St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Holy Eucharist Rite II

October 4, 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 wiggles and noise as a joyful sign that God is among us!

We also offer a year-round staffed nursery (infants-5) and 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.

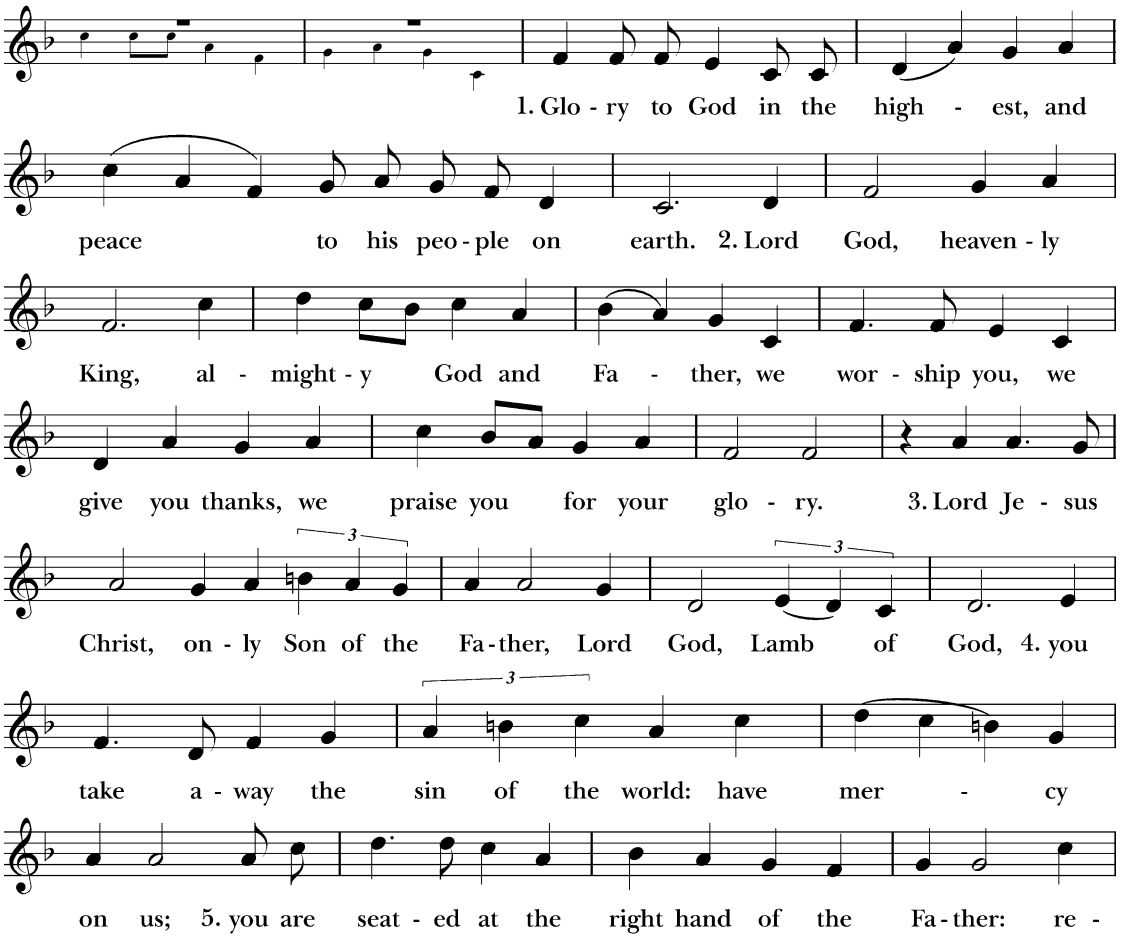
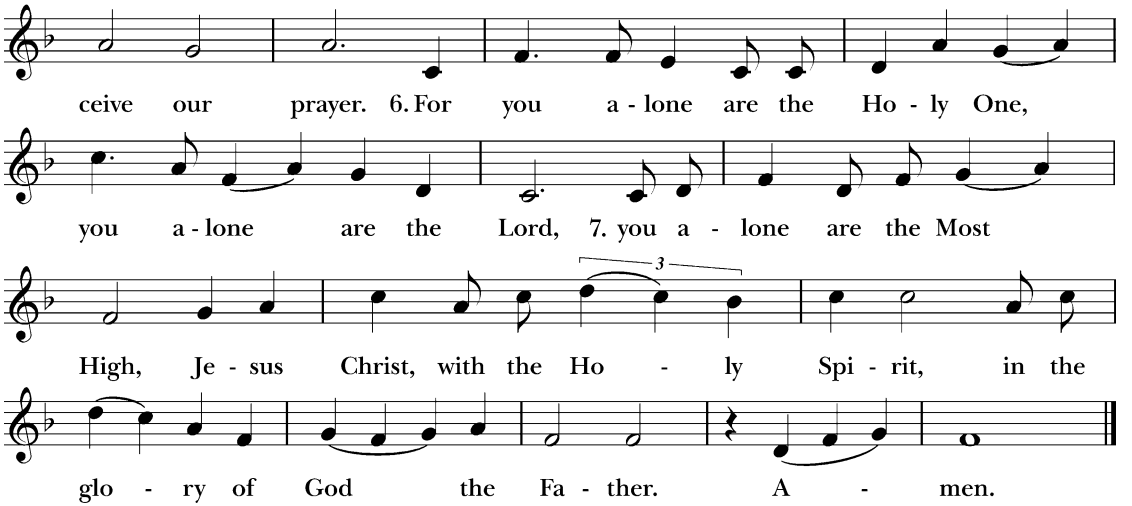
The Liturgy of the Word

