s) or caregiver. We invite families to sit up front so kids can see, hear, and join in the prayers and singing. We welcome giggles and noise as a joyful sign that God is among us!

We also offer a year-round staffed nursery (infants-5) and beginning September 13, Sunday School (K-4th, school year) for families who'd like their children in Christian Education. Please ask an usher for directions. Kids rejoin us in the sanctuary during the Peace to share in Holy Eucharist with the rest of the congregation.

The Liturgy of the Word

The Prelude There is a spirit who delights to do no harm Ned Rorem

The Procession In Take my life, and let it be Hymnal 707

The Opening Acclamation

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

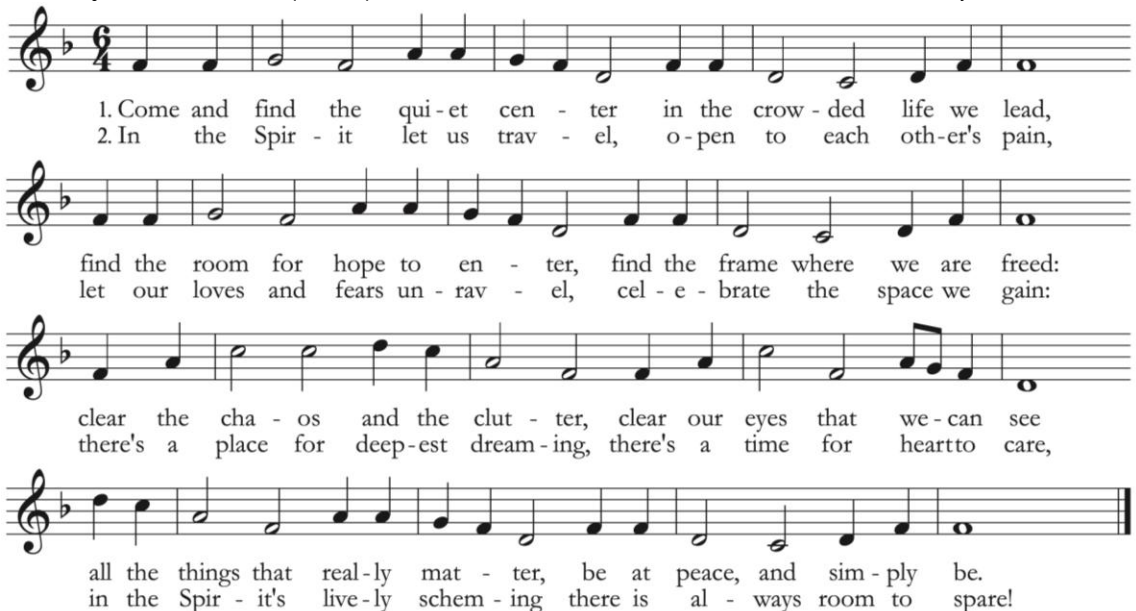
People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. *Amen*

The Gloria (8am)

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's 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)

Shirley Erena Murray



1. Come and find the qui-et cen - ter in the crow - ded life we lead,
2. In the Spir - it let us trav - el, o - pen to each oth-er's pain,
find the room for hope to en - ter, find the frame where we are freed:
let our loves and fears un - rav - el, cel - e - brate the space we gain:
clear the cha - os and the clut - ter, clear our eyes that we - can see
there's a place for deep-est dream-ing, there's a time for heart to care,
all the things that real-ly mat - ter, be at peace, and sim - ply be.
in the Spir - it's live-ly schem - ing there is al - ways room to spare!

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever *Amen*.

The First Reading

Jeremiah 15:15-21

O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts. I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.

Therefore, thus says the Lord: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the Lord. I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.



- 1 Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived | **with integrity**; *
I have trusted in the Lord and | **have not faltered**.
- 2 Test me, O | **LORD, and try me**; *
examine my heart | **and my mind**.
- 3 For your love is be- | **fore my eyes**; *
I have walked faithful- | **ly with you**.
- 4 I have not sat | **with the worthless**, *
nor do I consort with | **the deceitful**.
- 5 I have hated the company of | **evildoers**; *
I will not sit down | **with the wicked**.
- 6 I will wash my hands in inno- | **cence, O LORD**, *
that I may go in procession | **round your altar**,
- 7 Singing aloud a song | **of thanksgiving** *
and recounting all your wond- | **erful deeds**.
- 8 LORD, I love the house in | **which you dwell** *
and the place where your glo- | **ry abides**.

The Second Reading

Romans 12:9-21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

The Hymn

Take up your cross, the Savior said

Hymnal 675

The Gospel

Matthew 16:21-28

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Clergy The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rt. Rev. Brian 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 Prayers of the People

Form III

BCP 387

*(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 especially for **Kathy, Chris, Mack, Andy, Dick, Wyatt, Stephen, and Suzette.**

We pray for those who have died especially **Dolly.**

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays this week, especially **Sally and Sandy.**

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

Light of a Clear Blue Morning
Kathryn Wagner, soloist

Dolly Parton
arr. Craig Hella Johnson

It's been a long dark night, and I've been waiting for the morning.

