



# *Seasons of Creation and Stewardship*

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

**ALL SAINTS WEEKEND**

**5pm Saturday, 2 November & 10 am Sunday, 3 November - 2024**



Prelude: *"How Firm a Foundation"*, American folk tune arr John Purifoy

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Rev Allison Cornell**

The Psalmist declares,

*“The Almighty God, the Lord, speaks; he calls to the whole earth from east to west.*

*(Psalm 50:1)*

*The people stand as they are able.*

**Opening Hymn: “All Creatures of our God and King” vs. 1, 5, 6, 7. G# 523**

Presider: Blessed be the One who creates all things.

**People: The Holy One’s love is new every morning.**

### **Invitatory Collect: Sioux Prayer**

**All: Grandfather Great Spirit, All over the world the faces of living ones are alike. With tenderness they have come up out of the ground. Look upon your children that they may face the winds and walk the good road to the Day of Quiet. Grandfather Great Spirit, fill us with the Light, give us the strength to understand, and the eyes to see. Teach us to walk the soft Earth as relatives to all that live. Amen.**

### **Gloria: Venite**

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, \*

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*

and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, \*

and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice! Amen.

Presider: God our Creator be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

## **The Collect:**

**All:** O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful Stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**The Lessons:** *(Please be seated for the reading of the lessons)*

### **First Lesson: Isaiah 25: 1, 4a, 6-10a:**

HOLY ONE OF OLD, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name, for you have worked wonders, ancient counsel, faithful and trustworthy. For you are a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat.

The COMMANDER of heaven's legions will make for all peoples on this mountain a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food prepared with marrow, of refined well-aged wines. And God will destroy on this mountain the shroud that shrouds all peoples, the veil that veils all nations. God will swallow up death forever.

Then the SOVEREIGN God will wipe away tears from every face and will sweep aside the shame of God's people from the whole earth, for GOD WHOSE NAME IS HOLY has spoken. It will be said on that day, Look! This is our God; in whom we hope, and who saved us. This is the CREATOR OF ALL in whom we hope; let us be glad and rejoice in God's salvation. For the hand of the ANCIENT OF DAYS shall rest on this mountain.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

## **Psalm:**

### **Psalm 67:**

- 1 May God be merciful to us and bless us,  
show us the light of her countenance and come to us.**
- 2 Let your ways be known upon earth,  
your saving health among all nations.**
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.**
- 4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide all the nations upon earth.**

**5 Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.**

**6 The earth has brought forth her increase;  
may God, our own God, give us her blessing.**

**7 May God give us her blessing,  
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of her.**

## **Second Lesson: Romans 15:7-13:**

Accept one another, therefore, just as Christ has accepted you, for the glory of God. I tell you that the Messiah has become a servant of the circumcised for the sake of truth to confirm the promises given to the mothers and fathers, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God on account of God's mercy. As it is written,

*"Therefore, I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name,"*

and again, Isaiah says,

*"The root of Jesse shall come, and the one who rises to rule the Gentiles, in whom the Gentiles shall hope."*

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

## **Gospel Lesson:**

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
**Matthew (27:50-56:)**

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

Jesus cried again with a loud voice and relinquished his spirit. Then, look! The curtain of the temple was torn from top to bottom in two. And the earth was shaken, and the rocks were split. And the tombs were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. Then after his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many.

Now when the centurion and those with him, who were standing guard over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

Now there were many women there, from a distance watching; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had ministered to him. Among them were Mary the Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

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

## SERMON

**Profession of Faith:** (Dorothy McRae-McMahan, Uniting Church in Australia. )

**We believe in God the Creator, who reminds us, in the dawning of the every new day, that new life is possible. We believe in the wonder and grandeur of a universe where the whole of life is called to live in harmony of care.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, who prayed in mountains for peace, and brought us the Word in mustard seeds of faith and fig trees of blessing, whose footsteps touched the earth in love and who invites us to follow.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, whose wisdom often lies embedded in ancient peoples. They trod lightly across deserts and lived gently among plants and creatures. They reached respectfully for the mystery, which is God-with-us, the One who never leaves us nor forsakes us.**

**We believe in the everlasting hope, the great calling of the people of God, the church, for the transforming of all things, which is possible in God. This is what we believe. AMEN.**

### Prayers of the People:

#### Prayers for Sound Government & Our Election

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

Leader: O Lord, keep this nation under your care. Bless the leaders of our land,

**People: That we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth.**

Leader: O Lord, give grace to your servants, especially the President and members of the Cabinet, the Congress, the Governors of states, the Mayors of cities, and all election officials and any in administrative authority:

**People: Grant them wisdom, integrity, and grace in the exercise of their duties.**

Leader: O Lord, guide and protect all those who make and enforce our laws in states, cities, and towns:

**People: Give them fortitude, foresight, and wisdom to provide for the needs of all people and to honorably fulfill their obligations of their positions.**

Leader: O Lord, direct and influence by your Holy Spirit the judges and officers of our courts with judiciousness and prudence

**People: That human rights may be safeguarded and justice served with honesty and uprightness.**

Leader: O Lord, teach us to rely on your Holy Word and Will for strength of conviction and responsible voting as fellow citizens

**People: That we may elect trustworthy leaders and make wise decisions for the well-being of our society.**

Leader: O Lord, may we faithfully serve you and our generation, honoring your Holy Name.

**People: For yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as the head above all creation. Amen.**

Presider: Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide us in the election of officials and representatives; that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **The Confession**

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God, our neighbors, and all Creation.  
*(Short Silence may be kept.)*

Deacon: We have wounded your love.

**People: O God, heal us.**

Deacon: We stumble in the darkness.

**People: Light of the world transfigure us.**

Deacon: We forget that we are your home.

