

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 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.

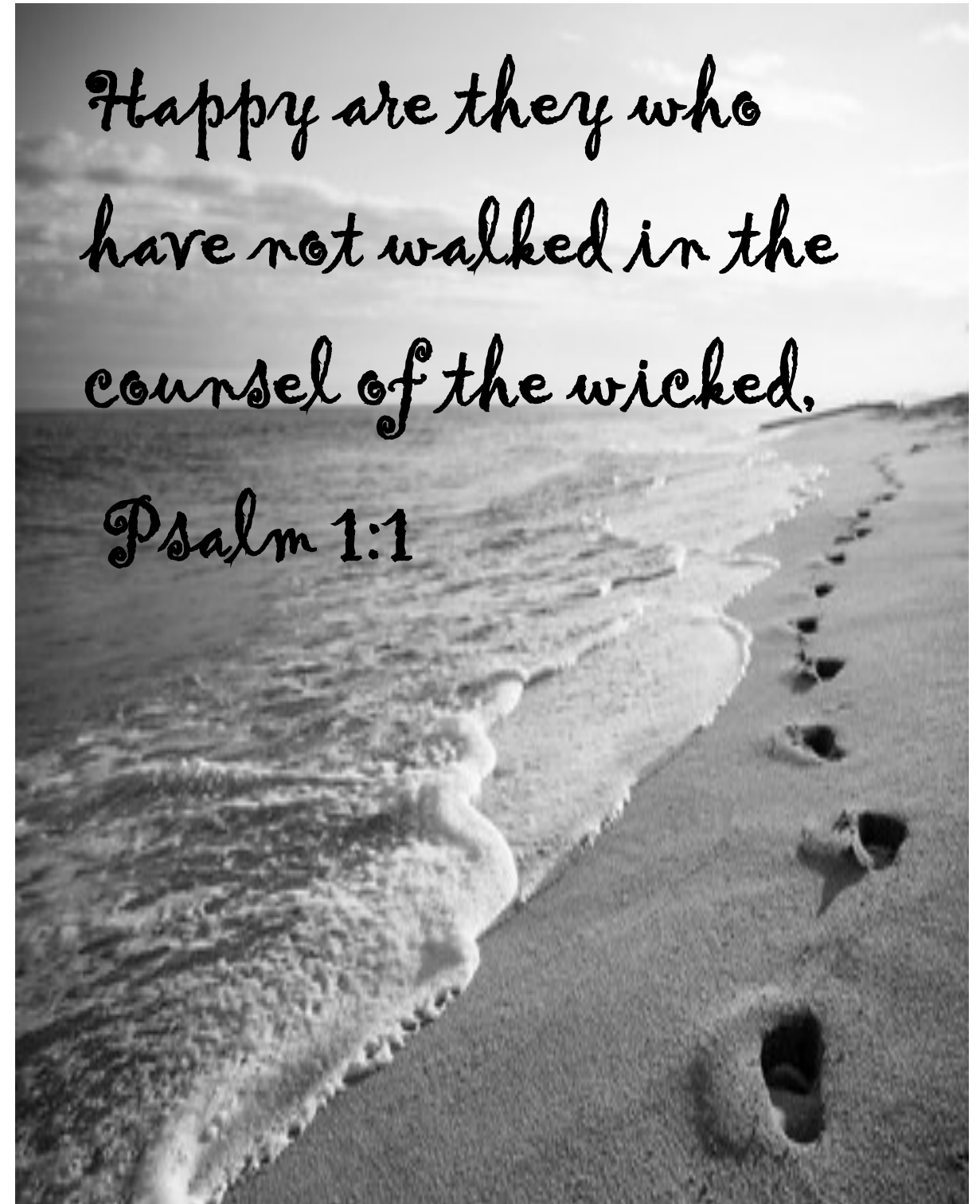
"Wherefore by their fruits you shall know them." Matthew 7:20

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.



