

**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church**  
**180 Route 539, Whiting, NJ 08759**  
**Phone: 732-350-2121, Fax: 732-350-6000**  
**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 2021**

Stefanie Rotsaert, Rector's Warden  
Richard Smithson, Property Warden  
Debbie Fisher, Marge Pomykala, Peter Quigley  
Pat Russo, Maryann Payne, Dottie Kaster  
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.

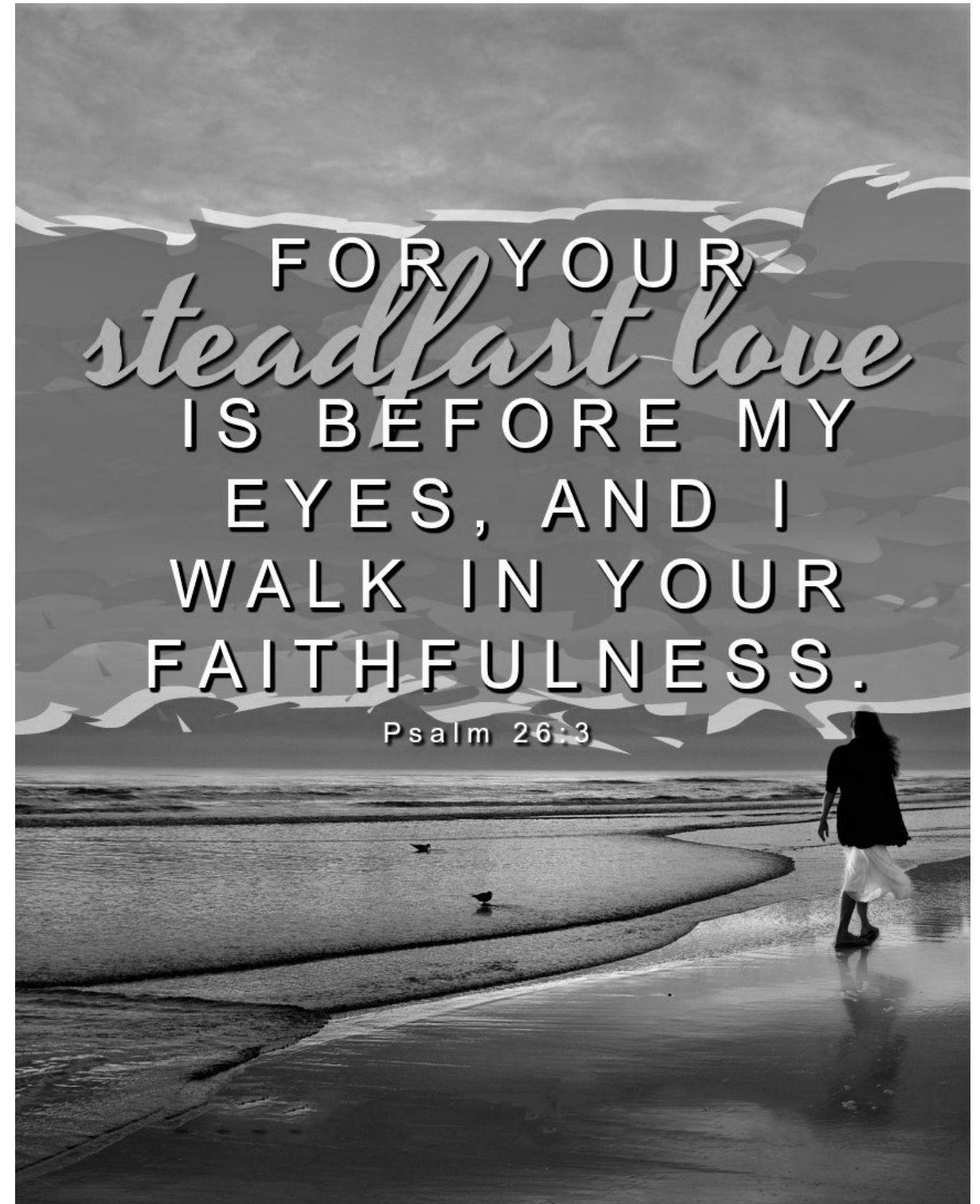
*"Wherefore by their fruits you shall know them." Matthew 7:20*

**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 Rotsaert, Rector's Warden at 732-350-2904 or Father Paul at his home 609-268-2864.



