

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

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www.ststephenswhitingnj.org

A parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey

The Rt. Rev. William H. (Chip) Stokes, Bishop

The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr., Rector —email: pvansant@gmail.com

Gerianne Murphy Treasurer—email: ssechurch.treasurer@gmail.com

Sandra Gaskill, Assistant Treasurer —email: ssechurch.assisttreasurer.com

Esther Graham, Music Minister

Colleen Clover, Parish Administrator—email: ssechurch@gmail.com

Tom O'Brien, Sexton

Wardens and Vestry 2019

Carl Laursen, Rector's Warden

Richard Smithson, Property Warden

Jack Brown, Laura Gural, Tom Larson

Lillian Fink, Marge Pomykala, Peter Quigley

Pat Russo, Randy Walton, Dottie Kaster

Jo Ann Smithson, Clerk

Mission Statement

To proclaim the faith that our years have engendered: to use the diversity of our Episcopal experience while working toward a common goal; to teach the young about Jesus and to reach out and affect the lives of those in the community.

"Wherefore by their fruits you shall know them." Matthew 7:20

Welcome to St. Stephen's Church!

We thank you for joining us for worship today. Please stay for coffee hour, and sign our guest book at the podium in the Narthex. If you are looking for a church home, you have just found it. We would love to have you at St. Stephen's. Arrangements for weddings and baptisms can be made by speaking directly with the Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr., Rector.

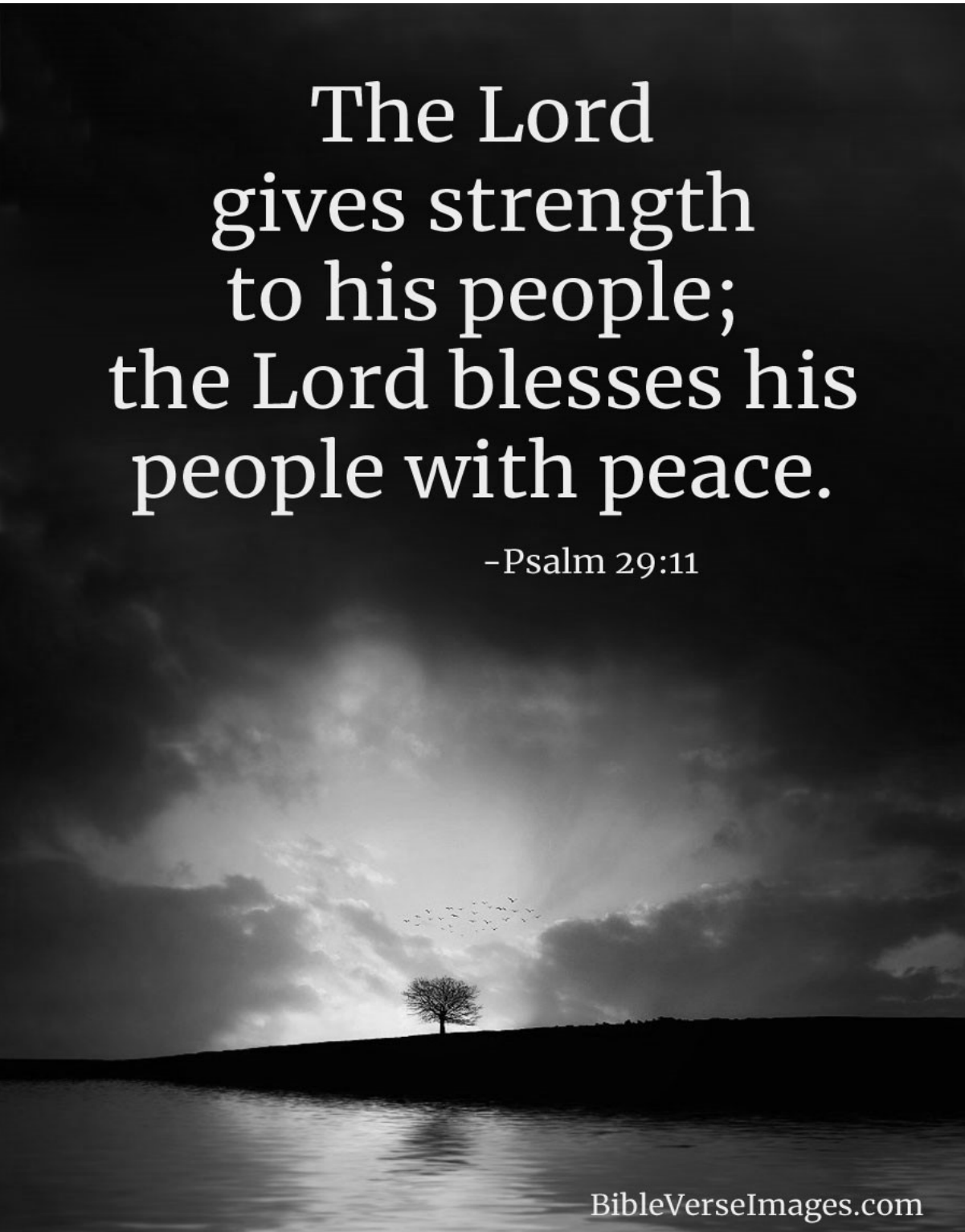
To Report Illness, Hospitalization, etc.