The Prelude Hymn Preparation
Partita on 'Christ is made the sure foundation' Charles Callahan

The Procession In Christ is made the sure foundation Hymnal 518

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 (spoken at 8am, sung at 10am) Hymnal S 280



The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Presider Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Reading Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be

pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

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

The Psalm *Qui regis Israel* Psalm 80:7-14

7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

8 You have brought a vine out of Egypt; *
you cast out the nations and planted it.

9 You prepared the ground for it; *
it took root and filled the land.

10 The mountains were covered by its shadow *
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.

11 You stretched out its tendrils to the Sea *
and its branches to the River.

12 Why have you broken down its wall, *
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?

13 The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, *
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

14 Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven; behold and tend this vine; *
preserve what your right hand has planted.

The Second Reading Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in

order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

The Hymn Lord Christ, when first thou cam'st to earth Hymnal 598

The Gospel Matthew 21:33-46

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

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

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

The Sermon The Very 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 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 **Josh**, **Bill**, **Dick, Wyatt, Stephen, and Suzette.**

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays this week, especially **Stephen, Miles, Liz, Gabriel, and D.B.**

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

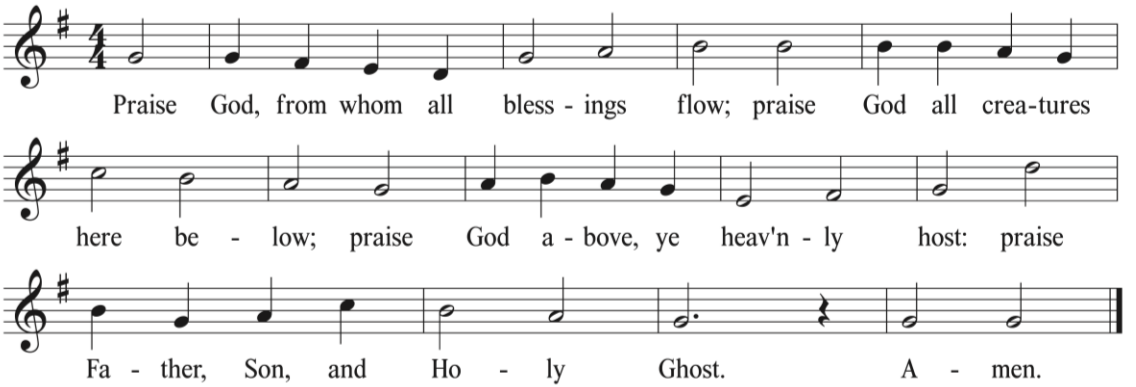
The Offertory Sentence

The Offertory Anthem Sublimity William Billings

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth his handiwork.
One day telleth another, and one night doth certify another.
For there is neither speech nor language where their voice is not heard.
Their sound is gone out unto all lands.
The statutes of the Lord are right and rejoice the heart.
Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be always accepted in thy sight,
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. Hallelujah, Amen.