**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
PROPER 20
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II**

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

8 & 10 AM

Hymnal	The Word of God	BCP
379	Processional Hymn: <i>"God is love let heaven adore Him"</i> (vs I & II)	
717	Patriotic Hymn: <i>"My country Tis of Thee"</i> (vs IV)	
	Opening Acclamation	355
S102	Trisagion	
	Collect of the Day	Insert
	First Lesson: Proverbs 31:10-31	Insert
	Psalm 1	Insert
	Second Lesson: Letter of James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a	Insert
	Gradual: <i>"Word of God Speak"</i>	Insert
	Gospel: Mark 9:30-37	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: <i>Choir Anthem</i>	Insert
	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>	
660	<i>"O Master let me walk with Thee"</i>	
408	<i>"Sing praise to God who dwells above"</i>	
	Post Communion Prayer	365
	Blessing	
	Announcements	
482	Closing Hymn: <i>"Lord of all hopefulness"</i> (vs IV)	
	Dismissal	

**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
PROPER 20**

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

Serving in the Liturgy today:

Lector 8:00 am	Bill Bodine
LEM 8:00 am	Stefanie Rotsaert
Altar Guild 8:00 am	Debbie Fisher, David Fisher
Ushers 8:00 am	Mary Storey, Glenn Mortimer, Bill Bodine
Lector 10:00 am	Robert Virtue
LEM 10:00 am	Susan Clarke
Altar Guild 10:00 am	Valerie Thompson
Ushers 10:00 am	Al Thompson, Valerie Thompson

Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary Candle is given to

The Glory of God

Sans Memorial



Reminder!

Healing Services -Thursdays @ 10am
Boscov's Friends helping Friends
coupons for sale at \$5 each Wednesday,
October 20 at the store.

Operation Christmas Child
pick up a shoebox Cropwalk on Sunday
October 17 1:30PM at St. Stephen's walkers
and sponsors needed

Altar Flowers

Altar Flowers are given to the

Glory of God

Sans Memorial



Mark Your Calendars!

25th Annual Blessing of the Bikes
Saturday, October 23rd, 12-4pm
Blessing @ 2pm Rain or Shine

Whiting Garden Club
Will return October 6th @ 10AM

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

Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

In today's Gospel reading Jesus again predicts his death and resurrection. The disciples fail to understand and dispute among themselves which of them is the most important. Jesus tells them that the highest status in his Kingdom is reserved for those who serve. This is a call to pattern our lives on his life in self-giving love.

Again our first reading is from the Wisdom writings. Most biblical descriptions of righteous living describe a righteous man. Today's passage describes righteousness in the life of a woman. Like all of God's righteous people, she is noted for her faithfulness to God and for her good works for the poor.

Again we read from the Epistle of James. After describing the characteristics of those who are at peace with God, the author states that strife, jealousy, and estrangement are the products of allying ourselves with the world rather than with God.

When the Church gathers to worship, it acts out its allegiance to God and its service to the world. In the action of the liturgy we express our service to each other. That liturgical action is the pattern for our daily living as God's friends and as fellow servants with Christ to all people. The liturgy, then, is extended beyond the doors of the church building into all of life.

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

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**Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 20**

**September 19, 2021
8 & 10 AM**

Collect of the Day

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

First Reading

Proverbs 31:10-31

A good wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels. The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain. She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life. She seeks wool and flax, and works with willing hands. She is like the ships of the merchant, she brings her food from afar. She rises while it is yet night and provides food for her household and tasks for her maidens. She considers a field and buys it; with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard. She girds her loins with strength and makes her arms strong. She perceives that her merchandise is profitable. Her lamp does not go out at night. She puts her hands to the distaff, and her hands hold the spindle. She opens her hand to the poor, and reaches out her hands to the needy. She is not afraid of snow for her household, for all her household are clothed in scarlet. She makes herself coverings; her clothing is fine linen and purple. Her husband is known in the gates, when he sits among the elders of the land. She makes linen garments and sells them; she delivers girdles to the merchant. Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come. She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. She looks well to the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: "Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all." Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates.

Psalm 1

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the LORD, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when
judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

Second Reading

Letter of James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good life let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. This wisdom is not such as comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, without uncertainty or insincerity. And the harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace. What causes wars, and what causes fightings among you? Is it not your passions that are at war in your members? You desire and do not have; so you kill. And you covet and cannot obtain; so you fight and wage war. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and he will draw near to you.

Holy Gospel

Mark 9:30-37

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise." But they did not understand the saying, and they were afraid to ask him. And they came to Caper'na-um; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you discussing on the way?" But they were silent; for on the way they had discussed with one another who was the greatest. And he sat down and called the twelve; and he said to them, "If any one would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all." And he took a child, and put him in the midst of them; and taking him in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me."