

June 30 & July 1, 2018 .....Rev. Julie Williams Presiding  
Sat 5pm & 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.*

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER  
PENTECOST  
HOLY EUCHARIST



ST. STEPHEN'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



## Entrance Rites

*The people stand as they are able.*

## Opening Acclamation

*Celebrant: Blessed be the one, holy, and ever living God.*

*People*           **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

*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

*BCP Pg. 356*

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.*

*Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.***

# The Word of God

## First Reading

*A reading from The Book of Deuteronomy (10:17-21)*

**F**or the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. You shall fear the Lord your God; him alone you shall worship; to him you shall hold fast, and by his name you shall swear. He is your praise; he is your God, who has done for you these great and awesome things that your own eyes have seen.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 145:1-9

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my **King**,\*  
and bless your Name for ever and **ever**.
- 2 Every day will I **bless you**\*  
and praise your Name for ever and **ever**.
- 3 Great is the Lord and greatly to be **praised**;\*  
there is no end to his **greatness**.
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to **another**\*  
and shall declare your **power**.
- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your **majesty**\*  
and all your marvelous **works**.

- 6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts,\*  
and I will tell of your greatness.
- 7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness;\*  
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.
- 8 The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,\*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 The Lord is loving to everyone\*  
and his compassion is over all his works.

## Second Reading

*A reading from The Letter to the Hebrews (11:8-16).*

**B**y faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.” All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

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 Matthew.*

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

## Gospel

Matthew 5:43-48

**J**esus said, "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

Celebrant: *The Gospel of the Lord.*

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

## Sermon

*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: *We gather as those who have been given liberty by our mighty God to live and worship in freedom and peace. Let us give thanks and pray, saying: O God, hear our praise and receive our prayer.*

Lord, we stand today as our ancestors stood before you in ages past. We thank you for all the blessings of this life, in this generation and in generations to come. We pray: **O God, hear our praise and receive our prayer.**

We thank you for all those who loved liberty more than life and selflessly gave their lives in the defense of freedom and justice. We pray: **O God, hear our praise and receive our prayer.**

May we care for the orphan and the widow, welcome the stranger, love our enemies, and see all those upon whom the sun rises as children of God in heaven. We pray: **O God, hear our praise and receive our prayer.**

Make us a generous people, a holy nation, a people set aside to love you forever. For the sake of this land and all the peoples and nations of this world, we pray: **O God, hear our praise and receive our prayer.**

Teach us your way of justice and truth. May righteousness flow like a mighty river, until the whole of our country is covered with your glory, as the waters cover the sea. We pray: **O God, hear our praise and receive our prayer.**

For those who have died, especially those we name now (pause for names), we pray: **O God, hear our praise and receive our prayer.**

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, for the Church of North India, we pray:  
**O God, hear our praise and receive our prayer.**

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, for St Paul's Church in Payson, we pray:  
**O God, hear our praise and receive our prayer.**

For our Armed Forces, those who are far from home, for their safety and the wellbeing of their families and loved ones left behind, we pray: **O God, hear our praise and receive our prayer.**

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. We pray: **O God, hear our praise and receive our prayer.**

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: *Lord God Almighty, you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is our life and our hope. Amen.*

## Confession of Sin

Celebrant: *Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.*

*The people kneel as they are able.*

*All say together*

**God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen**

## Absolution

*Celebrant*

*Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. 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.***

*Then the Celebrant continues*

*God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise. **Glory to you for ever and ever.***

*At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home. **By your will they were created and have their being.***



*From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another. **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.***

*Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.*

***By his blood, he reconciled us.  
By his wounds, we are healed.***

*And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:*

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**

*Celebrant*

*And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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.”*

*Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of*

*thanksgiving,*

***We celebrate his death and resurrection,  
as we await the day of his coming.***

*Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of our Mothers, Sarah, Rebecca, Leah and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.*

***Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.***

*Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. 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*

**God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## Blessing

*The Celebrant says*

*The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.*

## Dismissal

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

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



**JUST  
LOVE**

*Love Your Neighbor Coalition*



God Bless America

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