

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
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ssechurch@gmail.com
www.saintstephenswhiting.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
Gerrie Vergona, Treasurer
Esther Graham, Music Director
Greg Mathews, Parish Administrator
Tom O'Brien, Sexton

Wardens and Vestry 2022

Stefanie Bodine, Rector's Warden
Peter Quigley, Property Warden
Debbie Fisher, Marge Pomykala, Joanne Soriano
Dottie Kaster, Maryann Payne, Robert Virtue
Kay Karlick, Tom Larson, Ken Seda
Joanne 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.

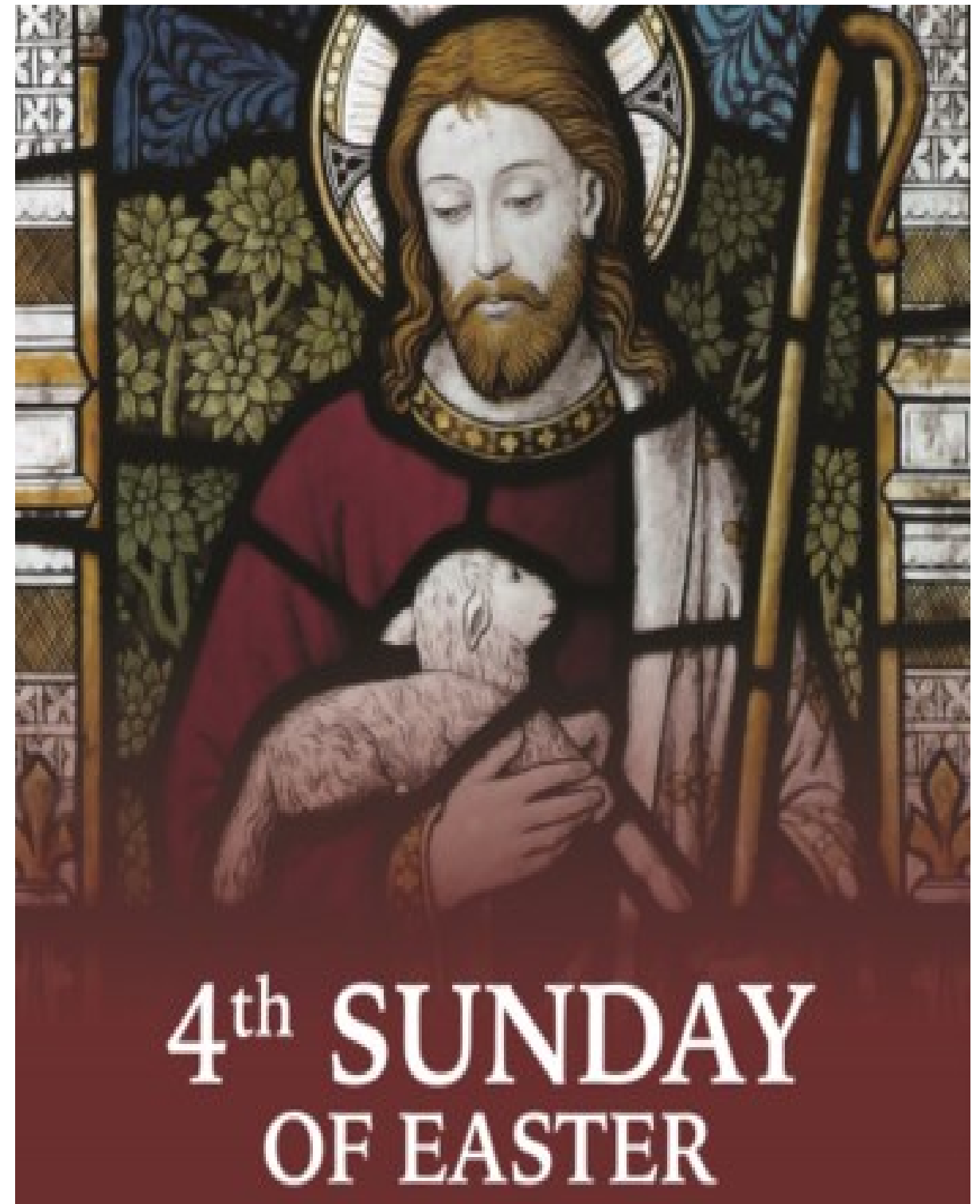
"Wherefore by their fruits you shall know them." Matthew 7:20

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.

