

# 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. Reverend Dr. Sally J. French, Bishop  
The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr., Rector  
Greg Mathews, Parish Administrator  
Geraldine Vergona, Treasurer  
Esther Graham, Music Director  
Tom O'Brien, Sexton

## Wardens and Vestry 2024

Stefanie Bodine, Rector's Warden  
Richard Smithson, Property Warden  
Roberta Mackey, Maryann Payne, Robert Virtue  
Bill Bodine, Blanche Dwonch, Kay Karlick  
Tom Larson, Ann Solaequi, Geraldine Vergona  
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.

# Sunday of the Passion

## Palm Sunday



**PALM SUNDAY**  
**HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II**

**MARCH 24 2024**  
**8 & 10 am**

**Save the Date on Upcoming Events**



**Hymnal**

**The Word of God**

**BCP**

Liturgy of the Palms  
**Mark 14:32-15:47**

*Palm Sunday Booklet*  
*Palm Sunday Booklet*

Blessing and distribution of Palms

*Palm Sunday Booklet*

154 Processional Hymn: “*All glory, laud, and honor*”

*Palm Sunday Booklet*

Collect of the Day

*Palm Sunday Booklet*

First Lesson: **Isaiah 50: 4-9a**

*Palm Sunday Booklet*

**Psalm 22**

*Palm Sunday Booklet*

Second Lesson: **Philippians 2:5-11**

*Palm Sunday Booklet*

**The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark**

*Palm Sunday Booklet*

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

The Nicene Creed

358

Prayers of the People Form VI

392

The Peace

360

Offertory Anthem: “*The Power of the Cross*”

Doxology: “*All things come of thee O Lord*”

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**The Great Thanksgiving**

Eucharistic Prayer A

361

S120 Sursum Corda

S125 Sanctus

362

S133 Memorial Acclamation

363

The Lord’s Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

S157 Agnus Dei

Communion Hymns:

325 “*Breaking of the Bread*”

158 “*Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended*”

168 “*O sacred head, sore wounded*”

Post Communion Prayer

366

Blessing

Announcements

313 Recessional: “*Let thy blood in mercy pour*”

Dismissal

**WOMAN’S BIBLE STUDY GROUP**

“The Bible, What Speaks to your Heart”, every other Monday, at 11am for info contact: *Roberta Mackey at 917-696-6863*

**CHOIR PRACTICE**

Please see *Esther Graham* if you are interested in being a part of our joyous hymns and songs.

**HEALING SERVICES**

Join us every Thursday at 10 am for an experience that will help you find comfort, support, and spiritual healing. We welcome everyone with open hearts and look forward to sharing an enriching time with you.

**OSL**

Our next meeting is April 11th after the 11am healing service

**WHITING GARDEN CLUB**

We will be meeting in Crestwood Village 5 Clubhouse on April 3rd at 10AM as the Church will be closed. (Located at 325 Schoolhouse Rd, Whiting, NJ 08759)

**VESTRY MEETING**

Monday, March 25th @ 10am.

**HEALING RETREAT at Christ Church**

Healing Retreat on Saturday April 6 at Christ Church, 415 Washington St., Toms River from 8:30AM-3:15PM. Bring a brown bag lunch, beverages provided. Free will offering. Celebrate plays the music. "The Courage to Love" with The Rev. Charles Lochner. Contact: Donna at (732) 349-2705 or Cathy at (732) 458-1229. Talk to Stefanie or Bill Bodine if you have any questions. All are welcome.

**Trivia Gathering For Amanda**

Saturday April 20, 2024 @ 2PM

\$20-Tickets and a 50/50 raffle

**BIBLE STUDY “The Passion in the Four Gospels”**

Please join us for the conclusion of our Lenten Bible study on March 25th - 4pm. Will be having one last Bible study to discuss the Passion of our Lord in all four Gospels.

**ECW**

Bake-less Bake Sale donations totaled \$318. Thank you to everyone that supported our fundraiser. Your help is appreciated.

**RADA ORDERS**

Contact Joy Frey and use the catalog to order Rada as soon as possible.



**CHAPEL CLOTHESLINE** ~ We are now accepting **SPRING** 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. Please save donations for September Dignified Junk Sale until summer.

Sincerely, Linda Chiappetta

**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.



A new sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for 2024 - 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

**Memorial Garden For Pets**

Keep an eye out for our next Memorial Service Date.

For all who are looking for a special place to lay your beloved pets to rest.

Please contact our office Monday–Thursday 9am-1:30pm  
for more info (732) 350-2121



Today's liturgy is in two parts. The Liturgy of the Palms celebrates Jesus' entry into Jerusalem at the beginning of the week of his Passion. After we hear Matthew's account of that event, the celebrant gives thanks over the branches of Palm, which we carry. In many congregations, a procession with branches follows as we enact the event that led directly to Good Friday.

The second part of today's liturgy changes from triumph to tragedy as it focuses on the suffering and death of Jesus. The account of the Lord's Passion is read from Matthew's Gospel so that we may have a fuller sense of sharing with him in his redemptive acts of dying and rising for our salvation.

The first reading is from Isaiah. This is one of the servant songs in which God's servant is rejected by the people but he will be vindicated by God. The reading from Philippians is an early Christian hymn announcing that Jesus' Lordship is revealed not in power and divinity, but in self-giving love to the point of dying for us, his beloved.

Today we enter into the celebration of the mighty acts of God that brought about our redemption. During this week we will rediscover what God has done for us, rediscover the meaning of our baptism, rediscover the meaning of our sharing in Eucharist.

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

Lector 8:00 am	<i>Susan Quigley</i>
LEM 8:00 am	<i>Bill Bodine, Susan Clarke</i>
Altar Guild 8:00 am	<i>Linda Chiappetta</i>
Ushers 8:00 am	<i>Glenn Mortimer, Mary Storey, Bill Bodine</i>
Lector 10:00 am	<i>Ricki Minix</i>
LEM 10:00 am	<i>Bob Virtue, Bill Bodine, Dottie Kaster</i>
Altar Guild 10:00am	<i>Ann Solaequi, Karen Marou, Linda Chiappetta</i>
Ushers 10:00 am	<i>Al Thompson, Valerie Thompson</i>

*Good Friday Ecumenical Service*

Will be held on **Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 2<sup>PM</sup>** at the  
**Community Reformed Church**  
on Lacey Road, Whiting, located next to Crestwood Manor  
and Whiting Station.

*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*



*Order of Saint Luke*

The Order of St. Luke meets on the second Thursday of each month– January 11th, 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
Aristicare	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



*Daughters of the British Empire*

The (DBE) is a 501(c) (3) non-profit American society of women of British or Commonwealth of Nations birth, heritage or ancestry. We share and promote our heritage while supporting local charities and our senior living facilities across the United States.

To learn more about our local chapter, here in Ocean County,  
please email *Joan Saunders* – [njstateorganizer@gmail.com](mailto:njstateorganizer@gmail.com)



COME VISIT OUR OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, March 27th, starting at 10:30 am

Join the ladies of the Duchess of Cambridge chapter for a 'Cuppa Tea with the DBE' and lunch. Inviting ladies with British (Irish, Welsh, Scottish, English) or Commonwealth of Nations heritage or ancestry