It's been a long hard fight, but I see a brand-new day dawning.

I've been looking for the sunshine, 'cause I ain't seen it in so long.

Everything's gonna work out fine.

Everything's gonna be alright, it's gonna be okay.

I can see the light of a clear blue morning.

I can see the light of a brand new day.

I can see the light of a clear blue morning.

Everything's gonna be alright, it's gonna be okay.

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.

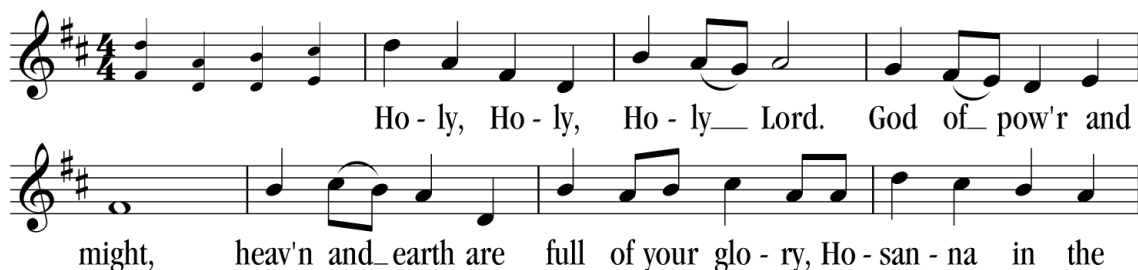
People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

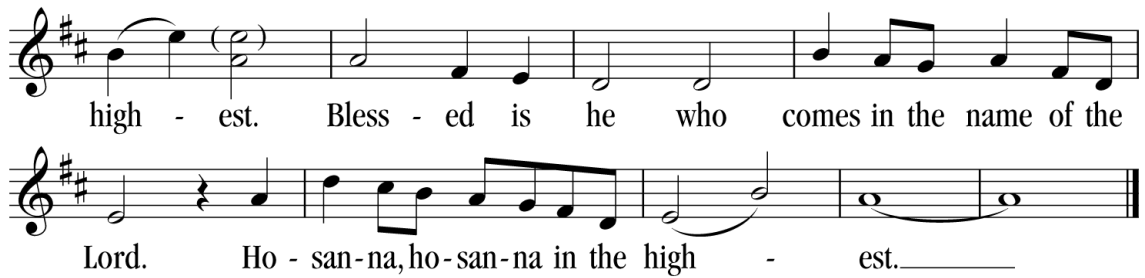
People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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



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 Jesus, I have promised Hymnal 655

The Dismissal

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

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Postlude Saints on a spree Nigel Ogden

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given
to the Glory of God and in celebration of
our 55th wedding anniversary and for
the love and joy of family
by Bill and Randi Brinkman
and
in thanksgiving and celebration of
our 45th wedding anniversary
by Jennifer and Eric Henerlau

Birthday Blessings

Sally Williamson	September 2
Sandy Douglass	September 4

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.

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The St. Stephen's Choir returns to regular weekly rehearsals beginning on **Thursday, September 10 from 7-9pm**, and will robe and process again the Sunday after. New singers are always welcome to join us, but this is an excellent time to do so, since the music will be new for everyone. All that's asked are an ability to match pitch and a willing spirit. In addition to musical leadership on Sunday mornings, the choir prepares this fall for the annual Christmas Concert, held on **Sunday, December 13 at 4pm**. There is plenty of room for you in the loft. See me if you're curious.

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

Brad

brad@ststephenschurch.org

Announcements

Children Formation – Godly Play resumes on Sunday, September 13 for all children in kindergarten through 4th grade. They begin at 10am downstairs in the classrooms and will come up to church to join the congregation during the Peace.

Welcome Back Sunday! – To celebrate the beginning of the fall children's programming, and the return of our choir, there will be a special Coffee Connections on Sunday, September 13th following the 10am service. Please join us!

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.ststepenchurch.org. Go to events, click on the calendar and the event details.

Knitting Ministry – Resumes on Monday, September 21. All are welcome, beginners and skilled alike, to knit or crochet for others on the second and fourth Mondays of each month in the library at 10:00 am.

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

Presider		The Rt. Rev. Brian Seage
Organist/Choir Director		Dr. Brad Schultz
Verger		Jo Ann Haseltine
Readers	8 a.m.	Miles Woodlief Karen Gullett
	10 a.m.	Pamela Schaefer Roger Kent
Intercessors	8 a.m.	Karen Gullett
	10 am	Marjorie Sennett
Eucharistic Ministers	8 a.m.	Altar Guild
	10 a.m.	Cindy Brown Marjorie Sennett
Altar Guild	Team 1	Barbara Berling Bonnie Echerd Jill Hinds Liz Hart Carol Louie Anne Johnston
Ushers		Le Tran-Thi David Irmer Charlie Coleman
Coffee Connections	Team 6	Satoko Boris, Co-Lead Sally Williamson, Co-Lead
Stream Team		Claire Ciranni Henry Stiteler
Newcomers Greeters		Kathy Winkler

ST. 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.

If you would like to reach a member of the staff by email,
please use their first name (only) followed by @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
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