



WELCOME TO 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.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ANTE COMMUNION

Saturday 4 Oct, 5pm & Sunday, 5 Oct, 10am 2025



Prelude: "Praise to the Living God", by Lani Smith

Welcome and Announcements

1

Rev. Dcn. Dottie Gutwein

Gathering Hymn: *“Be Still, My Soul”*

{back of Announcements} **JS#547**

The Word of God

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

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

Collect for Purity:

Presider: 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: *(Please sing together)*

H1982 #S-280

**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 O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Ministry of The Word—*(please be seated for the lessons)*

1st Lesson: A Reading from the Book of Lamentations (1:1-6)

How lonely sits the city
that once was full of people!
How like a widow she has become,
she that was great among the

nations!
She that was a princess among the
provinces has become a vassal.
She weeps bitterly in the night,

with tears on her cheeks;
among all her lovers
she has no one to comfort her;
all her friends have dealt treacherously
with her,
they have become her enemies.
Judah has gone into exile with suffering
and hard servitude;
she lives now among the nations,
and finds no resting place;
her pursuers have all overtaken her
in the midst of her distress.
The roads to Zion mourn,
for no one comes to the festivals;
all her gates are desolate,
her priests groan;

Reader: The Word of the Lord

The Psalm Psalm 137

- 1 By the waters of Babylon we sat
down and wept, *
**when we remembered you, O
Zion.**
- 2 As for our harps, we hung them up *
**on the trees in the midst of that
land.**
- 3 For those who led us away captive
asked us for a song,
and our oppressors called for mirth: *
**"Sing us one of the songs of
Zion."**
- 4 How shall we sing the Lord's song *
upon an alien soil.
- 5 If I forget you, O Jerusalem, *
let my right hand forget its skill.
- 6 Let my tongue cleave to the roof of

her young girls grieve,
and her lot is bitter.
Her foes have become the masters,
her enemies prosper,
because the Lord has made her suffer
for the multitude of her
transgressions;
her children have gone away,
captives before the foe.
From daughter Zion has departed
all her majesty.
Her princes have become like stags
that find no pasture;
they fled without strength
before the pursuer.

People: **Thanks be to God**

- my mouth
if I do not remember you, *
**if I do not set Jerusalem above my
highest joy.**
- 7 Remember the day of Jerusalem, O
Lord,
against the people of Edom, *
**who said, "Down with it! down
with it!
even to the ground!"**
 - 8 O Daughter of Babylon, doomed to
destruction, *
**happy the one who pays you back
for what you have done to us!**
 - 9 Happy shall he be who takes your
little ones, *
and dashes them against the rock!

2nd Lesson: A Reading from second Timothy (1:1-14):

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

I am grateful to God-- whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did-- when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

The Gospel Lesson: Luke (17: 5-10):

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

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

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

"Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

4 *People:* **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

HOMILY

Nicene Creed (Traditional)

BCP p. 358

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 II revised)

Leader: We pray for God's people throughout the world:

For Sean and Jennifer our Bishops, For this gathering of St. Stephen's, and...

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer for **Santa Maria Episcopal Church, in Phoenix.**

In the Anglican cycle of prayer for **The Anglican Church of Tanzania.**

For the first peoples of the this land, the Apache and Tahono O'odom who call this area their home. And for all ministers and people

People: We pray for the Church and God's people.

(A moment of silence for quiet prayer)

Leader: We pray for peace, for good will among nations and for the well being of all people.

People: We pray for Justice and Peace.

(A moment of silence for quiet prayer)

Leader: We pray for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

People: We pray for all who are in any need or trouble.

(A moment of silence for quiet prayer)

Leader: We pray for all who seek God or a deeper knowledge of him.

People: We pray that they may find and be found by God.

(A moment of silence for quiet prayer)

Leader: We pray for the departed.

People: We pray for those who have died.

(A moment of silence for quiet prayer)

Leader: We praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

People: We pray that we may have the grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

(A moment of silence for quiet prayer)

Presider: Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer for St. Stephen's:

Presider: Almighty God, giver of every good gift; look graciously on your church, and so guide the minds of our search committee, wardens, and vestry, who are in discernment for St. Stephen's church, Sierra Vista, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Deacon: Let us confess our sins to God and our neighbor:

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.

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.**

The Peace:

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

People: **And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn: “This Is My Father’s World”, {see Announcements}

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.**

Lord’s Prayer: (Traditional)

Presider: And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

Birthday’s, Prayers of Healing, Blessings and gratitude.....

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**

Closing Hymn: “Faith of our fathers”,

#558

Dismissal

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

People: **We are called to Love and Serve**

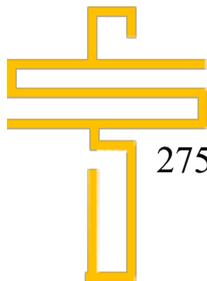
Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in God’s Spirit. **Alleluia!**

Alleluia!

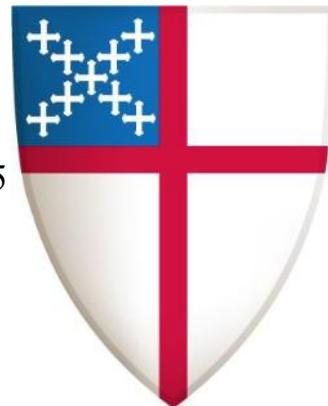
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, (Alleluia!)**

Postlude: “Rock of Ages”, tune Toplady by Thomas Hastings, arr by Robert Wetzler

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.



2750 Cardinal Dr. Sierra Vista, AZ 85635
<https://ststephensaz.org>
520-458-4432



ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Rector:

Parish Administrator

Mark Sowards

Mark.sowards@ststephensaz.org

Off. Phone 520-458-4432

Mobile: 408-892-1062

Office Fax: 520-458-8237

Deacons:

Dorothy Gutwein

Hm: 520-737-5025

dottie85635@gmail.com

Sherry Simon

sherrytsimon@gmail.com

(520)-210-2026

Church Accompanist :

Doreen Oberg

doreenoberg@hotmail.com

Vestry Staff

Senior Warden:

Jeff Speer

jeffrey5454speer@gmail.com

Cell:(520) 678-5688

Please leave voice mail

Junior wardens:

Pete Criscuolo

petesacct2014@gmail.com

Cell: 520-234-7687

& Timothy Holsonback

holsonback@cox.net

520/459-1937

Treasurer:

Anne Roth

Cell:303/917-8151

avd.roth@comcast.net

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: _____, _____, _____