

# St. Stephen's Episcopal Church Nineth Sunday after Pentecost



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

**Saturday 29 July, 5pm & Sunday 30 July 10am**



**Announcements and Welcome**

**Rev. Allison Cornell**

**Salutation:**

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

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

**Priest:** Let us pray a prayer of preparation together:

**All:** **Christ our true and transforming Light: receive our prayers, and illumine the secrets of our hearts with your healing goodness, that no wrongful desires may distract or tempt us, who are made new in the light of your heavenly grace. Amen.**

**The Gloria** *(Said in unison)*

**Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \***

**he has come to his people and set them free.**

**He has raised up for us a mighty savior, \***

**born of the house of his servant David.**

**Through his holy prophets he promised of old,**

**that he would save us from our enemies, \***

**from the hands of all who hate us.**

**He promised to show mercy to our fathers \***

**and to remember his holy covenant.**

**This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \***

**to set us free from the hands of our enemies,**

**Free to worship him without fear, \***

**holy and righteous in his sight**

**all the days of our life.**

**You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \***

**for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,**

**To give his people knowledge of salvation \***

**by the forgiveness of their sins.**

**In the tender compassion of our God \***

**the dawn from on high shall break upon us,**

**To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, \***

**and to guide our feet into the way of peace. Amen.**

## **The Collect:**

Presider: The Lord be with you

**People: And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray

**O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **The Readings:** *(Please be seated)*

### **First Reading: A reading from Genesis (29:15-28)**

Laban said to Jacob, “Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?” Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah’s eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, “I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.” Laban said, “It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.” So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.” So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?” Laban said, “This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years.” Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **The Psalm: 105:1-11, 45b**

**1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; \*  
make known his deeds among the peoples.**

**2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, \***

**and speak of all his marvelous works.**

**3 Glory in his holy Name; \***

**let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.**

**4 Search for the Lord and his strength; \***

**continually seek his face.**

**5 Remember the marvels he has done, \***

**his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,**

**6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, \***

**O children of Jacob his chosen.**

**7 He is the Lord our God; \***

**his judgments prevail in all the world.**

**8 He has always been mindful of his covenant, \***

**the promise he made for a thousand generations:**

**9 The covenant he made with Abraham, \***

**the oath that he swore to Isaac,**

**10 Which he established as a statute for Jacob, \***

**an everlasting covenant for Israel,**

**11 Saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan \***

**to be your allotted inheritance."**

**45b Hallelujah!**

**Second Reading: Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans (8:26-39):**

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or

persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;  
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

### **Gospel Reading:**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
**Matthew (13:31-33,44-52)**

**People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?”

They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

Reader The Gospel of the Lord

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

## SERMON/HOMILY

**CONTEMPORARY NICENE CREED:** *(please stand as you are able)*

**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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.**

**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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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:** Hear our cry, O God and listen to our prayer.

**People:** **Hear us and help us, O God**

**Leader:** Govern and direct your holy Church; fill it with love and truth; and grant it that unity which is your will.

**People:** **Hear us and help us, we pray.**

**Leader:** Give us boldness to preach the gospel in all the world, and to make disciples in all the nations.

**People:** **Hear us and help us, we pray.**

**Leader:** Enlighten your bishops, priests and deacons (especially Michael, Jennifer, Allison, Dottie, and Sherry) with knowledge and understanding, that by their teaching and their lives they may proclaim your word.

**People:** **Hear us and help us, we pray.**

**Leader:** Give your people grace to witness to your word and bring forth the fruit of your Spirit.

**People:** Hear us and help us, we pray.

Leader: Bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived.

**People:** Hear us and help us, we pray.

Leader: Strengthen those who stand for justice; comfort, and help the fainthearted; raise up the fallen.

**People:** Hear us and help us, we pray.

Leader: Guide the leaders of the nations into the ways of peace and justice.

**People:** Hear us and help us, we pray.

Leader: Give to the Congress, the Courts, the President, and all others in authority the grace to walk always in the ways of truth, fairness, and equality.

**People:** Hear us and help us, we pray.

Leader: Give us the will to use the resources of the earth to your glory and for the good of all.

**People:** Hear us and help us, we pray.

Leader: Heal the sick in body, mind or spirit and provide for the homeless, the hungry and the destitute.

**People:** Hear us and help us, we pray.

Leader: Shower your compassion on prisoners, refugees, and all who are in any kind of trouble.

