

# The Season After PENTECOST

## 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.*

### FEAST OF PRISCILLA AND AQUILA

9:30 am Wednesday, 9 July 2025

[From Lessor Feasts & Fasts](#)



When Paul came to Corinth (probably in the year 50), he met Priscilla and her husband Aquila. Like Paul, they were tentmakers by trade, and had just arrived from Rome, from which the Emperor Claudius had recently expelled the Jewish community. It is not clear whether Aquila and Priscilla were already Christians before meeting Paul, or were converted by his preaching. After eighteen months, the three of them went together to Ephesus, where Priscilla and Aquila remained while Paul continued to Antioch.

Soon after, a man named Apollos came to Ephesus, who had heard and believed a portion of the Christian message, and was promoting that belief with eloquent preaching, based on a thorough knowledge of the Hebrew Scriptures. Aquila and Priscilla befriended him and explained the Gospel to him more fully, after which he continued to preach with even greater effectiveness.

Priscilla and Aquila were apparently in

[Continued Pg 11](#)

## **Opening Acclamation:**

Presider: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

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

Presider: Let us pray:

**All: 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 — #S-278**

**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.**

## **Salutation**

Presider: God be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray

## **Collect of the Day:**

**All: God of grace and might, who gave to your servants Aquila and Priscilla gifts of zeal and eloquence to make known the truth of the Gospel: Raise up, we pray, in every country, heralds and evangelists of your kingdom, so that the world may know the immeasurable riches of our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

## LITURGY OF THE WORD: *(Please be seated for the lessons)*

### **First Lesson: A Reading from the book of Jeremiah (23:23-32):**

Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back-- those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces? See, therefore, I am against the prophets, says the Lord, who steal my words from one another. See, I am against the prophets, says the Lord, who use their own tongues and say, "Says the Lord." See, I am against those who prophesy lying dreams, says the Lord, and who tell them, and who lead my people astray by their lies and their recklessness, when I did not send them or appoint them; so they do not profit this people at all, says the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord    **People**        **Thanks be to God**

### **The PSALM:**

**Psalm 18:30-36 (read in unison)**

- 30 With you I will break down an enclosure; \*  
with the help of my God I will scale any wall.**
- 31 As for God, his ways are perfect;  
the words of the Lord are tried in the fire; \*  
he is a shield to all who trust in him.**
- 32 For who is God, but the Lord? \*  
who is the Rock, except our God?**
- 33 It is God who girds me about with strength \*  
and makes my way secure.**
- 34 He makes me sure-footed like a deer \*  
and lets me stand firm on the heights.**
- 35 He trains my hands for battle \*  
and my arms for bending even a bow of bronze.**
- 36 You have given me your shield of victory; \*  
your right hand also sustains me;  
your loving care makes me great.**

## Second Lesson: A Reading from the Book of

**Acts (18:1-4, 18-21, 24-28):**

Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. There he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, and, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them, and they worked together—by trade they were tentmakers. Every sabbath he would argue in the synagogue and would try to convince Jews and Greeks.

After staying there for a considerable time, Paul said farewell to the believers and sailed for Syria, accompanied by Priscilla and Aquila. At Cenchreae he had his hair cut, for he was under a vow. When they reached Ephesus, he left them there, but first he himself went into the synagogue and had a discussion with the Jews. When they asked him to stay longer, he declined; but on taking leave of them, he said, “I will return to you, if God wills.” Then he set sail from Ephesus.

Now there came to Ephesus a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria. He was an eloquent man, well-versed in the scriptures. He had been instructed in the Way of the Lord; and he spoke with burning enthusiasm and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, though he knew only the baptism of John. He began to speak boldly in the synagogue; but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained the Way of God to him more accurately. And when he wished to cross over to Achaia, the believers encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him. On his arrival he greatly helped those who through grace had become believers, for he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, showing by the scriptures that the Messiah is Jesus.

Reader The Word of the Lord    **People**        **Thanks be to God**

**Gospel Lesson:** *(Please stand as you are able)*

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Luke (24:28-35):**

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

As Jesus and the two disciples came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” That same hour they got up and returned to

Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

## **Homily (Deacon Dottie Gutwein)**

**Nicene Creed** (CONTEMPORARY VERSION) All say together

**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: God of enlightenment, send out your light and your truth that they may lead your people into your joy and gladness

**People: Send us out to shine your light brightly and share our joy gladly.**

Leader: God of our strength, we lift to you those feeling weak, oppressed, or forgotten.

**People: that through your might, we may support, defend, and serve the cause of the innocent and downtrodden.**

Leader: God of loving-kindness, we bless you for your love shown to us in our creation, preservation, and salvation.

**People: Let all creation praise you forever.**

Leader: God of grace and mercy, fill us with knowledge of your will and peace.

**People: May your love heal our factions, divisions, and hatred and may your peace overcome our strife.**

Leader: God of healing and hope, you turn our wailing into dancing and comfort us in our sorrows.

**People: We pray that you would restore to health and wholeness all who cry out to you in their times of suffering.**

Leader: God of unity and harmony, you desire that we love one another, loving our neighbors as we love ourselves. We lift up to you our neighbors:

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer: *The of Nevada – The Episcopal Church.*

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer: *Trinity Church, in Kingman*

And we pray for the first peoples of this land, especially the Apache and Tohono O’Odom peoples who called this area home.

May we continue to support one another in love and empathy.

