

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

The Season 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.

FEAST OF SERGIUS OF RADONEZH

Wednesday 25 Sep 2024 9:30 AM



From [Wikipedia the free encyclopedia](#)

Sergius of Radonezh (Russian: Сергий Радонежский, **romanized:** *Sergiy Radonezhsky*; 14 May 1314 – 25 September 1392) was a spiritual leader and **monastic** reformer of medieval **Russia**. Together with **Seraphim of Sarov**, he is one of **Eastern Orthodoxy's** most highly venerated **saints** in Russia.

Early life

Vision to the Youth Bartholomew, by **Mikhail Nesterov** (1890).

The date of his birth is unclear: it could be 1314, 1319, or 1322. His medieval biography states that he was born to Kiril and Maria, a **boyar** family, near **Rostov (Yaroslavl Oblast)**, on the spot where **Varnitsy Monastery [ru]** now stands. ^{[3][4]}

The narrative of Epiphanius does not specify the exact birthplace of the monk,

[Continued Pg 11](#)

Welcome and Announcements

Rev Allison Cornell

Entrance Rites *The people stand as they are able.*

Opening Acclamation:

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Presider & People:

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: 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.

Gloria: *Hymnal 1982 #390 Praise to the Lord vs 1 & 4*

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
The king of creation
O my soul praise him
For he is thy health and salvation
Join the great throng
Psaltery organ and song
Sounding in glad adoration

4. Praise to the Lord O let all that
is in me adore him
All that hath life and breath
come now with praises before him
Let the amen
sound from his people again
Gladly forever adore him.

The Collect:

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

All: O God, whose blessed Son became poor that we, through his poverty, might be rich: Deliver us from an inordinate love of this world, that we, inspired by the devotion of your servant Sergius, may serve you with singleness of heart and attain to the riches of the age to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of God —*(Please be seated for the reading of the lessons)*

First Lesson: Ecclesiasticus 29:1–9

**The merciful lend to their
neighbors;
by holding out a helping hand
they keep the commandments.**

**Lend to your neighbor in his time
of need;
repay your neighbor when a
loan falls due.**

**Keep your promise and be honest
with him,
and on every occasion you
will find what you need.**

**Many regard a loan as a windfall,
and cause trouble to those
who help them.**

**One kisses another's hands until
he gets a loan,
and is deferential in speaking
of his neighbor's money;**

**but at the time for repayment he
delays,
and pays back with empty
promises,
and finds fault with the time.**

**If he can pay, his creditor will
hardly get back half,**

**and will regard that as a
windfall.**

**If he cannot pay, the borrower
has robbed the other of his
money,
and he has needlessly made
him an enemy;**

**he will repay him with curses and
reproaches,
and instead of glory will
repay him with dishonor.**

**Many refuse to lend, not because
of meanness,
but from fear of being
defrauded needlessly.**

**Nevertheless, be patient with
someone in humble
circumstances,
and do not keep him waiting
for your alms.**

**Help the poor for the
commandment's sake,
and in their need do not send
them away empty-handed.**

Reader The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God

Psalm 39:4-8

- 4 My heart was hot within me;
while I pondered, the fire burst into flame; *
I spoke out with my tongue:**
- 5 Lord, let me know my end and the number of my days, *
so that I may know how short my life is.**
- 6 You have given me a mere handful of days,
and my lifetime is as nothing in your sight; *
truly, even those who stand erect are but a puff of wind.**
- 7 We walk about like a shadow,
and in vain we are in turmoil; *
we heap up riches and cannot tell who will gather them.**
- 8 And now, what is my hope? *
O Lord, my hope is in you.**

Second Lesson: 1 John 2:15-17:

Do not love the world or the things in the world. The love of the Father is not in those who love the world; for all that is in the world—the desire of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, the pride in riches—comes not from the Father but from the world. And the world and its desire are passing away, but those who do the will of God live forever.

Reader The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God

Gospel Lesson:

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Mark (2:23-28)

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

One sabbath Jesus and his disciples were going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. The Pharisees said to him, “Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?” And he said to them, “Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food? He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions.” Then he said to them, “The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord. **People Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON

Nicene Creed *(Traditional)*

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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

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 and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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: Form VI— *The Leader and People pray responsively*

Leader: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

People: For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For reconciliation with Native American people

For healing and justice with all who share this land.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Jennifer, our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

(The People may add their own petitions, aloud or silently)

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

(The People may add their own thanksgivings, aloud or silently)

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. *(people remember those who have died)*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for *The Diocese of Jabalpur – The Church of North India (United)*

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for *Trinity Cathedral, in Phoenix.*

We also pray for the first peoples of this land, especially the Apache and Tohono O’Odom peoples who call this area their home.

Lord, bless and keep them.

Deacon: We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.
(a short pause)

All: Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Presider: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

(The people exchange greetings of peace with each other)

Offertory

Presider: Walk in love, as Christ loved us, and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Doxology #380 vs 3 *(Peoples' offerings are brought to the altar)*

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.

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving - *BCP Rite II Prayer C*

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Presider:

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

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

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation.

But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus

G #147 Holy Holy Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of pow - er, God of might, heav - en and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is
he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -
san - na in the high - est.

