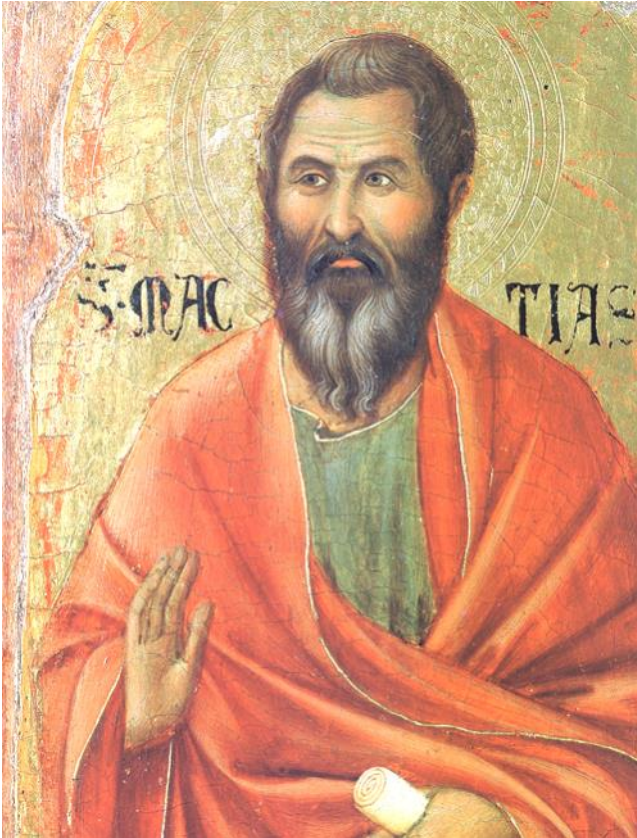


May 12 & 13 2018 .....Rev. Julie Williams Presiding  
Sat 5 pm & Sun 7:30am

## Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

*Saint Stephen's welcomes everyone who wishes to follow Christ, worship together, grow in faith and share God's love through service to others.*



ST. STEPHEN'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**HOLY EUCHARIST**

## Entrance Rites

*The people stand as they are able.*

## Opening Acclamation

Celebrant *Alleluia! Christ is risen.*

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## Gloria

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.**

## Collect of the Day

*Celebrant*     The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant*     *Let us pray.*

*O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.     Amen.*

## The Word of God

### First Reading

*A reading from The Acts of the Apostles (1:15-17, 21-26).*

**I**n those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, “Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.” So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

# Psalm 1

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of  
the wicked,\*  
nor lingered in the way of sinners,  
nor sat in the seats of the scomful!
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord,\*  
and they meditate on his law day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither\*  
everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked,\*  
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when  
judgement comes,\*  
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,\*  
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

## Second Reading

*A reading from The First Letter of John (5:9-13).*

**I**f we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son

of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*The people stand as they are able.*

Celebrant: *The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.*

People: **Glory to You Lord Christ.**

## Gospel

### John 17:6-19

**J**esus prayed for his disciples saying, “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled.

But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the

world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

## Sermon

*A little extra....* Acts 1<sup>18</sup> (Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness; and falling headlong, he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out.<sup>19</sup> This became known to all the residents of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their language Hakeldama, that is, Field of Blood.)<sup>20</sup> “For it is written in the book of Psalms, ‘Let his homestead become desolate, and let there be no one to live in it’; and ‘Let another take his position of overseer.’

Celebrant: *The Gospel of the Lord.*

People: **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

*All say together*

## 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.

## Prayers of the People

Leader: *Today we thank God that the Christ who ascended is with us, visible in the lives of the people. Let us pray for all these people, and for the life about us, saying: O God who holds the world with love, have mercy on us.*

O God, in the resurrection and ascension of your Son, you have drawn us nearer to yourself. Together with your Son may we be together also with all the people of the world. O God who holds the world with love, **have mercy on us.**

Circle all your nations, towns, villages, tribes and countrysides with your love. Encircle all people with your great arms. Encircle all lands with your Son's marks of mercy. O God who holds the world with love, **have mercy on us.**

Transform your church with love. Transform people and communities, groups and governments. Cast our fear with love. Turn us over and around by the Spirit of your Son. O God who holds the world with love, **have mercy on us.**

Center all the scattered, and call them together with your love. Hold us together, or we will be lost. Awake us, or we will fall asleep in dangerous places. For the lost and helpless, especially those we name now (pause for names), we pray. O God who holds the world with love, **have mercy on us.**

Fill all the places of the world with your great love. Give us the joy of the spirit of Jesus. Make us glad in this sad world. O God who holds the world with love, **have mercy on us.**

For the sick and the suffering, especially those we name now (pause for names), we pray. O God who holds the world with love, **have mercy on us.**

We pray for all who have died in the hope of the resurrection (pause for names). O God who holds the world with love, **have mercy on us.**

In the Anglican cycle of prayer we pray for the Anglican Centre in Rome. O God who holds the world with love, **have mercy on us.**

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for the Church of the Resurrection in Mesa. O God who holds the world with love, **have mercy on us.**

We pray for our Armed Forces, those who are far from home, for their safety and the wellbeing of their families and loved ones left behind. O God who holds the world with love, **have mercy on us.**

We acknowledge and pay respect to the first peoples of this land and their role as custodians of the earth given to them by our one and only Creator God. We commit ourselves to work actively alongside indigenous people for reconciliation and justice as we live into our Baptismal Covenant and respect the dignity of every person. O God who holds the world with love, **have mercy on us.**

Leader: *Let us pray together:*

**Teach us, Good Lord, to serve you as you deserve; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to work and not to seek to rest; to labor and not to ask for any reward, except that by knowing we do your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Holy God, make us holy. Revealing God, make us see. Sending God, make us move. Loving God, make us love.**

Celebrant: *O God of mercy, we have your promise that we are loved. Hear our prayers for all the world, hungering for your love, the love of your Son without end. Amen.*

## The Peace

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

People **And also with you.**

*The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

*The Celebrant says*

*Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts. Psalm 96:8*



# The Holy Communion

## The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant *The Lord 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*

*It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. 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*

**Sanctus**

*BCP pg. 362*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*Then the Celebrant continues*

*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:*

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again**

*Celebrant continues*

*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.*

*Celebrant and people*

**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**

**Lord's Prayer**

*Celebrant : As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,*

**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

**Alleluia.**

**Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;**

**Therefore let us keep the feast.**

**Alleluia.**

*The Celebrant invites the people to Communion*

*The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.*

*The people stand as they are able.*

## Post Communion Prayer

*Celebrant and People*

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

# Blessing

The Celebrant says

*The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you this day and always.     **Amen.***

# Dismissal

Celebrant: *Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia*

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