Save the Date on Upcoming Events

Hymnal	The Word of God	BCP
376	Processional Hymn: “ <i>Joyful, Joyful, We adore Thee</i> ”	
717	Patriotic Hymn: “ <i>Our Fathers’ God to Thee</i> ”	
	Open Acclamation	355
S102	Trisagion	
	Collect of the Day	Insert
	First Lesson: <b><i>Job 1:1, 2:1-10</i></b>	Insert
	<b><i>Psalm 26</i></b>	Insert
	Second Lesson: <b><i>Letter to the Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12</i></b>	Insert
	Gradual: “ <i>Word of God Speak</i> ”	
	Gospel: <b><i>Mark 10:2-16</i></b>	Insert
	Sermon — <i>The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.</i>	
	The Nicene Creed	358
	Prayers of the People Form VI	392
	Confession and Absolution	393
	The Peace	
	Offertory: Choir Anthem	
	Doxology: “ <i>All things come of Thee, O Lord</i> ”	
	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>	
	<b>The Great Thanksgiving</b>	
	Eucharistic Prayer A	361
S120	Sursum Corda	
S125	Sanctus	
S133	Memorial Acclamation	363
	The Lord’s Prayer	364
	Breaking of the Bread	
S152	Fraction Anthem	
	Communion Hymns:	
325	“ <i>Let Us Break Bread Together</i> ”	
458	“ <i>My Song is Love Unknow</i> ” (vs I, II, VII)	
679	“ <i>Surely it is God who Saves me</i> ”	
	Post Communion Prayer	365
	Blessing	
	Announcements	
685	Closing Hymn: “ <i>Rock of Ages</i> ”	
	Dismissal	

**BIBLE STUDY GROUP:**

“The Bible, What Speaks to your Heart”, will be held Mondays at 11am in the Parish Hall. For more info contact Roberta Mackey at (917) 696-6863

**CHOIR PRACTICE:**

Wednesdays @ 10:00 am

**HEALING SERVECES:**

Thursdays @ 10:00 am

**ORDER OF ST. LUKE:**

2nd Thursday of each month after Healing Service

**PINELAND SYMPHONIC BAND:**

Fridays @ 9:30 am (practice)

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD:**

Pick up a shoebox on the table in the Narthex.

**ST. FRANCIS DAY, BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS:**

Monday, October 4th after our 10:00 am Service.

**\$ DOLLAR AUCTION \$:**

Saturday October 9th at 11am, \$Auction starts at 12 pm

**ARTS & CRAFTS:**

Thursday October 21<sup>st</sup> from 10-12am & 1-3pm and is held every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month. See Gerry Vergona for more details

**CROPWALK:**

Sunday Oct, 17th 1:30PM at St. Stephen's, walkers needed. For info See *Stefanie Rotsaert*

**BOSCOV’S FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS:**

Wednesday October 20th at Store. Buy a coupon from Stefanie for \$5 each.

**25th ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE BIKES:**

Saturday, October 23rd, 12-4pm, Blessing will be at 2:00 pm Rain or Shine

**VESTRY MEETING:**

Monday, October 25th (4th Monday of each month except August)



FATHER PAUL  
WELCOMES YOU TO JOIN US FOR OUR  
25<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
*BLESSING OF THE BIKES*  
**SATURDAY OCTOBER 23<sup>RD</sup>**  
**2021**

**HOURS 12 TO 4 RAIN OR SHINE**

BIKES WILL BE BLESSED AT 2 pm

BY: *FATHER PAUL VAN SANT*

Donation \$15 per person

Proceeds to benefit St. Stephen's Ministry

**NO CHARGE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 10**

Ticket price includes Pork, Barbeque, Non-Alcoholic  
Beverages, Family's Welcome, Trophies

**There will be a Bike Show for Best Bike at the Blessing**  
**Our Address is**

**ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH**

***180 RT 539, WHITING, NJ 08759***

For info on where to purchase tickets & directions call the Church at:

**732-350-2121** (Mon-Thurs 10am to 2pm)

or e-mail us at [ssechurch@gmail.com](mailto:ssechurch@gmail.com)

**Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Proper 22**

**October 3, 2021**  
**8&10:15am**

**Collect of the Day**

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

**First Reading**

*Job 1:1, 2:1-10*

There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was blameless and upright, one who feared God, and turned away from evil. Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the LORD. And the LORD said to Satan, "Whence have you come?" Satan answered the LORD, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it." And the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil? He still holds fast his integrity, although you moved me against him, to destroy him without cause." Then Satan answered the LORD, "Skin for skin! All that a man has he will give for his life. But put forth thy hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face." And the LORD said to Satan, "Behold, he is in your power; only spare his life." So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD, and afflicted Job with loathsome sores from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. And he took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among the ashes. Then his wife said to him, "Do you still hold fast your integrity? Curse God, and die." But he said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women would speak. Shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

## Psalm 26

- 1 Give judgment for me, O LORD,  
for I have lived with integrity; \*  
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.
- 2 Test me, O LORD, and try me; \*  
examine my heart and my mind.
- 3 For your love is before my eyes; \*  
I have walked faithfully with you.
- 4 I have not sat with the worthless, \*  
nor do I consort with the deceitful.
- 5 I have hated the company of evildoers; \*  
I will not sit down with the wicked.
- 6 I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, \*  
that I may go in procession round your altar,
- 7 Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving \*  
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.
- 8 LORD, I love the house in which you dwell \*  
and the place where your glory abides.
- 9 Do not sweep me away with sinners, \*  
nor my life with those who thirst for blood,
- 10 Whose hands are full of evil plots, \*  
and their right hand full of bribes.
- 11 As for me, I will live with integrity; \*  
redeem me, O LORD, and have pity on me.
- 12 My foot stands on level ground; \*  
in the full assembly I will bless the LORD.