**People: And Lord, we ask your blessing and favor upon them, in your Holy Name. Amen.**

## Confession of Sin

Deacon: Let us confess our sins to God.

**All: God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that influences us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

## Absolution

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

## Exchange of the Peace

Presider May the peace of Christ be always with you

**All And also with you.**

*The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## The Offertory

Presider: I appeal to you, friends, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

## Doxology (Hymn #380 v. 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 Holy Communion

*The Great Thanksgiving*

*EOW 2*

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 our thanks and praise.**

Presider: It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

**You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and surrounded us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.**

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we say/sing:

Sanctus -

#S-128

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
in the highest.**

*Presider continues:*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

**But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.**

Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.

**Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.**

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, 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.”

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit (+) may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit (+) and live as Christ’s Body in the world.

**Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.**

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

Presider: And now as Jesus 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. 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*)

Fraction Anthem

*G #808 Refrain only Let us be Bread*

Let us be bread, blessed by the Lord, bro - ken and shared,  
life for the world. Let us be wine, love free - ly poured.  
Let us be one in the Lord.

## **Invitation to Communion:**

Presider: These are the gifts of God for the People of God.

**People: Christ invites us all to be known and fed here.**

*All are welcome and invited to come to The Lord's Supper and receive communion in this church. It is gluten free bread and real wine. To dip/intinct your bread into the wine and then consume it, please come to the left altar rail. To eat your bread and then sip wine from the cup, please come to the right altar rail. To receive a blessing instead of the bread and wine, come to either rail and cross your arms over your chest and we will give you a blessing.*

## **Prayers for Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing, Travel, and Gratitude**

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Presider: Let us pray:

**God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.**

**Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world, and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### **Benediction:**

Presider: May the Spirit of Truth lead you into all truth, giving you grace to confess Jesus' ways, truth, and life and to proclaim the wonderful works of God; and may the blessing of God Almighty: the Father, the Son, and the 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:](#)

Rome when Paul wrote to that congregation, and in Ephesus with Timothy when Paul wrote his last letter to Timothy. When Paul wrote to the Corinthians from Ephesus, he joined their greetings with his own. Clearly they were dear to Paul, and were earnest and effective in spreading the Good News of Christ and His saving work.

Altogether, Aquila and Priscilla are mentioned six times in the New Testament (Acts 18:2; Acts 18:18-19; Acts 18:26; Romans 16:3; 1 Corinthians 16:19; 2 Timothy 4:19), and the observant reader may note that in half of these Aquila's name comes first, while in the other half, Priscilla's comes first, as if to emphasize that they are being mentioned on equal terms.

[More From Wikipedia the free encyclopedia](#)

**[Priscilla](#)<sup>[a]</sup> and [Aquila](#)<sup>[b]</sup>** were a [first-century Christian missionary](#) married couple described in the [New Testament](#). Aquila is traditionally listed among the [Seventy Disciples](#). They lived, worked, and traveled with the [Apostle Paul](#), who described them as his "fellow workers in Christ Jesus" ([Romans 16:3](#)).<sup>[1]</sup>

Priscilla and Aquila are described in the New Testament as providing a presence that strengthened the [early Christian churches](#). Paul was generous in his recognition and acknowledgment of his indebtedness to them ([Romans 16:3–4](#)). Together, they are credited with instructing [Apollos](#), a major evangelist of the first century, and "[explaining] to him the way of God more accurately" ([Acts 18:26](#)).

It is thought by some to be possible, in light of her apparent prominence, that Priscilla held the office of [presbyter](#).<sup>[2]</sup> She also is thought by some to be the anonymous author of the [Epistle to the Hebrews](#).<sup>[3]</sup>

## New Testament references

They are mentioned six times in four different books of the [New Testament](#), always named as a couple and never individually. Of those six references, Aquila's name is mentioned first only twice: and one of the times on account of it being Paul's first encounter with them, probably through Aquila first.

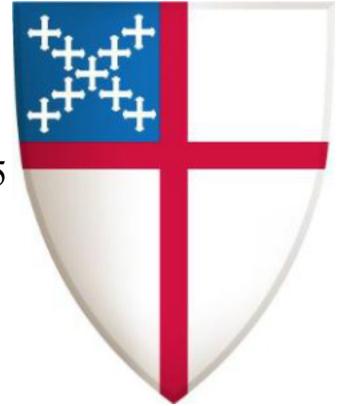
1. [Acts 18:2–3](#): "There he became acquainted with a Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, who had recently arrived from Italy with his wife, Priscilla. They had left Italy when [Claudius Caesar deported all Jews from Rome](#). Paul lived and worked with them, for they were tentmakers just as he was."
2. [Acts 18:18](#): "Paul stayed in Corinth for some time after that, then said good-bye to the brothers and sisters and went to nearby Cenchrea. There he shaved his head according to Jewish custom, marking the end of a vow. Then he set sail for Syria, taking Priscilla and Aquila with him."
3. [Acts 18:26](#): "When Priscilla and Aquila heard him preaching in the synagogue, they took him aside and explained the way of God even more accurately."
4. [Romans 16:3](#): "Give my greetings to Priscilla and Aquila, my co-workers in the ministry of Christ Jesus."
5. [1 Corinthians 16:19](#): "The churches here in the province of Asia send greetings in the Lord, as do Aquila and Priscilla and all the others who gather in their home for church meetings."

[Continued online](#)

*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 \_\_\_\_\_

BrthDate \_\_\_\_\_

Adrs: \_\_\_\_\_

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