**People: Spirit of God, dwell in us.**

**All: Eternal Spirit, living God, in whom we live and move and have our being, all that we are, have been, and shall be is known to you, to the very secret of our hearts and all that rises to trouble us. Living flame burn into us, cleansing wind, blow through us, fountain of water, well up within us, that we may love and praise you in deed and in truth.**

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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People And also with you.**

## Offertory

Presider Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

**Offertory music** : *"How Great Thou Art"*

**G#496**

Doxology: *(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** - *New Zealand Book of Common Prayer*

Presider The Spirit of God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift your hearts to heaven

People **Where Christ in glory reigns.**

Presider Let us give thanks to God.

People **It is right to offer thanks and praise**

*Presider*

It is right indeed to give you thanks most loving God, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, the first born from the dead, the pioneer of our salvation, who is with us always, one of us, yet from the heart of God.

For with your whole created universe, we praise you for your unfailing gift of life. We thank you that you made us in your image and stay with us even when we turn from you to sin.

**God's love is shown to us: in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.**

In that love, dear God, righteous and strong to save, you came among us in Jesus Christ, our crucified and living Lord.

You make all things new. In Christ's suffering and cross you reveal your glory and reconcile all peoples to yourself, the true and living God. Through Christ you gather us, new-born in your Spirit, a people after your own heart. We entrust ourselves to you and your mercy, for you alone judge all people, living and departed.

**Now is the acceptable time, now is the day of salvation.**

Therefore with saints and martyrs, apostles and prophets, with all the redeemed, joyfully we praise you and say:

Sanctus

***Holy, holy, holy:  
God of mercy, giver of life;  
earth and sea and sky  
and all that lives,  
declare your presence and your glory.***

*The Presider continues*

All glory to you, Giver of life sufficient and full for all creation. Accept our praises, living God, for Jesus Christ, the one perfect offering for the world, who in the night that he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.”

After supper he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and said:

“Drink this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you, and for many, to forgive sin. Do this as often as you drink it to remember me.”

Therefore, God of all creation, in the suffering and death of Jesus our redeemer, we meet you in your glory. We lift up the cup of salvation and call upon your name. Here and now, with this bread and wine, we celebrate your great acts of liberation, ever present and living in Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come.

**Amen! Come Lord Jesus.**

May Christ ascended in majesty be our new and living way, our access to you, Father, and source of all new life. In Christ we offer ourselves to do your will. Empower our celebration with your Holy Spirit (+), feed us with your life, fire us with your love, confront us with your justice, and make us one in the body of Christ (+) with all who share your gifts of love.

**Through Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Creator God. AMEN.**

Presider: Let us pray together the New Zealand form of the Lord’s Prayer:



**All: Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,  
 Source of all that is and that shall be,  
 Father and Mother of us all,  
 Loving God, in whom is heaven:  
 The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!  
 The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!  
 Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!  
 Your commonwealth of peace and freedom  
 sustain our hope and come on earth.  
 With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
 In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.  
 In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.  
 From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
 From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
 For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,  
 now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

*Fraction Anthem (insert G#806)*

The musical score consists of two systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: "Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to him and nev-er be hun-gry." and "Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in him and you will not thirst."

**Invitation to Communion:**

**Presider:** Bread and wine; the gifts of God for the people of God.

**People:** May we who share these gifts be found in Christ and Christ in us.

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

## Communion Hymn Insert "As the Deer Longs for Running Streams"

768

### PSALM 42/43: AS THE DEER LONGS

Acc #670 / CP3 #32

Bob Hurd

Refrain

As the deer longs for run - ning streams, so I long, so I long,

so I long for you.

1 2-6 to Verses Final 2

Verses

1. A - thirst my soul for you, the God who is my life! When shall I  
 2. 7 Ech - oes meet as deep is call - ing un - to deep, o - ver my  
 3. Con - tin - ual - ly the foe de - lights in taunt - ing me: "Where is God,  
 4. De - fend me God, send forth your light — and your truth, they will lead  
 5. Then I shall go un - to the al - tar of my God. Prais - ing you, —

1. see, when shall I — see, — see the face of God?  
 2. head, all your might - y wa - ters, sweep - ing o - ver me.  
 3. — where is your — God?" — Where, O where are you?  
 4. me to your ho - ly moun - tain, to your dwell - ing place.  
 5. — O my joy and glad - ness, I shall praise your name.

to Refrain

## **Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing Prayer, Travelers, Gratitude Sharing**

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

Presider Let us Pray

**All: O God, the author of peace and lover of concord; to know you is eternal life, to serve you is perfect freedom. Defend us your servants in every stress and danger, that we may trust in your defense and not fear the power of any adversaries; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**

### **Benediction/Blessing:**

Presider: God the Creator, who loves us and gave this world to be our home, God the Redeemer, who loves us and by dying and rising again leads the way to freedom, God the Sanctifier, who spreads the divine love in our hearts, God the three in one and one in three, bless you and keep you now and forever. **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!*

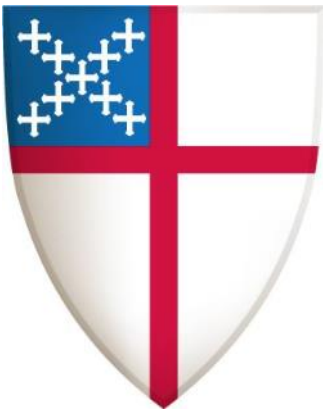
**People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, (Alleluia!)**

### **Closing Song : "Soon and Very Soon "**

**G#758**

Postlude: "*The Master has Come*", traditional Welsh Melody, arr John Purifoy

*Please, join us for refreshments in the Parish Hall after worship.*



# ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*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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Please leave voicemail message

**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: \_\_\_\_\_ BrthDate \_\_\_\_\_

City, St., Zip: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_