

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

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.



**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST PROPER 22
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II**

10/2/ 2022
8 am & 10 am

Save the Date on Upcoming Events

Hymnal	The Word of God	BCP
551	Processional Hymn: “ <i>Rise up, ye saints of God</i> ”	
	Open Acclamation	355
S102	Trisagion	
	Collect of the Day	<i>Insert</i>
	First Lesson: Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4	<i>Insert</i>
	Psalm 37	<i>Insert</i>
	Second Lesson: 2 Timothy 1:1-14	<i>Insert</i>
	Gradual: “Word of God, Speak” (<i>Lyrics Below</i>)	<i>Insert</i>
	Gospel: Luke 17:5-10	<i>Insert</i>
	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	360
	Offertory Anthem “ <i>In your house oh Lord</i> ”	
	Doxology: “ <i>All things come of thee O Lord</i> ”	

HOLY COMMUNION

	The Great Thanksgiving	
	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> ”	
671	“ <i>Amazing Grace</i> ”	
541	“ <i>Come, labor on</i> ”	
	Post Communion Prayer	365
	Blessing	
	Announcements	
535	Recessional: “ <i>Ye servants of God, your master proclaim</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, for info contact
This weeks title: ...Led by, Roberta Mackey

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

ORDER OF ST. LUKE

2nd Thursday of each month, October 13th - after Healing Service

VESTRY MEETING

Monday, October 24th @ 10am

THYROID SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

October 10th @10AM

STEWADRSHIP BIBLE STUDY

Will be led by Fr. Paul for on the next two Tuesdays, October 4th and 11th at 11AM. Sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

MEDICARE INFORMATIONAL SEMINAR

Friday October 14, 2022 1pm
St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church in our Parish Hall. Refreshments will be provided. A Sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex to properly accommodate for refreshments

The Rev. Josh Acton

The North American Director of OSL, will be joining us on Saturday, October 15 at 10AM for a healing service. A sign up sheet in the Narthex so we know how many to prepare for.

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!!!



UTO ~ or the United Thank Offering is a worldwide program that has existed for over 100 years. The blue boxes and envelopes remind us each day what we are thankful for, what God has given us, and our prayers help others as well. Monies collected from July to September have been given to the Diocesan ECW Treasurer at the Annual Diocesan ECW Meeting and UTO In gathering on Saturday, September 24 at St. David's, Cranbury. The meeting was also held on Zoom and You Tube. Our Bishop Chip officiated at this event which probably is the last Diocesan ECW event he will attend before he retires. More information in the next issue.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD ~ Shoeboxes are available in the Narthex to fill with school supplies, toys, games, puzzles, art supplies, books, dolls, trucks, cars to share with children in need. An extra box is available for items or extra items that wouldn't fit in your box. Attach the label and your check to help ship it to the children. Deadline is in November and they will go to their next collection site before being shipped out. Barbara Marshall is the Chair. Contact her at 732-778-2628

The Bishop is coming! Rescheduled date!

We welcome the Right Reverend William H. (Chip) Stokes,
to St. Stephen's!

Sunday October 9th, 2022 at 10:15am

ONE SERVICE ONLY

For the purpose of confirmation and reception

a light luncheon along with a sheet cake coffee, tea, water will be offered for the Bishops visit on Sunday Oct 9th after the 10:15 am service. Only One service that day

A sign up sheet will be in the Narthex for # of people attending, very important so we know how much food is needed

And a separate sheet for what sides you may bring to share with everyone

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

Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4

The oracle of God which Habakkuk the prophet saw.
O LORD, how long shall I cry for help,
and thou wilt not hear?
Or cry to thee "Violence!"
and thou wilt not save?

Why dost thou make me see wrongs
and look upon trouble?
Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.
So the law is slacked
and justice never goes forth.
For the wicked surround the righteous,
so justice goes forth perverted.

I will take my stand to watch,
and station myself on the tower,
and look forth to see what he will say to me,
and what I will answer concerning my complaint.

And the LORD answered me:

"Write the vision;

make it plain upon tablets,
so he may run who reads it.

For still the vision awaits its time;
it hastens to the end—it will not lie.

If it seem slow, wait for it;
it will surely come, it will not delay.

Behold, he whose soul is not upright in him shall fail,
but the righteous shall live by his faith.

Psalm 37:1-10

A Psalm of David

- 1** Fret not yourself because of the wicked,
be not envious of wrongdoers!
- 2** For they will soon fade like the grass,
and wither like the green herb.
- 3** Trust in the LORD, and do good;
so you will dwell in the land, and enjoy security.
- 4** Take delight in the LORD,
and he will give you the desires of your heart.
- 5** Commit your way to the LORD;
trust in him, and he will act.
- 6** He will bring forth your vindication as the light,
and your right as the noonday.
- 7** Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him;
fret not yourself over him who prospers in his way,
over the man who carries out evil devices!
- 8** Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath!
Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil.
- 9** For the wicked shall be cut off;
but those who wait for the LORD shall possess the land.
- 10** Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more;
though you look well at his place, he will not be there.