**People:** Hear us and help us, we pray.

Leader: In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer pray for **Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America**

**People:** May God bless and keep them.

Leader: In the Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for **Church of the Nativity, Scottsdale..**

**People:** May God bless and keep them.

Leader: We pray for the first peoples of this land, especially the Apache and Tahona Odum peoples who call this area home.

**People:** May God bless and keep them.

**Presider:** Lord our God, accept the sincere prayers of your people, in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help, for you are gracious O lover of souls, and to you we give glory: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

## **The Confession:**

Deacon: Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and one another:

**All: Holy and gracious God, we confess that we have sinned against you this past week. Some of our sin we know—certain thoughts and words and deeds which we regret or are ashamed of. Some of which is known only to you. In your Holy Name we ask your forgiveness. Free us from our guilt and restore us to your grace that we may rest and live with peace of mind and cleanliness of heart. Amen.**

Presider: Almighty and merciful God grant you healing, pardon, and forgiveness of all your sins, through Christ our Lord, Amen.

## **The Peace:**

Presider: May the peace of the Lord be always with you!

**People: And also with you.**

*(The people exchange greetings of peace)*

## **Offertory:**

Presider Let us show our gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe.

## **Offertory Hymn**

Insert "All Who Hunger Gather Gladly"

## **The Doxology: #380 vs 3**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise him all creatures here below  
Praise him above ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## **The Lord's Supper: The Great Thanksgiving - EOW 1**

Presider: The Lord be with you

**People: And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts

**People: We lift them up to the Lord**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Presider continues:*

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and surrounded us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we say/sing:

**Sanctus**

**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.**

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.

Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, 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.”*

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”*

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit (+) may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit (+) and live as Christ’s Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

Presider: And now as Jesus has taught us, we pray:

**CONTEMPORARY LORD’S PRAYER:**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven, Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

**The Breaking of the Bread:** *(Presider breaks the consecrated bread in silence)*

Presider: Alleluia, alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Invitation to Communion:**

Presider: This is not my table, this is not St. Stephen’s church’s table. This is Christ’s Table. Jesus invites you to come forward and receive the bread and the wine in this place.

*Everyone is invited and welcome to receive communion in this church. The bread is gluten free and it is real wine. If you prefer to intinct/dip your bread into the wine please come to the left altar rail. If you prefer to sip the wine from the cup, please come to the right altar rail. If you are not ready to receive the bread and wine with us, you may come forward, cross your arms over your chest and receive a blessing from the priest instead.*

Communion Hymn    Insert LEVAS II #218 Jesus Loves Me This I Know

## **Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing, Travel, Gratitude**

### **Post Communion Prayer:**

Presider: Let us pray:

**All: God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and 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 forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### **Benediction:**

Presider: The Wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God strengthen you to be Christ's hands and heart in this world, in the name of the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**Closing Hymn:            Insert "God Be With You Till We Meet Again"**

### **Dismissal:**

Deacon: People of St. Stephen's, what does God call us to do?

**People: We are called to love and serve.**

Deacon: Let us go forth in the power of God's Spirit, Alleluia, alleluia!

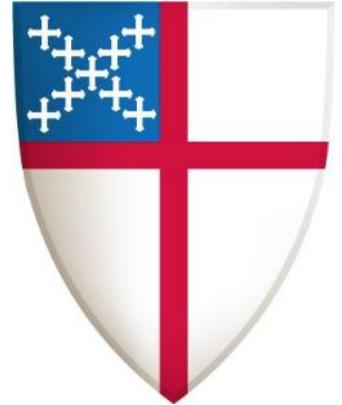
**People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

*Please join us for a time of refreshments and fellowship in the Parish Hall.*

*Notice: All church activities may be internet streamed, video recorded, and photographed for church uses. Entry on to the church campus or in to any church building constitutes consent to be streamed, videotaped, or photographed for church purposes.*



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### Welcome Visitor!!!

Please leave your name and contact info below. If you'd like to speak with someone, please check here

Or you can also use the QR code here to fill this out online.



Info Update      Giving Envelopes       Mail News Letter     

Name \_\_\_\_\_ (first) \_\_\_\_\_ (Mid.) \_\_\_\_\_ (Last)

Hm: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Anv. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Adrs: \_\_\_\_\_ BrthDay \_\_\_\_\_

City, St., Zip: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_