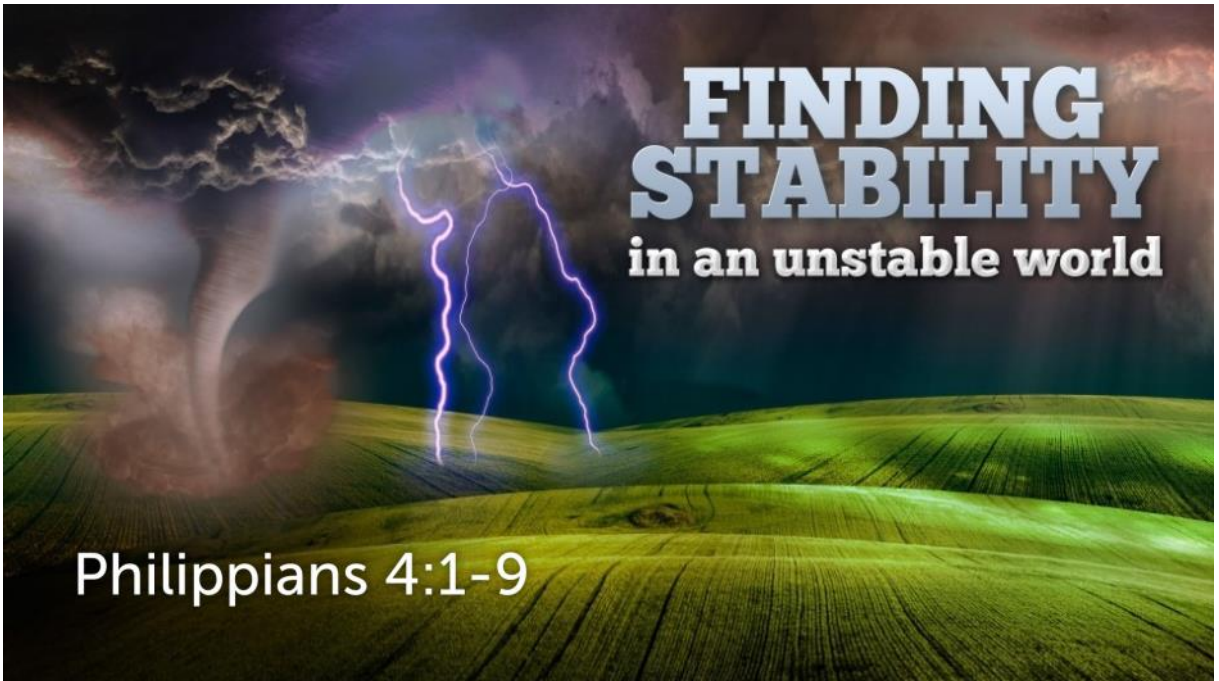


# St. Stephen's Episcopal Church



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

**Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**



**Saturday, 14 October 5pm & Sunday, 15 October 2023 10am**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Rev. Allison Cornell**

**Opening Hymn**    “ *When Morning Gilds the Skies* ”

# 427

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:**

**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.**

**The Collect:**

Presider: The Lord be with you

**People:**    **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray

**ALL:**    **Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; 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 32:1-14**

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron, and said to him, “Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.” Aaron said to them, “Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.” So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron. He took the gold from them, formed it in a mold, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, “These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!” When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, “Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord.” They rose early the next day, and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel.

The Lord said to Moses, “Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’” The Lord said to Moses, “I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.”

But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, “O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’” And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

**The Psalm: 106:1-6, 19-23**

**1 Hallelujah!**

**Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, \***

**for his mercy endures for ever.**

**2 Who can declare the mighty acts of the Lord \***

**or show forth all his praise?**

**3 Happy are those who act with justice \***

**and always do what is right!**

**4 Remember me, O Lord, with the favor you have for your people, \* and visit me with your saving help;**

**5 That I may see the prosperity of your elect and be glad with the gladness of your people, \* that I may glory with your inheritance.**

**6 We have sinned as our forebears did; \***

**we have done wrong and dealt wickedly.**

**19 Israel made a bull-calf at Horeb \* and worshiped a molten image;**

**20 And so they exchanged their Glory \* for the image of an ox that feeds on grass.**

**21 They forgot God their Savior, \* who had done great things in Egypt,**

**22 Wonderful deeds in the land of Ham, \* and fearful things at the Red Sea.**

**23 So he would have destroyed them, had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach, \* to turn away his wrath from consuming them.**

**Second Reading: Reading from the Letter to the Philippians (4:1-9)**

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

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 (22:1-14)**

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

Once more Jesus spoke to the people in parables, saying: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

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 Anglican Church of Kenya.**

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

Leader: In the Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for **The Arizona Episcopal Diocese.**

**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 “Morning glory starlit sky”**

**#439**

**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**

**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.**

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)*

Fraction Anthem Hymnal 1982 #S161

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the 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.*

Communion Hymn “As a fire is meant for burning”

**G#744**

**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:**    *"Sing a New Church"*

**G#743**

## **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!

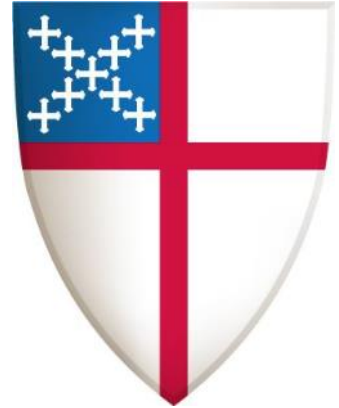
**People:    Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

*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: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_