-from Psalm 19

The Doxology

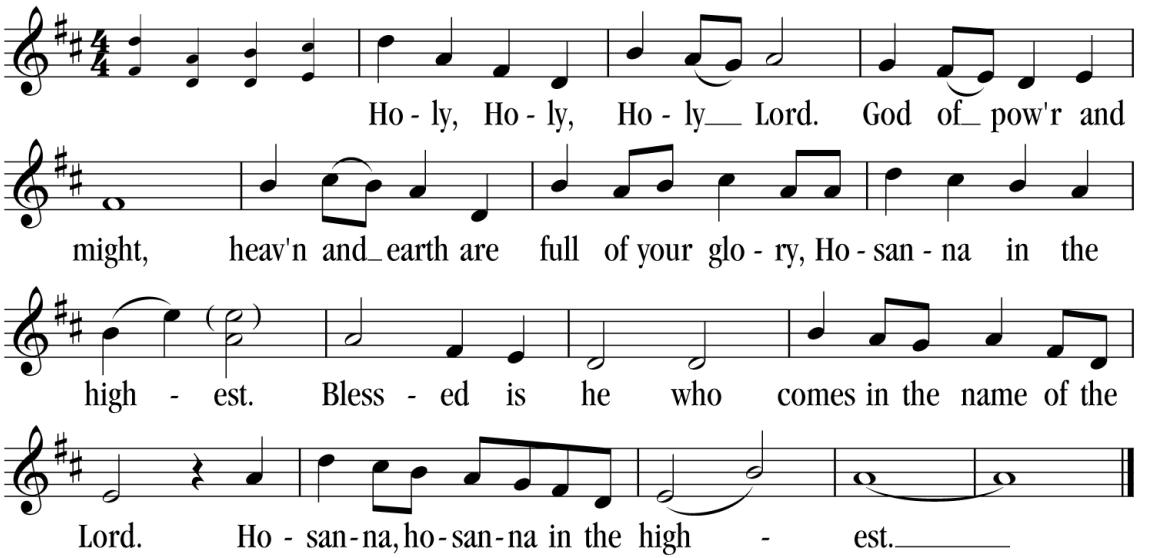


The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A BCP 361

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:



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.

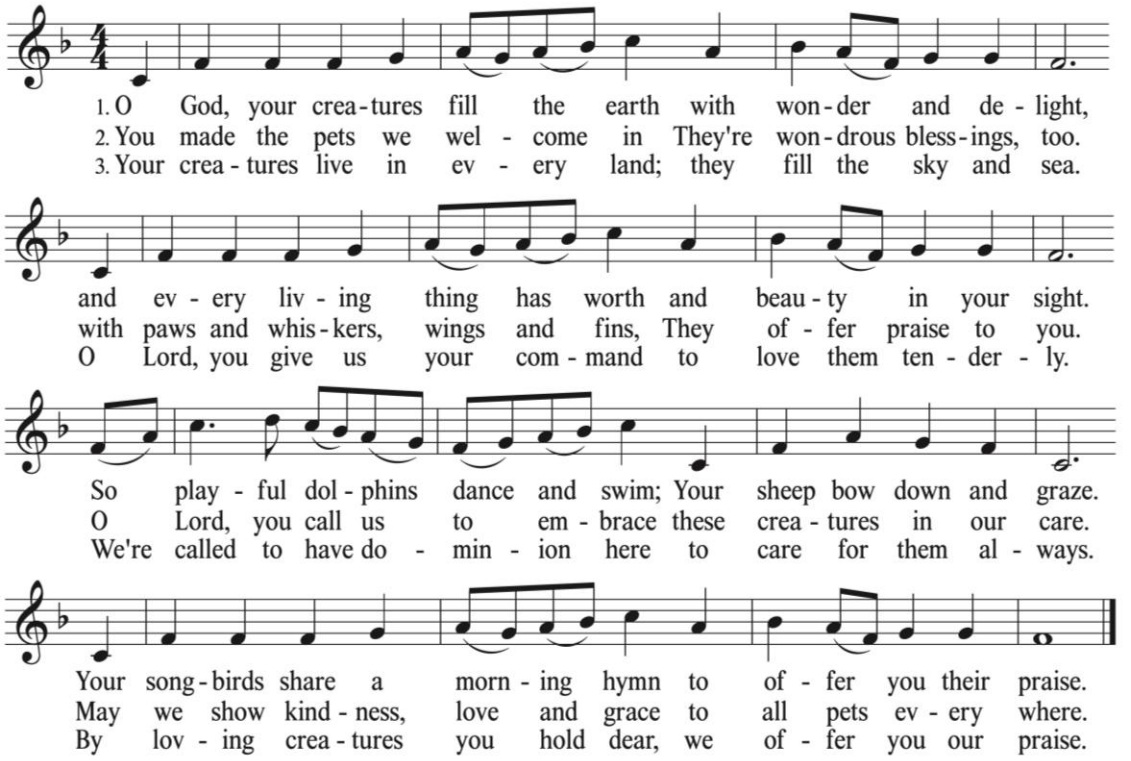
The Distribution of Communion

The Voluntary

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 God, your creatures fill the earth Carolyn W. Gillette

