

**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 2023**

Stefanie Bodine, Rector's Warden  
Peter Quigley, Property Warden  
Shelagh Bluni, Marge Pomykala, Joanne Soriano  
Dottie Kaster, Maryann Payne, Robert Virtue  
Bill Bodine, Barbara Marshal, Kay Karlick  
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.

# Second Sunday in Easter





<i>Hymnal</i>	<i>The Word of God</i>	<i>BCP</i>
535	Processional Hymn: “ <i>Ye Servants Of God</i> ” Easter Acclamation	299
S280	Gloria Collect of the Day First Lesson: <i>Acts 2:14a,22-32</i> <b>Psalm 16</b> Second Lesson: <i>1 Peter 1:3-9</i> Gradual: “ <i>Word of God, speak</i> ” ( <i>Lyrics below</i> ) Gospel: <b>John 20:19-31</b>	Insert Insert Insert Insert
	Sermon — <i>The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.</i> The Nicene Creed Prayers of the People Form VI Confession and Absolution The Peace Announcements Offertory Anthem Doxology: “ <i>All things come of thee O Lord</i> ”	358 392 393 Insert

***HOLY COMMUNION***

	Eucharistic Prayer D	372
S120	Sursum Corda	
S125	Sanctus	
S140	Memorial Acclamation The Lord’s Prayer Breaking of the Bread	368 364
S151	Fraction Anthem Communion Hymns: 325 “ <i>Let us break bread together</i> ” 372 “ <i>Praise To The Living God</i> ” 457 “ <i>Thou Art The Way By Thee Alone</i> ”	
	Post Communion Prayer Blessing	365
232	Recessional: “ <i>By all your Saints still striving</i> ” Dismissal	

***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  
 word of God speak*

**BIBLE STUDY GROUP** \*

“The Bible, What Speaks to your Heart”, Mondays at 11am-12:30pm  
for info contact : *Roberta Mackey at 917-696-6863*

**CHOIR PRACTICE** \*

10am every Wednesday. Please see *Esther Graham* if you are interested in being a part of our joyous hymns and songs.

**HEALING SERVICES** \*

Thursdays at 10:00 am

**OSL WILL BE MEETING**

On Thursday May 11th after the Healing Service

**THYROID SUPPORT GROUP MEETING**

Monday, May 8th @10 AM

**VESTRY MEETING**

Monday, April 24th @ 10am

**THE NEXT STEWARDSHIP LEGACY SUMMIT MEETING**

Saturday, April 29.

**PLEDGE CARDS**

If you filled in a pledge card, your envelopes are in the Narthex on the shelf, right side before you enter the church. If you need envelopes, see our treasurer, Gerrie Vergona.

**FAMILY FUN DAY DANCE SPECTACULAR, COMING JUNE 4th!**

We are having an organizational meeting of the family fun day dance spectacular team on **Sunday April 23rd** after Easter after the later service in the Parish Hall. If anyone wants to attend to find out what we're planning to do to please come to the meeting. Hope to see you there!



## ONLINE CHURCH SERVICES

Holy Eucharist are held every Sunday at 8AM and 10:15AM – join us in person or on zoom or you tube. See our schedule of services for Lent and Holy Week located in the Narthex or online at [www.ststephenswhitingnj.org](http://www.ststephenswhitingnj.org)

## Memorial Garden For Pets

(Cremains Only)

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

Please contact our office Monday–Thursday 9am–2pm for and more

(732) 350-2121

The Memorial Garden for Pets Committee will meet after the  
**10AM service on Sunday, April 16**

## A Legacy Summit For Estate & Will Planning

Please join us for a day of will & estate planning for your final expenses on  
Saturday April 29th from 10am-2pm!

## Next public relations team meeting

Sunday April 16th!

## 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.**

## *Collect of the Day*

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## *First Reading*

*Acts 2:14a,22-32*

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, “You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,  
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;  
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
moreover my flesh will live in hope.  
For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,  
or let your Holy One experience corruption.  
You have made known to me the ways of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,  
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

# Psalm 16

Conserva me, Domine

- 1 **Protect** me, O God, for I take refuge in you; \*  
I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord,  
my good above all other."
- 2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, \*  
upon those who are noble among the people.
- 3 But those who run after other gods \*  
shall have their troubles multiplied.
- 4 Their libations of blood I will not offer, \*  
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.
- 5 O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; \*  
it is you who uphold my lot.
- 6 My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; \*  
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.
- 7 I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; \*  
my heart teaches me, night after night.
- 8 I have set the LORD always before me; \*  
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.
- 9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; \*  
my body also shall rest in hope.
- 10 For you will not abandon me to the grave, \*  
nor let your holy one see the Pit.
- 11 You will show me the path of life; \*  
in your presence there is fullness of joy,  
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.



**CHAPEL CLOTHES LINE** ~ Sells well to groups meeting at our church. Now accepting **Summer** 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 winter 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** ~ Caregivers volunteers, is a faith base organization that offer assistance to the elderly. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Caregivers at 732-505-2273 Ext 213



## **COFFEE HOUR**

A new sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for 2023 - 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





## Order of Saint Luke

The Order of St. Luke meets on the second Thursday of each month--May 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



## *Second Reading*

*1 Peter 1:3-9*

**B**lessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith-- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire-- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

## *Holy Gospel*

*John 20:19-31*

**W**hen it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.



## TECH THURSDAY

Tech Thursday meets monthly. Next meeting is on April 20th @ 12:30pm. Bring your tablet, computer, phone, ipad, etc. to the meeting. Estelle Pizzuti and Bill Bodine will assist you.

## 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)



Today we begin the second of the seven weeks of our celebration of Christ's resurrection.

This Sunday is always the time we hear the story of Jesus' appearance to his disciples on Easter Day and then again on the following Sunday when Thomas (who had been absent the previous week) refused to believe them unless he saw the Lord with his own eyes and touched the scars from his crucifixion.

This account is packed with the signs of resurrection that still find expression in the liturgy and the life of the church. The Lord's greeting, "Peace be with you," is characteristic of most of his risen appearances. The gospel writers' care in noting that these appearances were on the first day of the week reflects the early Church's decision to move the day of worship to Sunday. Not only do the apostles see the risen Lord but also he gives the Holy Spirit to them, marking Sunday as the Spirit's day. Above all, he passes on to them the power he received from his Father: the authority to forgive sins.

The other readings today are two different sorts of witness to the meaning of the resurrection: the first, from Acts, is Peter's sermon about the resurrection when he is on trial before the council after being arrested for the very same sort of preaching he does here. John's vision of the last days, in the Book of Revelation, begins with the salutation from the risen Lord who has made us his royal priesthood and the servants of God.

Our celebration of Christ's victory over sin and death has only begun. Week after week, we will explore more deeply our new life as the baptized people of God. Week after week, the Lord will reveal himself to us in the breaking of the bread.

*Serving in the Liturgy today:*

*April 16, 2023*

Lector 8:00 am	<i>Linda Chiappetta</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>Valerie Thompson</i>
LEM 10:00 am	<i>Bob Virtue, Bill Bodine, Susan Clarke</i>
Altar Guild 10:00am	<i>Valerie Thompson, Karen Mauro</i>
Ushers 10:00 am	<i>Al Thompson, Valerie Thompson</i>

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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  
Charles Rotsaert by  
Stefanie and Bill Bodine*

*In Memory of  
My Husband Robert Pearl On our 75th  
Anniversary by Greta Pearl*

