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.

EVENING PRAYER 4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Saturday 15 June 2024 5pm



Welcome and Announcements

Jeff Speer

Opening Sentence: (*Please stand as you are able*)

Leader: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord

Jesus Christ. (Philippians 1:2)

Confession of Sin

Deacon/Leader: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept for a moment.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Deacon/Leader: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Invitatory and Psalter

Leader: O God, make speed to save us.

People O Lord, make haste to help us.

All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Leader: The Holy One is in our midst: O come let us worship.

O Gracious Light (for the Gloria): (in unison)

O gracious light, pure brightness of the ever-living Father in heaven, O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the vesper light, we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices, O Son of God, O Giver of Life, and to be glorified through all the worlds.

The Lessons (Please be seated)

First Lesson: A Reading from the Book of Samuel (1:1-6, 9-18)

Now there was a certain man of Ramathaim, a Zuphite from the hill country of Ephraim, whose name was Elkanah son of Jeroham son of Elihu son of Tohu son of Zuph, an Ephraimite. He had two wives; the name of the one was Hannah, and the name of the second, Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children. Now this man went up year by year from his town to worship and to sacrifice to the SOVEREIGN of heaven's vanguard at Shiloh; there the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were priests of the HOLY ONE OF OLD. And it was, on the day Elkanah sacrificed, he would give to his wife Peninnah and to all her daughters and her sons portions [of the sacrifice]. But to Hannah he gave a double portion, because he loved her, though the WOMB OF LIFE had closed her womb. Her rival used to provoke her severely, to irritate her, because the WELLSPRING OF LIFE had closed her womb. After they had eaten and drunk at Shiloh, Hannah rose and presented herself before the HOLY ONE OF OLD. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside the doorposts of the temple of the HOLY ONE. Hannah's soul was embittered, and she prayed to the SOURCE OF LIFE, and she wept profusely. And she vowed a vow and said, "HOLY ONE of heaven's legions, if only you would truly look on the affliction of your slave-woman, and remember me, and not forget your slave-woman, but will give to your slave-woman man-seed, then I will place him before you as a nazirite all the days of his life. He shall not drink wine or strong drink, and a razor shall not go upon his head."

And it was as she increased praying before the FAITHFUL ONE, Eli was observing her mouth. Now Hannah, she was speaking in her heart, only her lips moved; her voice was not heard. So, Eli took her for a drunkard. And Eli said to her, "How long will you remain drunk? Put your wine away woman—away from you!" Then Hannah responded and said, "No, my lord, I am a woman whose spirit has hardened; I have not drunk either wine or strong drink; I have been pouring out my soul before the GOD WHO HEARS. Do not regard your slave as a worthless woman, for I have been speaking from my great grief and vexation all this time." Then Eli answered and said, "Go in peace; the God of Israel grant the petition you have made to God." And Hannah said, "May your slave-woman find favor in your eyes." Then the woman went on her way to her quarters, ate and drank with her husband, and her countenance was sad no longer.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to god's people

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 113

- 1 Hallelujah! Give praise, you slaves of the MOST HIGH; praise the Name of the WISDOM OF THE AGES.
- 2 Let the Name of the HOLY ONE OF OLD be blessed, from this time forth forevermore.
- 3 rom the rising of the sun to its going down the Name of the AUTHOR OF LIFE is praised.
- 4 SHE WHO IS WISDOM is high above all nations, andher glory above the heavens.
- 5 Who is like the MOTHER OF ALL our God, who sits enthroned on high, Yet bends down to behold the heavens and the earth?
- 6 She takes up the weak out of the dust And lifts up the poor from the ashes.
- 7 She sets them with the rulers, With the rulers of her people.
- 8 She makes the woman of a childless house To be a joyful mother of children.

Second Lesson: A Reading from the Letter to the Colossians (4: 10-17):

Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you all, so too Mark the cousin of Barnabas, about whom you have received instructions, if he comes to you, welcome him. And Jesus who is called Justus greets you. These of the circumcised are my only coworkers for the realm of God, and they have been a comfort to me, Epaphras, who is one of you, a slave of the Messiah Jesus, greets you all. He is always fighting for you all in his prayers, so that you may stand mature and fully assured in everything that is the will of God. For I testify for him that he has done much hard labor for you all and for those in Laodicea and in Hierapolis. Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas greet you. Give my greetings to the sisters and brothers in Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house. And when this has been read among you all, make it so that it is read in the Laodicean church; and you all read the one from Laodicea. And say to Archippus, "See that the ministry you have received in the Messiah, that you fulfill it."

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to god's people

People: Thanks be to God

Gospel Lesson:

Reader: The holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

(15:21-28)

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus left the place [where he had been teaching] and went back to the regions of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that area came out and shouted, "Have mercy on me, Sir, Son of David; my daughter is badly demon-possessed." But Jesus did not answer her a word. Then his disciples came and implored him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." Now Jesus answered, "I was not sent to any except the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before Jesus, saying, "Rabbi, help me." Then Jesus said, "It is not good to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she said, "Yes, Rabbi, yet the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their lord's table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed that moment.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord **People: Thanks be to God**

Reflection on readings / homily (optional)

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth; I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

The Prayers

Leader The Lord be with you. **People** And also with you.

Leader Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Sufferages (A)

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
- R. And grant us your salvation.
- V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
- R. Let your people sing with joy.
- V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
- R. For only in you can we live in safety.
- V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
- R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
- V. Let your way be known upon earth;
- R. Your saving health among all nations.
- V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
- R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
- V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
- R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Other Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing, Travel, Gratitude (The Leader invites the people to offer their prayers silently or aloud)

A Collect for Evening

Leader: Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep

this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for

your love's sake. Amen.

Prayer of St. Chrysostom: (in Unison)

Leader: Let us pray:

All: Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

Dismissal

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

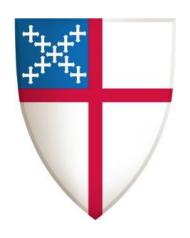
People: We are called to love and serve.

Deacon/Leader: Let us bless the Lord. **People:** Thanks be to God.

Deacon/Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and

the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore.

Amen.





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