**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 do-  
nations 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 pur-  
pose.

**CARE GIVERS VOLUNTEERS** ~JoAnn Smithson is the Congregational Coordi-  
nator 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 609/268-0821.

### **COFFEE HOUR**

A new coffee hour sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. If you would like to share fruit, sand-  
wiches, quiche, baked goods, sign up and help us. Everyone is so grateful for your help. It is  
also nice to chat after the services. Any questions, contact Stefanie.

On Sunday, October 10 after the 10:15AM service, our coffee hour will be in honor of  
Anna and Joe Albaneses and their baby to be. Gifts are optional. Come join us

Thank you.

*Stefanie Rotsaert (732) 350-2904*



## **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 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--October 14, November 11, and December 9, 2021.after the Healing Service.

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## **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**

*Letter to the Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12*

In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets; but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He reflects the glory of God and bears the very stamp of his nature, upholding the universe by his word of power. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has obtained is more excellent than theirs. For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. It has been testified somewhere, "What is man that thou art mindful of him, or the son of man, that thou carest for him? Thou didst make him for a little while lower than the angels, thou hast crowned him with glory and honor, putting everything in subjection under his feet." Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. But we see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for every one. For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through suffering. For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified have all one origin. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying, "I will proclaim thy name to my brethren, in the midst of the congregation I will praise thee."

## **Holy Gospel**

*Mark 10:2-16*

And Pharisees came up and in order to test him asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of divorce, and to put her away." But Jesus said to them, "For your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man put asunder." And in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. And he said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another, commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery." And they were bringing children to him, that he might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it he was indignant, and said to them, "Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

## Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

The primary theme today in the Gospel is marriage. Here we are not to think simplistically of the varied forms of the human institution of marriage found in different periods of history. We are instead focused on the biblical understanding of God's will for marriage as a union between two people which creates a new, complex personality out of the two. Jesus' disapproval of divorce is clear and uncompromising. We may note that, in the words of Professor Reginald Fuller, "It is often the current institutionalized form of marriage that many people are really rejecting, not marriage as intended by God."

The first reading continues our exploration of the part of the Hebrew scriptures known as the Writings. Today we begin reading the Book of Job, a brief story that seeks to understand why bad things happen to good people. We are introduced to Job and to the strange wager between God and Satan that leads to the testing of righteous Job's faith.

The Letter to the Hebrews seems to have been intended particularly for Jewish Christians to assist them in understanding the work of Christ in images familiar to them. In today's passage, the full humanity of Jesus and his suffering and death are explained as essential to his role of redeeming all humanity, as illustrated by quotations from the psalms.

We find in our worship that the Christian message is a call to put aside the conventions of human society and to take up the new life of God's Kingdom. That new life calls us to rethink all aspects of our ways of living, even our views of marriage. Those who live in committed lifetime relationships must be certain that what they seek is the relationship God wills and not simply the conventional understanding of the world.

Our worship together is the clearest sign that we are responding to God's call to be different from the world even as we live in it. A gathering of people which welcomes everyone to a common table is not conventional. It is a sign of God's Kingdom.

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

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NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PROPER 22

Serving in the Liturgy today:

Lector 8:00 am

LEM 8:00 am

Altar Guild 8:00 am

Ushers 8:00 am

Lector 10:15 am

LEM 10:15 am

Altar Guild 10:15 am

Ushers 10:15 am

Greta Pearl

Stefanie Rotsaert

Mary Storey, Debbie Fisher, Dave Fisher

Mary Storey, Glenn Mortimer, Bill Bodine

Valerie Thompson

Robert Virtue

Valerie Thompson

Al Thompson, Valerie Thompson

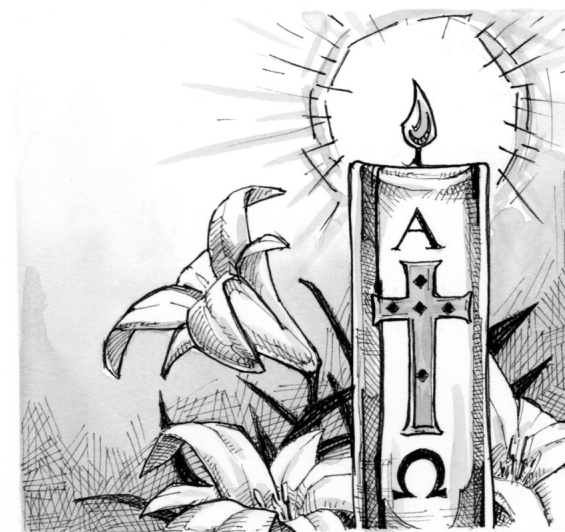
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### Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary Candle is given to

The Glory of God

**Sans Memorial**



### Altar Flowers

Altar Flowers are given to the

Glory of God

**Sans Memorial**