Greta Pearl for prayer requests: 732-350-7584

Please notify the church office 732/350-2121 of any illnesses or hospitalizations.

If it is an emergency you may also reach Carl Laursen, Rector's Warden at 732-350-1259 or

Father Paul at his home 609-268-2864.



The Lord
gives strength
to his people;
the Lord blesses his
people with peace.

-Psalm 29:11

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY-THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD JANUARY 12, 2020
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II 8 & 10 am
Hymnal **The Word of God**

Processional: “Come Christians Join and Sing”	Insert
Patriotic Hymn: 714 v 4	
Opening Acclamation	355
S102 Trisagion	
Collect of the Day	Insert
First Lesson: Book of Isaiah 42:1-9	Insert
Psalm 29	Insert
Second Lesson: Acts of the Apostles 10:34-43	Insert
Gradual: “Word of God, Speak”	Insert
Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17	Insert
Sermon — The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.	
The Nicene Creed	358
Prayers of the People form VI	392
Confession and Absolution	393
The Peace	360
Announcements	
Doxology: “All things come of thee O Lord”	
HOLY COMMUNION	
The Great Thanksgiving	
Eucharistic Prayer B	367
S120 Sursum Corda	
S125 Sanctus	
S152 Breaking of the Bread	
The Lord’s Prayer	364
Communion Hymns:	
“Shall we Gather at the River”	Insert
“As the Deer Panteth for the Water”	Insert
Post Communion Hymn “Down by the Riverside” performed by Phyllis	
Post Communion Prayer	
Blessing	
Recessional: “Praise Him”	Insert
Dismissal	

First Sunday after the Epiphany
The Baptism of our Lord

JANUARY 12, 2020

Serving in the Liturgy today:

Lector 8:00 AM	Peter Quigley
LEM 8:00 AM	Jo Ann Smithson
Altar Guild 8:00 AM	Mary Storey, Betty Carino, Debbie Fisher
Ushers 8:00 AM	Mary Storey, Glenn Mortimer, Bill Bodine, Peter Quigley
Lector 10:00 AM	Sandy Gaskill
LEMs 10:00 AM	Susan Clarke, Lillian Fink
Altar Guild 10:00 AM	Barbara Lavinio, Margaret Poper
Ushers 10:00 AM	Joe Orsita, Laura Gural

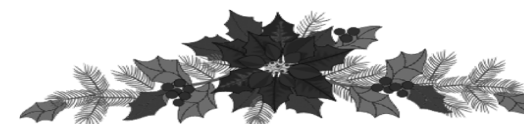
CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF

January 12, 2020-January 18, 2020

Today	Holy Eucharist	8:00 & 10:00am
	AA Meeting	8:00 pm
Monday	Office Open	9:00 am—2:00 pm
Tuesday	Closed AA Meeting	2:00 pm
Wednesday	Closed AA Meeting	3:00 pm
	Choir Practice	10:00 am
Thursday	Healing Service	10:00 am
	Bible Study	12 noon & 5 pm
Friday	Pineland Symphonic Band	9:30 am
Saturday	AA Meeting	8:00 pm

Everyone is welcome to come to the coffee hour after worship.

All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion at our Lord’s Table, regardless of your church affiliation. We encourage you to share with us in this sacrament.



Annual Meeting

Our annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 26, 2020.

There will be only one service held that day at 9 AM.

The meeting will take place immediately following that service.



A couple New Year reminders.....

- *Pick up your 2020 collection envelopes for your convenience*
- *Please submit your 2019 receipts to Gerianne by THIS Sunday*
- *If you are running for the Vestry or any office, convocation, convention, or committee, let Sandy Gaskill know as soon as possible.*
- *Check out our new activities calendar and mark your calendars for 2020*
- *Stefanie has tickets on sale for both Teas: April 16th and May 21st.*



First Sunday after the Epiphany

January 12, 2020

Collect of the Day

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

First Reading

Book of Isaiah 42:1-9

Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him, he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not fail or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law. Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread forth the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: "I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the LORD, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to graven images. Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them."

Psalm 29

- 1 Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, *
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; *
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders; *
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
- 4 The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; *
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.
- 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; *
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
- 7 The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;
the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; *
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- 8 The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe *
and strips the forests bare.
- 9 And in the temple of the LORD *
all are crying, "Glory!"
- 10 The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; *
the LORD sits enthroned as King for evermore.
- 11 The LORD shall give strength to his people; *
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

HEALING SERVICE Thursday 10:00 am
ORDER OF ST. LUKE: 2nd Thursday of each month after Healing Service
PINELAND SYMPHONIC BAND rehearsal: Fridays 9:30 am
CHOIR PRACTICE: Now on Wednesdays at 10 AM

CHAPEL CLOTHES LINE sells well to groups and meeting at our church. Now accepting **LADIES Fall/Winter clothes ONLY** in **TOP** condition, (clean, with no missing buttons, tears or stains). Also, continue to use the **FOUR BINS** in our parking lot for *out of season clothing, all men's wear*, and other items. We are very appreciative of your kind donations to, and purchases from, this fundraising project.



