

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
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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.

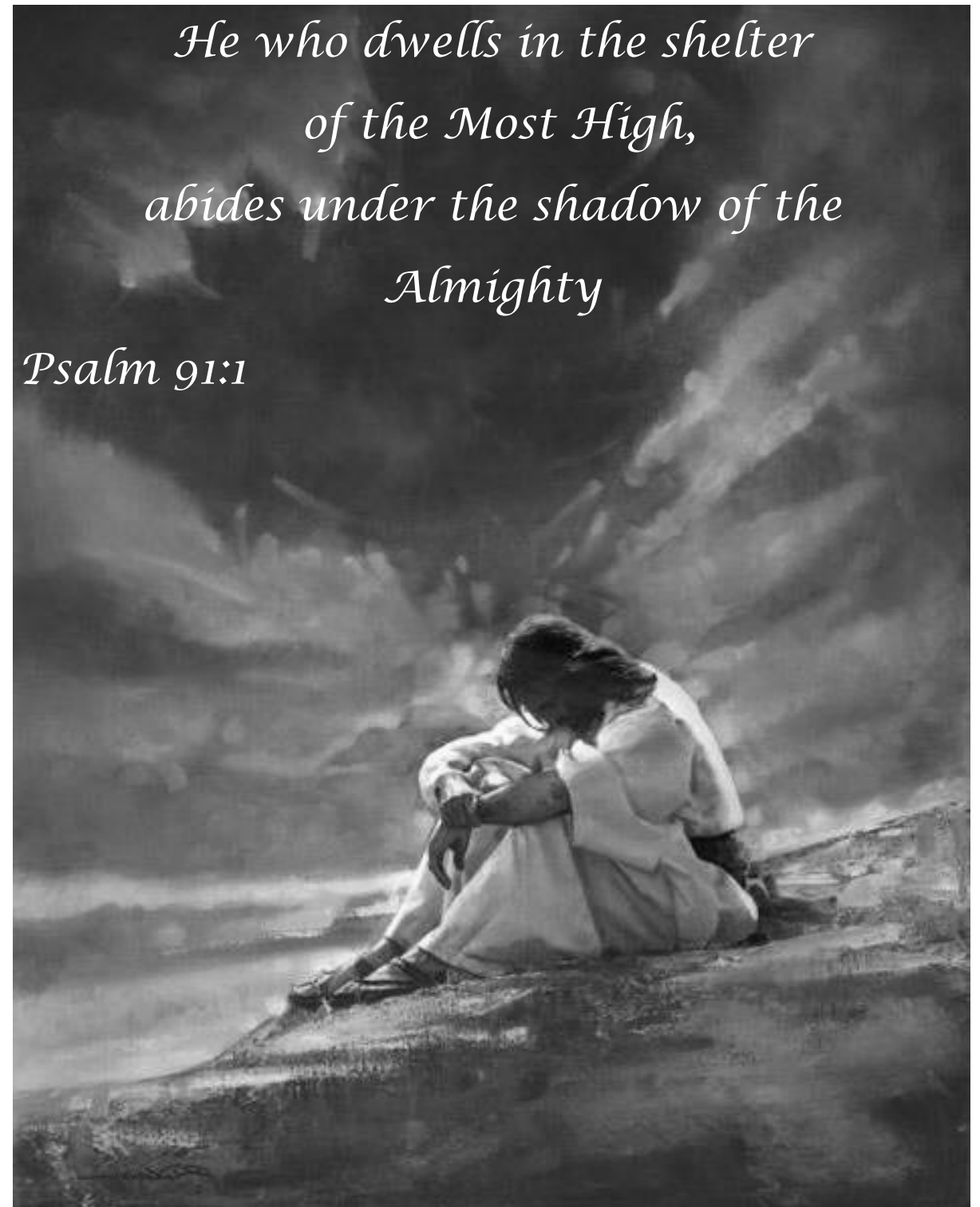
"Wherefore by their fruits you shall know them." Matthew 7:20

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.



FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I
Hymnal

The Word of God

MARCH 6, 2022 8 & 10:15am

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First Lesson: Deuteronomy 26:1-11	<i>Insert</i>
Psalm 91	<i>Lenten Booklet</i>
Second Lesson: Romans 10:8b-13	<i>Insert</i>
Gradual: <i>Verse</i>	<i>Lenten Booklet</i>
Gospel: Luke 4:1-13	<i>Insert</i>
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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, - March 10th after Healing Service

VESTRY MEETING-

Monday, March 28st @ 10am

WHITING GARDEN CLUB-

Whiting Garden Club meets next on March 2 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.

LENTEN SCHEDULES-

Available in the Narthex

CORNERED BEEF AND CABBAGE DINNER

The Men's Club, with the help of ECW, will have the delicious Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner on Saturday, March 12 beginning at 3PM-5PM. Tickets are \$15 each. Enjoy the usual items--corned beef, cabbage, carrots, potatoes, Irish soda bread, and delicious desserts. There will be door prizes, a treasure auction, and a 50/50. Call the office for tickets, or buy them on Sundays in the Narthex.



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!!!



LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

“Embracing the Uncertain”

Bible reflections on dealing with uncertainty

Every Tuesday, March 1st, at 11am and 5pm for the next Seven weeks during lent.

A sign up sheet is in the Narthex or call the office to reserve a book.

Dear Friends:

I am sending this request to you because I am in need of a living donor kidney. Presently, I do home dialysis every day for 9 hours each time. By getting a living donor, I would be able to lead a normal life again.

The donor does not have to be a match to me. St. Barnabas Hospital will match that donor kidney to someone, and they then find me a matching donor. It is a win, win for 2 people. The donor can be a complete stranger willing to do this unselfish act. I am praying for a special angel to help.

If you have any questions, please call me at (732) 330-6781, or the St. Barnabas Transplant Center at (973) 322-5346.

Thank you for your consideration

Pat Hayton

32 A Texas Boulevard

Whiting, NJ 08759

First Sunday in Lent

March 6, 2022

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever... Amen.

First Reading

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

“When you come into the land which the LORD your God gives you for an inheritance, and have taken possession of it, and live in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from your land that the LORD your God gives you, and you shall put it in a basket, and you shall go to the place which the LORD your God will choose, to make his name to dwell there. And you shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, ‘I declare this day to the LORD your God that I have come into the land which the LORD swore to our fathers to give us.’ Then the priest shall take the basket from your hand, and set it down before the altar of the LORD your God.

“And you shall make response before the LORD your God, ‘A wandering Aramean was my father; and he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number; and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. And the Egyptians treated us harshly, and afflicted us, and laid upon us hard bondage. Then we cried to the LORD the God of our fathers, and the LORD heard our voice, and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression; and the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great terror, with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which thou, O LORD, hast given me.’ And you shall set it down before the LORD your God, and worship before the LORD your God; and you shall rejoice in all the good which the LORD your God has given to you and to your house, you, and the Levite, and the sojourner who is among you.

Psalm 91

- 1** He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, *
abides under the shadow of the Almighty.
- 2** He shall say to the LORD,
"You are my refuge and my stronghold, *
my God in whom I put my trust."
- 9** Because you have made the LORD your refuge, *
and the Most High your habitation,
- 10** There shall no evil happen to you, *
neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.
- 11** For he shall give his angels charge over you, *
to keep you in all your ways.
- 12** They shall bear you in their hands, *
lest you dash your foot against a stone.
- 13** You shall tread upon the lion and adder; *
you shall trample the young lion and the serpent under your feet.
- 14** Because he is bound to me in love,
therefore will I deliver him; *
I will protect him, because he knows my Name.
- 15** He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; *
I am with him in trouble;
I will rescue him and bring him to honor.
- 16** With long life will I satisfy him, *
and show him my salvation.



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.

DIOCESAN CONVENTION MEETING (VIRTUAL)

Saturday, February 5th Online. Please contact Fr Paul or Stefanie Bodine with any questions.

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



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--March 10th, 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



Second Reading

Romans 10:8b-13

But what does it say? The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart (that is, the word of faith which we preach); because, if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For man believes with his heart and so is justified, and he confesses with his lips and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and bestows his riches upon all who call upon him. For, "every one who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved."

Holy Gospel

Luke 4:1-13

And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan, and was led by the Spirit for forty days in the wilderness, tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing in those days; and when they were ended, he was hungry. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone.'" And the devil took him up, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory; for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it shall all be yours." And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.'" And he took him to Jerusalem, and set him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here; for it is written, 'He will give his angels charge of you, to guard you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'" And Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'You shall not tempt the Lord your God.'" And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.



FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 6, 2022

Serving in the Liturgy today:

Lector 8:00 am	<i>Susan Quigley</i>
LEM 8:00 am	<i>Peter Quigley</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>Michael Munson</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>

On this first Sunday in Lent, the church's liturgy is designed to catch our attention, facing us with the most important issues of Christian commitment and living.

Today's scriptures present us with our solidarity with one another in Christ, and with God's people through the ages. We are part of a people with a story to tell and a song to sing. That story's beginning is recounted in the first reading today in the form of the ancient Israelite confession of faith. This is not read as an interesting account of the salvation of strangers. It is the story of God's first action in our salvation. We are a part of that people, having become members in our baptism. We are to begin our own story by remembering Abraham, our first ancestor in the faith, and by recounting the story of our brothers and sisters in the faith who were saved from Egyptian slavery.

The reading from Romans affirms our unity with the people of faith in all ages, regardless of status or race or culture.

Finally, in the story of the Lord's testing (temptation) we see Jesus as the beginning of the new Israel. The old Israel, in its wilderness wandering, failed these three tests—temptations—to use God merely as a means for acquiring food and power and riches. The scriptures Jesus quotes against Satan come from those three times in the story of Israel's wilderness experience. Israel's failure, which is part of our story, is turned around in Jesus and becomes a saving triumph for Israel, for us who are made one Body in Christ in Baptism and Eucharist, and for those who are preparing to be baptized at Easter.

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

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Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary Candle is given to

The Glory of God

In Memory of

*Charles Rotsaert by Stefanie and Bill
Bodine*

Altar Flowers

Altar Flowers are given to the

Glory of God

In Memory of

Sans Memorial