The Presider continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit (+) to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving:

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Sarah and Abraham, Rebekah and Isaac, Rachel and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say

, *(Traditional)* **Lord's Prayer:**

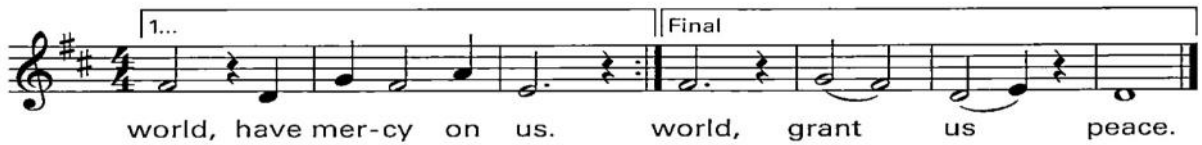
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem Insert JS #194 Lamb of God



*Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the



Invitation to Communion:

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God.

(All are invited and welcome to come forward and receive communion in this church. The bread is gluten free and it is real wine. To intinct/dip your bread into the wine, please go to the left communion rail. To drink a sip from the cup of wine, please go to the right communion rail. If you do not wish to receive the bread and wine, you may choose either rail and then cross your arms over your chest and receive a blessing instead.)

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing Prayer, Travelers, Gratitude Sharing

Post Communion Prayer *The people stand as they are able.*

Presider Let us Pray

All: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Benediction/Blessing:

Presider: May the peace which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. And the blessing of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you now and always. **Amen.**

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 into the world, rejoicing in God's Spirit.
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, (Alleluia!)**

Continued from front:

stating only that before the migration from Rostov principality the monk's family lived "in a village in the area, which is within the Rostov principality, not very close to the city of Rostov". It is considered that it is the village Varnitsa ([Russian](#): Варница) near Rostov. Sergius received the [baptismal](#) name of Bartholomew ([Russian](#): Варѳоломѣй, [romanized](#): *Varfolomei*) in honor of the [Apostle Bartholomew](#).

Although an intelligent boy, Bartholomew had great difficulty learning to read. His biography states that a [starets](#) (spiritual elder) met him one day and gave him a piece of *prospora* (holy bread) to eat, and from that day forward he was able to read. [Orthodox Christians](#) interpret the incident as being an [angelic](#) visitation.^[S1]

When the [Principality of Rostov](#) fell into the hands of Prince [Ivan Danilovich](#) of the [Grand Duchy of Moscow](#), his parents Kirill and Maria became impoverished and moved to [Radonezh](#) together with their three sons, Stefan, Bartholomew and Peter.^[S1]

Monastic life

Upon his parents' death, Bartholomew went to [Khotkovo](#) near [Moscow](#), where his older brother Stefan was a [monk](#). He persuaded Stefan to find a more secluded place to live the [ascetic](#) life. In the deep forest at Makovets Hill they decided to build a small [monastic cell](#) and a church dedicated in honor of the [Trinity](#).^[S1] Thus started the history of the great [Trinity-St. Sergius Lavra](#).

In time, Stefan moved to a [monastery](#) in Moscow. Varfolomei (Bartholomew) was [tonsured](#) a [monk](#) and given the name Sergius, following which he spent more than a year in the forest alone as a [hermit](#). Soon, however, other monks started coming to him and building their own cells. After some time, they persuaded him to become their [hegumen](#) (abbot) and he was [ordained](#) to the [priesthood](#). Following his example, all the monks had to live by their own labor. Over time, more and more monks and donations came to this place. Nearby, there appeared a [posad](#), which grew into the town of [Sergiev Posad](#), and other villages.

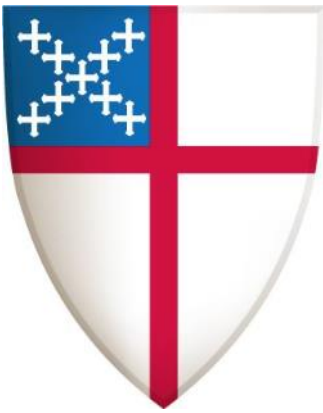
When the news of Sergius's accomplishments reached [Patriarch Philotheus of Constantinople](#), Philotheus sent a monastic [charter](#) to Sergius. During the reign of [Dmitri Donskoi](#), his [disciples](#) started to spread his teaching across central and northern Russia. They settled intentionally in the most impracticable places and founded numerous monasteries, of which [Borisoglebsky](#), [Ferafontov](#), [Kirillo-Belozersky](#) and [Vysotsky](#) monasteries could be mentioned. Sergius was also connected with the foundation of two monastic communities in Moscow, [Andronikov](#) and [Simonov](#) monasteries. All in all, the disciples of Sergius founded about 40 monasteries, thus greatly extending the geographical extent of his influence and authority. [Metropolitan Alexius, Metropolitan of Moscow](#) asked Sergius to become his successor but Sergius declined, preferring to remain a simple monk rather than be a bishop.

As an ascetic, Sergius did not take part in the political life of the country. However, he blessed [Dmitry Donskoy](#) when he went to fight the [Tatars](#) in the signal [Battle of Kulikovo](#) field, but only after he was certain Dmitry had pursued all peaceful means of resolving the conflict. Some historians interpreted his political stance as aspiring to make peace and unite Russian lands under the leadership of Moscow.

Death and canonization

Sergius died on 25 September 1392. His [incorrupt relics](#) were found in 1422 and placed in the new cathedral of [Troitse-Sergiyeva Lavra](#)

[Continued online](#)



ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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



Info Update Giving Envelopes Mail News Letter

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