Please notify the church office 732-350-2121 of any illnesses or hospitalizations.
If it is an emergency you may also reach Stefanie Bodine, Rector's Warden at 732-350-2904 or
Father Paul at his home 609-268-2864.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

Hymnal

The Word of God

205 Processional Hymn: “Good Christians all rejoice and sing”

Easter Acclamation

S280 Gloria

Collect of the Day

First Lesson: **Acts 9:36-43**

Psalm 23

Second Lesson: **Revelation 7:9-17**

Gradual: “Word of God, Speak” (Lyrics on next page)

Gospel: **John 10:22-30**

Sermon — The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr

The Nicene Creed

Prayers of the People Form VI

Confession and Absolution

The Peace

Offertory Anthem

Doxology: “All things come of thee O Lord”

HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer D

S120 Sursum Corda

S125 Sanctus

S140 Memorial Acclamation

The Lord’s Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

S152 Fraction Anthem

Communion Hymns:

325 “Let us break bread together”

664 “My Shepard will supply my need”

646 “The King of Love my Shepard is”

Post Communion Prayer

Blessing

Announcements

708 Recessional: “Savior like a Shepard, lead us”

Dismissal

MAY 8, 2022

8 & 10:15 am

BCP

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Save the Date on Upcoming Events

BIBLE STUDY GROUP-

“The Bible, What Speaks to your Heart”, Mondays at 11am,
for info contact

Roberta Mackey at (917) 696-6863

CHOIR PRACTICE-

Wednesdays at 10am

HEALING SERVICES-

Thursdays at 10:00 am

ORDER OF ST. LUKE-

2nd Thursday of each month, May 12th - after Healing
Service

VESTRY MEETING-

Monday, May 23rd @ 10am

WHITING GARDEN CLUB-

Whiting Garden Club meets next on June 1st at 10AM in the
Parish Hall call Stefanie if you plan to attend.

DO YOU NEED A PLEDGE CARD?

Please see our Treasurer, Gerrie Vergona.



ONLINE CHURCH SERVICES

Holy Eucharist are held every Sunday at 8AM and 10:15AM – join us in person or on zoom or you tube. Compline is now on **Monday, Wednesday, and Friday** at 7PM on **YouTube** and **Zoom**. All are welcome!



COME AND SEE!!!

LOOKING FOR WILLING AND AVAILABLE INDIVIDUALS TO HELP US IMPROVE OUR WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Do you like to read?

Are you the family sommelier?

Can you turn on a computer and do you have Internet access?

Do you love the way the church looks when we gather for worship?

Have you enjoyed worshipping from home?

Were you once an altar boy or girl?

Were you a teacher, pro or volunteer?

Have you been a Eucharistic minister or a member of the Altar Guild?

Would you like to try out these roles?

Then, in the spirit of many hands making light work, St Stephens needs you as part of the worship assistance and support team!

Join us for a practice and training day at the Church on June 11th at 10:00 am. Yes, we will be on Zoom and You-Tube.

RSVP to ssechurch@gmail.com or slclarke2005@yahoo.com by June 9th.

Collect of the Day

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. ...*Amen.*



First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 9:36-43

*N*ow in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Word of God speak;

Won't you pour down like rain
Washing my eyes to see
Your majesty
To be still and know
That You're in this place
Please let me stay and rest
In Your holiness

Psalm 23

Dominus regit me

- 1 **T**he LORD is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.
- 2 **H**e makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 **H**e revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 **T**hough I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 **Y**ou spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.
- 6 **S**urely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.



