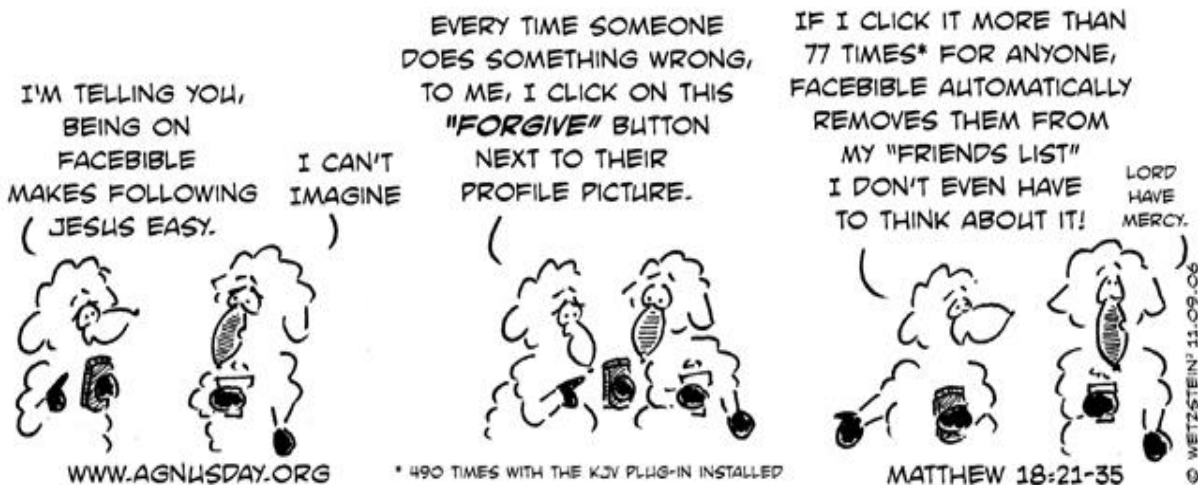


St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

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

**Saturday 16 September 5pm
&
Sunday 17 September 2023 10am**



Prelude: May Jesus Christ Be Praised, combined tunes Laudes Domine by Joseph Barnby, and Bunesan traditional Gaelic, arr Lenny Seidel

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Allison Cornell

Opening Hymn

Hymnal 1982 # 411 O Bless the Lord My Soul

Salutation:

Presider: Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

People: and also with you.

Priest: Let us pray the collect for purity together:

All: **Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: 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.**

The Gloria:

186

GLORY TO GOD

Refrain

Glo-ry to God. Glo-ry to God. Glo-ry to God in the high -
est, and on earth peace, on earth peace to peo-ple of good
will. will. A - men. A - men.

1-4 (1st time: to Refrain) to Verses Final Coda

Verse 1

1. We praise you, we bless you, we a-dore you, we
1. glo-ri-fy you, we give you thanks for your great glo-ry,
to Verse 2 or Refrain

1. Lord God, heav'n-ly King, O God, al-might-y Fa-ther.

Verse 2

2. Lord Je-sus Christ, On-ly Be-got-ten Son, Lord God,
2. Lamb of God, Son of the Fa-ther, you take a-way the sins of the world,
2. have mer-cy on us; you take a-way the sins of the world,
2. re-ceive our prayer; you are seat-ed at the right hand,
to Verse 3 or Refrain

2. the right hand of the Fa-ther, have mer-cy on us.

Verse 3

3. For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
3. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly
to Coda or Refrain

3. Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther.

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Music: *Mass of Christ the Savior*; Dan Schutte, b. 1947, © 2007, 2009, Daniel L. Schutte.
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The Collect:

Presider: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Readings: *(Please be seated)***First Reading: A reading from Exodus 14:19-31**

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel **saw** the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm: 114

1 Hallelujah!

**When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,**

**2 Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion.**

**3 The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.**

**4 The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.**

**5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?**

**6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?**

**7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,**

**8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.**

Second Reading: Reading from the Letter to the Romans (14:1-12)

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."
So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading:

Deacon/Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
(18:21-35)

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.

But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.

When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Deacon/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: As God's people, called to love one another, let us pray for the needs of the church, the whole human family, and all the world.