The Dismissal

Clergy Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Postlude Toc-cat-a, from *Cat Suite* Denis Bédard

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given
to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Bruce
by
Linda Berg

Birthday Blessings

Stephen Echerd	October 4
Miles Woodlief	October 4
Liz Hart	October 4
Gabriel Aguero	October 4
D.B. Murray	October 5

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. Prior to the start of the prelude, the organist previews all of the hymns heard in worship, in the order in which they appear.

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The fall season of choir rehearsals has officially begun. During our rehearsal season, the choir typically robes, processes and recesses on the first and last hymn, prepares one or two anthems for inclusion in worship, and leads the psalm. New singers are always welcome to join us in as much of the above as is feasible- though most in the choir do, singing while moving is not a requirement, so don't let that be a deterrent to your participation! A positive attitude, willing spirit and some(!) ability to match pitch are the only prerequisites.

In addition to our preparations to lead worship as the rehearsed voices of the congregation every Sunday, we prepare for occasional events outside of worship as well. Oftentimes these events are open to additional singers, so if you're not able to fit a weekly rehearsal in, it is still possible to participate in specific projects undertaken by the choir. One such project is the annual Christmas Concert, which will take place on Sunday, December 13 at 4pm this year. Rehearsals for the concert begin in earnest with a Saturday retreat on October 24. If you are interested- either in joining the choir with regularity on Thursdays and Sundays, or in participating in a short-term commitment like the Christmas concert, I hope you will let me know!

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

Brad

brad@ststephenschurch.org

Announcements

Youth Group Gathering – Today in Kimball Hall from 5 pm to 7 pm.

Celebration Sunday – Mark your calendar now for the culmination of stewardship with Celebration Sunday on **October 18!** We'll have one 10am service that morning where we offer our gifts to God and then celebrate with a parish-wide luncheon, hosted by St. Stephen's and led by the Stewardship Team and Vestry. Please use the enclosed card to RSVP or the QR code on the next page.

Knitting Ministry – All are welcome, beginners and skilled alike, to knit or crochet for others on the first and third Mondays of each month in the library at 10:00 am.

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

Upcoming Events

Sunday Adult Forum	Conference Room	October 11, 11:15 am
Celebration Sunday	Sanctuary & Kimball Hall (No 8 am service)	October 18, 10 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)

Join Us for

Celebration Sunday!

Sunday, October 18
10:00 am
Lunch following in Kimball Hall

RSVP for lunch by using the code

Serving in Worship

Presider		The Very Rev. Kyle Dice Seage
Organist/Choir Director		Dr. Brad Schultz
Verger		Jo Ann Haseltine
Readers	8 a.m.	Lilian Murray Ewa Zaborowski
	10 a.m.	Nora Noguez Juliana Jensen
Intercessors	8 a.m.	Ewa Zaborowski
	10 a.m.	Satoko Boris
Eucharistic Ministers	8 a.m.	Altar Guild
	10 a.m.	Bonnie Echerd
Altar Guild	Team 3	Linda Berg Barbara Garcia-Romero P.J. Perring Barbara Gloger Nora Noguez Ellee de Groot
Ushers		Bill Brinkman Charlie Coleman Philip Norris
Coffee Connections	Team 1	Lilian Murray, Lead
Stream Team		Regan Moore
Newcomers Greeters		Sarah Sung

ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Vestry

Dawn Vroegop, *Senior Warden*	Jim Purvis, *Junior Warden*
Leslie Cohl, *Clerk*	Bob McCaskill, *Treasurer*
Karl Belgum	Elliott Main
Marsha Dugan	Mary-Ann Milford
Gina Hector	Philip Norris
Jill Hinds	Andrew Purvis
Carol Louie	Jennie Taylor

Staff

Kyle Dice Seage	Rector
Brian Seage	Interim Associate Rector
Satoko Akuhara Boris	Events Coordinator
Elizabeth Gravely	Parish Administrator
Mary Hayden	Bookkeeper
Brad Schultz	Minister of Music
Charlotte Ward	Children's Ministry Coordinator
Ciara Ward	Children's Ministry Coordinator

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
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