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 ~ 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 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

ST. STEPHENS PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Will be meeting on this Sunday October 23rd after both 9am and 10:15am services to start public relations with our parish online and throughout or community. We are looking for dedicated and organized ideas to help our St. Stephens grow and inform our parishioners on upcoming events and services. For more info, or, if you would like to have a meeting other than on the scheduled dates, please contact *Bill Bodine, Chair*

50/50, \$2 a ticket, Drawing on NOVEMBER 5th

Contact the church office and GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!!!



Order of Saint Luke

The Order of St. Luke meets on the second Thursday of each month--September 8th, 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

Stewardship Meeting

Greetings all!

Our stewardship slate of speakers is now complete, and thanks to all who are willing to participate this year!

After going online with project resource the last couple of weeks we came up with an idea to share. Wanted to have a fireside fall chat about stewardship on Sunday October 30th during the coffee hours and we can have a pow wow and talk stewardship! Why not bring your thoughts and ideas about stewardship to coffee hour! It's a great and informative way to exchange ideas about stewardship and to gather other people's ideas as well what they're thinking of.

If you have any other ideas and suggestions please let me know. I'm always looking for ways to improve the program. We have a very talented slate this year and our consecration Sunday speaker is Canon Phyllis Jones from the diocese of NJ. Consecration Sunday is Sunday November 20th.

Our program is nearly set and we always look for more to do as it's a year round effort!

Sunday October 30th

During both coffee hours

Bring your thoughts and ideas..

And enjoy some fall refreshments

Like apple cider, cider and pumpkin doughnuts and assorted pastries.

We would be delighted to hear your Stewardship suggestions to improve the program.



For more information contact *Bill Bodine* at 848-210-4206

Second Reading

2 Timothy 1:1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God according to the promise of the life which is in Christ Jesus,

To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

I thank God whom I serve with a clear conscience, as did my fathers, when I remember you constantly in my prayers. As I remember your tears, I long night and day to see you, that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you. Hence I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of timidity but a spirit of power and love and self-control.

Do not be ashamed then of testifying to our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel in the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not in virtue of our works but in virtue of his own purpose and the grace which he gave us in Christ Jesus ages ago, and now has manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, and therefore I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that Day what has been entrusted to me. Follow the pattern of the sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus; guard the truth that has been entrusted to you by the Holy Spirit who dwells within us.

Holy Gospel

Luke 17:5-10

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" And the Lord said, "If you had faith as a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this sycamine tree, 'Be rooted up, and be planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

"Will any one of you, who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep, say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and sit down at table'? Will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, and gird yourself and serve me, till I eat and drink; and afterward you shall eat and drink'? Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that is commanded you, say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.' "



Today's liturgy focuses on faith. In the gospel reading, the disciples ask Jesus to increase their faith. His response is to teach that faith is expressed by being God's obedient servants, not doing so in expectation of a reward.

The prophet Habakkuk, writing at a time when powerful enemies threatened the very existence of Israel, also speaks of faith. After describing the terrible power of their foes, he brings a message from God that the day is coming when God will intervene on the people's behalf. The prophet says that, while the proud will be destroyed, the righteous will live by their faith.

The second reading is from the second letter to Timothy. The writer, after reminding Timothy of his heritage of a faithful family, speaks of his own vocation. Paul as a herald, apostle, and teacher has persevered, certain that God will be faithful to the promise to all people.

We gather as people on pilgrimage toward God. Like our forebears, the outcome of our journey cannot be seen now, but we trust that it will bring us to our true home with God. Faith is not merely a vague yearning for God, nor is it summed up in believing the correct doctrines about God. It is remaining true to God's call as we persevere in the journey as obedient servants.

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>Peter Quigley</i>
Altar Guild 8:00 am	<i>Debbie Fisher, Dave Fisher</i>
Ushers 8:00 am	<i>Glenn Mortimer, Bill Bodine</i>
Lector 10:15 am	<i>Valerie Thompson</i>
LEM 10:15 am	<i>Susan Clarke, Gerrie Vergona</i>
Altar Guild 10:15 am	<i>Valerie Thompson, Karen Mauro</i>
Ushers 10:15 am	<i>Al Thompson, Valerie Thompson</i>

Sanctuary Candle

*The Sanctuary Candle is given to
The Glory of God*

*In Memory of
Our Children Kim and Michael,
from Dottie and Bill Kaster*



Altar Flowers

*Altar Flowers are given to
the Glory of God*

*In Honor of
Sans Memorial*