Second Reading

Revelation to John 7:9-17

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”



CHAPEL CLOTHES LINE ~ Sells well to groups meeting at our church. Now accepting 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. Our Summer clothes are now on clearance sale. We are very appreciative of your kind donations to, and purchases from, this fundraising project.

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 ~ We will be revisiting the Caregivers program soon after Lent. Please continue to use the mailbox in the Office to put in your hours. If you have any questions please feel free to contact JoAnn Smithson at 609-268-0821.

YOUR PERSONAL ESTATE PLANNING

Prayerfully consider making an endowment gift to St. Stephen's as part of your estate plan. Contact our Treasurer, *Gerrie Vergona* if interested.



COFFEE HOUR   **help wanted**

A new sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for 2022 - sign up! Everyone is so grateful for the delicious food that you share, your help, and they love chatting after the services. Any questions, contact *Stefanie* at (732) 350-2904

Our Daily Bread Pantry and Hungry Paws

Days and Hours of Operation are:

Tuesday 10 AM until 12:00 PM

Wednesday 10 AM until 12:00 PM

Our Daily Bread Pantry and Hungry Paws is made up of members of the **St. Stephen's Episcopal Church** community and other volunteers who assist in maintaining our pantry, provide food for the sick, the hungry and the needy. The food pantry is here to help those who have minimal funds to work with and come to us when they have a specific need for food. The **Our Daily Bread Pantry and Hungry Paws** through very generous donations is also able to provide pet food for dogs and cats. For further information please call: **Jim Jados, Director, Food Pantry at (732) 408-5948.**

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 from this valued fund. If you wish to contribute, please use the basket on the back table for donations



Order of Saint Luke

The Order of St. Luke meets on the second Thursday of each month-- May 12th, after the Healing Service.

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.

ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNION SERVICES

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



And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever!
Amen.”

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;

for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Holy Gospel

John 10:22-30

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."



Serving in the Liturgy today:

Lector 8:00 am	<i>Stefanie Bodine</i>
LEM 8:00 am	<i>Bill Bodine</i>
Altar Guild 8:00 am	<i>Debbie Fisher, Linda Chiappetta</i>
Ushers 8:00 am	<i>Glenn Mortimer, Bill Bodine</i>
Lector 10:15 am	<i>Kay Karlick</i>
LEM 10:15 am	<i>Robert Virtue, Gerrie Vergona</i>
Altar Guild 10:15 am	<i>Valerie Thompson, Karen Mauro</i>
Ushers 10:15 am	<i>Al Thompson, Valerie Thompson</i>

This day in the church year is traditionally called Good Shepherd Sunday. The image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd of his people was connected very early in the church's life with Holy Baptism. The Good Shepherd is the most common decoration in baptisteries in church buildings from the second and third centuries. This image was reinforced in the church's art, liturgy, and music by the Old Testament's use of the shepherd image to express the care God has for all people.

In the Book of Revelation, a portion of which is read this year on every Sunday of Easter, we hear today the description of the gathering of all the redeemed. Their white robes are the sign that they have been baptized, for in earlier times the newly baptized were clothed in white. This custom is preserved in many places with christening gowns. The redeemed rejoice, for Christ is in their midst as the Good Shepherd.

Our reading from Acts today describes the ongoing work of the risen Christ through the church. Peter raises Tabitha from death. The great excitement which the early Christians felt was their discovery that Jesus continues to live in his faithful people.

As in John's vision of the heavenly worship so in our Eucharistic gathering Christ the Good Shepherd stands in our midst leading us to the springs of the water of life.



Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary Candle is given to

The Glory of God

*In Memory of
Kathleen Molnar given by
her Daughter, Ruth Molnar*



Altar Flowers

*Altar Flowers are given to
the Glory of God*

*In Memory of
Robert Payne given by
Jonnibelle Yates*

*In Memory of
Robert Payne
from Rich & Joann Smithson*

*In Memory of
My sister, Pat Laursen
from Rich & Joann Smithson*

*In Memory of
Robert Payne given by
Al & Val Thompson*

*In Memory of
Warren Bruen given by
Al & Val Thompson*

