

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.

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost



Saturday 23 September 5pm & Sunday 24 September 2023 10am

Prelude: I Sing The Mighty Power of God, Tune Ellacombe, arr Barbara Boertje

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Allison Cornell

Opening Hymn "Singing songs of Expectation"

527

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:

The Collect:

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,
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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Presider: The Lord be with you

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray

ALL: Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; 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 Exodus 16:2-15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” So

Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm: 114

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|--|--|
| 1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples. | 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, * O children of Jacob his chosen. |
| 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works. | 37 He led out his people with silver and gold; *
in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled. |
| 3 Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. | 38 Egypt was glad of their going, *
because they were afraid of them. |
| 4 Search for the Lord and his strength; *
* continually seek his face. | 39 He spread out a cloud for a covering *
and a fire to give light in the night season. |
| 5 Remember the marvels he has done, *
* his wonders and the judgments of his mouth, | 40 They asked, and quails appeared, *
* and he satisfied them with bread from heaven. |

**41 He opened the rock, and water
flowed, *
so the river ran in the dry places.**
**42 For God remembered his holy
word * and Abraham his servant.**
**43 So he led forth his people with
gladness, *
his chosen with shouts of joy.**

**44 He gave his people the lands of the
nations, *
and they took the fruit of others'
toil,**
**45 That they might keep his statutes *
and observe his laws.
Hallelujah!**

Second Reading: Reading from the Letter to the Philippians (1:21-30)

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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 (20:1-16)

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last

and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

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 Ireland.**

People: May God bless and keep them.

Leader: In the Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for **Emmause Church Plant in Surprise, AZ.**

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: 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 “In Christ there is no east or west”

#529

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

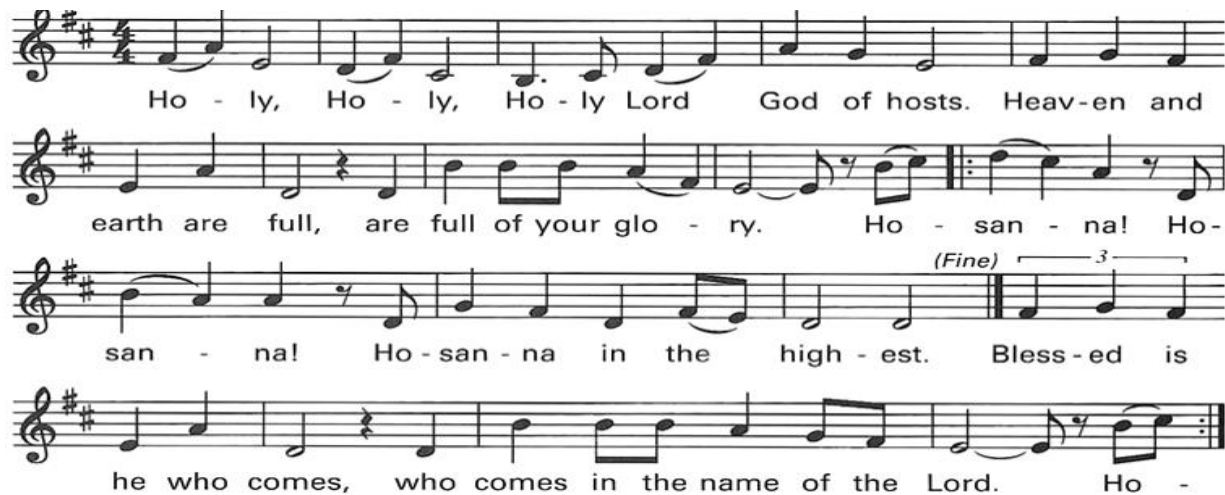
Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

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 -

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a melody with various note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' and the word '(Fine)' above it. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

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 freedom 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 remembrance 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)

*Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the
world, have mer-cy on us. world, grant us peace.

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.

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!

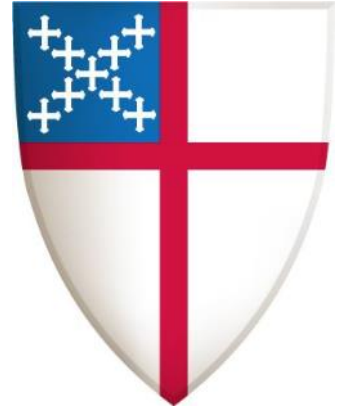
Postlude: Profession of Faith, By Todd Kendall

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 _____

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