For churches of all traditions:

People: **That they may discover their unity in the One God and exercise their gifts in service of all, we pray to you, O God.**

Leader: For the earth that it may be freed from war, famine, and disease,

People: **And the air, soil, and waters be cleansed of poisons, we pray to you, O God.**

Leader: For those who govern and maintain peace in every land,

People: **That they may exercise their powers in obedience to your commands, we pray to you, O God.**

Leader: For the strengthening of this nation to pursue just and honorable priorities,

People: **So that all peoples may be reconciled; the young, educated; and the old, cared for; the hungry, filled; and the homeless, housed; and the sick, comforted and healed, we pray to you, O God.**

Leader: For all who live and work in this town and county,

People: **Preserve them in peace and safety, we pray to you, O God.**

Leader: For those who face any difficulty or trial: the sick, the disabled, the poor, the oppressed, those who grieve and those in prison,
People: **That you will comfort and empower them, we pray to you, O God.**

Leader: Accept our thanksgiving for all faithful servants of Christ who entered their eternal rest,
People: **Who, with us, await a new heaven and a new earth, your everlasting kingdom, we pray to you, O God.**

Leader: In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer pray for **The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean.**
People: **May God bless and keep them.**

Leader: In the Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for **St. Christopher's in Sun City.**
People: **May God bless and keep them.**

Leader: We pray for the first peoples of this land, especially the Apache and Tahoma Odum peoples who call this area home.
People: **May God bless and keep them.**

Presider: Mighty God, whose Word we trust, whose Spirit enables us to pray: Accept our requests and further those which will bring about your purpose for the earth; through Jesus Christ, who rules over all things. Amen.

The Confession:

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

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

Presider: May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in 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 Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us as an offering and sacrifice to God

Offertory Hymn H1982 #410 Praise My Soul the King of Heaven

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 - CofE Prayer D

Presider: The Lord is here.

People: His Spirit is with us.

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:

Almighty God, your face is turned towards your world. In love you gave us Jesus your Son to assure us of pardon and everlasting life. Your Word goes out to call us home to the places where angels sing your praise. We join with them in heaven's song:

Sanctus (from Journeysongs #189)

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts. Heav-en and
earth are full, are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na! Ho -
san - na! Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is
he who comes, who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

Father of all, we give you thanks for every gift that comes from heaven.
To the darkness Jesus came as your light. With signs of faith and words of hope he
touched untouchables with love and washed the guilty clean.
This is his story.

All This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

The crowds came out to see your Son, yet at the end they turned on him.
On the night he was betrayed he came to table with his friends to celebrate the free-
dom of your people. This is his story.

All This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food. He took the bread, gave thanks, broke it and
said: "Take, eat: this is my body, given for you all. Do this in remembrance of me."

Jesus then gave thanks for the wine. He took the cup, gave it to them and said:
"This is my blood, shed for you all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remem-
brance of me." This is our story.

All This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup (+) blessed by your Holy Spirit, we
celebrate Jesus' last supper before he died to show his love for us. Defying death he
rose again and is alive with you to respond to our entreaties and to answer the cares
of the world. This is our story.

All This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

Send your Spirit upon us now (+) that by these gifts we may feed on Christ with
opened eyes and hearts on fire. May we and all who share this food offer ourselves
to live for you and be welcomed at your feast in heaven where all creation worships
you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

*All Blessing and honor and glory and power be yours 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*)
(from *Journeysongs* #194)

The musical notation is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody begins with a double bar line and a repeat sign. The lyrics are: *Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us. world, grant us peace. The notation includes a first ending bracket labeled '1...' and a final ending bracket labeled 'Final'.

Invitation to Communion:

Presider: 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 and with thanksgiving.

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 G#593 You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing, Travel, Gratitude

Post Communion Prayer:

Presider: Let us pray:

All: **Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.**

May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.

Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Benediction:

Presider: **May our Lord Jesus Christ be with you to defend you, within you to keep you, before you to lead you, beside you to guard you, and above you to bless you, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Closing Hymn: **Insert JS #740 Sent Forth By God's Blessing**

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!**

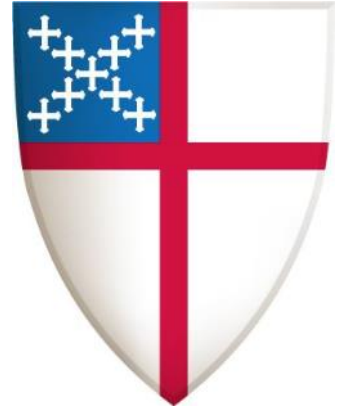
Postlude: **Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus, based on Webb by George Webb, arr Hugh S. Livingston, Jr**

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 QRC 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: _____, _____, _____