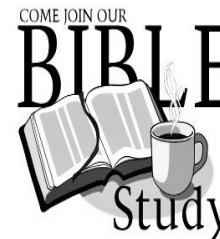
LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEEDED There is an **URGENT** call out for Lay Eucharistic Ministers for both our 8:00 and 10:00a.m. services.



ST. STEPHEN'S PRAYER CHAIN is in need of additional members. The Prayer Chain is a dedicated group of parishioners who will pray for any who are in need. If you are interested or would like further information, please contact Greta Pearl at 732/350-7584 for details. Greta is the contact when placing, on the Prayer Chain, your name or the names of family, neighbors, or friends who would like prayers for healing, comfort, or any other purpose.



CARE GIVERS VOLUNTEERS JoAnn Smithson is the Congregational Coordinator for Care Givers Volunteers here at St. Stephen's. Please continue to use the mailbox in the Office to put in your hours. JoAnn's phone number is 732-408-5351.



COMING UP SOON...

A six-week bible study will begin Thursday, January 16th and will continue on each following Thursday beginning at noon and again at 5 p.m. We will be studying "The Names of Jesus"
Looking forward to Lent, we will study "Women of the Bible."

HEALING PRAYERS The Order of St. Luke provides prayers of healing to anyone after Holy Communion on the last Sunday of the month at each service. Members are also available every Sunday after the services. Look for a member near the baptismal font if you would like a prayer of healing after any service.

YOUR PERSONAL ESTATE PLANNING Prayerfully consider making an endowment gift to St. Stephen's as part of your estate plan.

RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND Thank you to all who have donated. There are parishioners as well as other members in our community who benefit greatly.



STEWARDSHIP

"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord, and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ"

Colossians 3:23-24



A New Year of Prayer *A poem*

Just close your eyes
And open your heart,
You'll feel your worries
And your troubles part.

Just yield yourself
To the Lord above,
And let Him hold you
Safe in His love.

For He only asks us
To give our best,
Then He will take over
And finish the rest.

So when you are tired
And worn out with care,
Just open the doorway
To a New Year of prayer!



Second Reading

Acts of the Apostles 10:34-43

And Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I perceive that God shows no partiality, but in every nation any one who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the word which he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace by Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), the word which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism which John preached: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. And we are witnesses to all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and made him manifest; not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. And he commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that he is the one ordained by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that every one who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for thus it is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on him; and lo, a voice from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Today is one of four occasions in the year designated by the Prayer Book as a baptismal day. (The other three are Easter, Pentecost, and All Saints' Day.) Each of the four days has its particular theme, which enhances our understanding of one aspect of the primary Christian sacrament, Holy Baptism.

On this First Sunday after the Epiphany, we celebrate the Baptism of Our Lord. Jesus' baptism was for all the Gospel writers and in the apostolic preaching of the Gospel, the event that initiated the redemptive ministry of the Messiah. It was in that event that Jesus was revealed as Messiah (Christ). God designated him as the beloved son and he was anointed by the Holy Spirit. We administer Holy Baptism today in the context of this theme.

In Holy Baptism, each Christian is adopted as the child of God. Each Christian becomes a "messianic" person, anointed by the Holy Spirit. We do not simply become passive recipients of the benefits of Christ; we are "christed" or christened. We become sharers in his life and in his redemptive ministry.

Those baptized today and anointed with Chrism are received "into the household of God." They join with that household in confessing "the faith of Christ crucified," proclaiming his resurrection and sharing in his eternal priesthood -- the priesthood that is enacted sacramentally in Eucharist and daily in lives of self-giving love toward one another and toward the world.

From *The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year*.
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Announcements

January 12, 2020

Prayer to send out LEMs with the Sacrament:

Celebrant: N. we send you out to share Communion this week with those who have been entrusted to your care.

People: May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this Sacrament of Christ's presence.

Celebrant: Continues with a closing prayer.

The Sanctuary Candle is given to the Glory of God

*In memory of my son George Fry's Birthday by his mother Joy,
And In memory of Joy's sister, Terry Borst who passed away January 2, 2020
In Memory of my father Charles Rotsaert by Daughter Stefanie*



The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God

*In Honor of the birthday of our twin grandchildren Matthew and Caroline
Rutigliano by their grandparents
Fred and Janet Spieth*

ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNION SERVICES

The Pines	1st Sunday of each month at 9:30 am
Arista-Care	1st Monday of each month at 2:00 pm
The Arbors	2nd Monday of each month at 2:00 pm
The Pines	3rd Monday of each month at 2:00 pm