

September 8 & 9, 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.*

# THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



ST. STEPHEN'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



## HOLY EUCHARIST

## 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*

*All say together*

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.*

*Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.       **Amen.***

# The Word of God

## First Reading

*A reading from The First Book of Proverbs (16: 31, 22:1-2,8-9, 22-23 ).*

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favour is better than silver or gold.

The rich and the poor have this in common: the Lord is the maker of them all.

Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity, and the rod of anger will fail.

Grey hair is a crown of glory; it is gained in a righteous life.

Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor.

Do not rob the poor because they are poor, or crush the afflicted at the gate;

for the Lord pleads their cause and despoils of life those who despoil them.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 125

BCP p. 781

*Qui confidunt*

- 1 Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, \*  
which cannot be moved, but stands fast for ever.
- 2 The hills stand about Jerusalem; \*  
so does the Lord stand round about his people, from this time  
forth for evermore.
- 3 The scepter of the wicked shall not hold sway over  
the land allotted to the just, \*  
so that the just shall not put their hands to evil.
- 4 Show your goodness, O Lord, to those who are good \*

and to those who are true of heart.

- 5 As for those who turn aside to crooked ways, the Lord will lead them away with the evildoers; \*  
but peace be upon Israel.

## Second Reading

*A reading from The Letter of James (2:1-10, 14-17).*

**M**y brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, “Have a seat here, please,” while to the one who is poor you say, “Stand there,” or, “Sit at my feet,” have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

# Gospel

## Luke 2: 41-52

Celebrant: *The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.*  
People: **Glory to You Lord Christ.**

**E**very year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

Celebrant: *The Gospel of the Lord.*  
People: **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

## Sermon

*The people stand as they are able. 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

*The leader and people pray responsively*

*Leader: God calls us today to be open to the word and to one another. Let us open ourselves to all the world in prayer, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the church we pray. That we may grow into the reality of God's life among and in us, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the world we pray. That nations will turn from ways of fear and warfare to the ways of your teachings of grace, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For our congregation we pray. That we may bring God's acts of healing to all those in poverty, homelessness, or despair, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For schools we pray. That schools may be places of learning, respect and caring, where every child is nurtured and inspired, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For families we pray. That they may be renewed in joy, receive the word of mercy into their hearts, and treat one another with patience and love, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all generations we pray. That there be wisdom in old age and grace in youth, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the sick we pray. That they may receive healing, be visited by their friends, and comforted by the presence of Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the dead we pray. That those who have died and all who grieve may find light perpetual and blessed assurance, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, for the Episcopal Church of South Sudan, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, for St Luke's Church in Prescott, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear 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, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We commit ourselves to work actively alongside the first peoples of this land for reconciliation and justice as we live into our Baptismal Covenant and respect the dignity of every person. Let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader: Loving God, we thank you for answering our prayers in sending the Reverend Allison Cornell to be among us as our rector. We ask that you empower her with your Holy Spirit, that her counsel might be blessed with wisdom and insight, and that all our work together may witness to the love of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Let us pray to the Lord: **Lord hear our prayer.***

*Celebrant: Into your mercy, O God, we commend all generations past, present, and those to come, trusting in your almighty power, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **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** 7

## 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.*

*Please come forward, anyone wishing a prayer for ....*

## *Birthday, Anniversary and/or Healing*

*The Celebrant says*

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High *Psalm 50:14*

# 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

*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!*)**



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