

**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 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.

*Pour into our hearts  
your greatest gift,  
Love.*



**SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY  
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II**

**FEBRUARY 20, 2022  
8 & 10:15am**

<b>Hymnal</b>	<b>The Word of God</b>	<b>BCP</b>
686	Processional Hymn: “Come thou fount of every blessing”	
717	“My Country, 'Tis of Thee”	
	Open Acclamation	355
	Opening Sentence	
S280	Gloria!	356
	Collect of the Day	Insert
	First Lesson: <b>Genesis 45:3-11, 15</b>	Insert
	<b>Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42</b>	Insert
	Second Lesson: <b>1 Corinthians 15:35-38,42-50</b>	Insert
	Gradual: “Word of God Speak” (lyrics on next page)	
	Gospel: <b>Luke 6:27-38</b>	Insert
	Sermon — <i>The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.</i>	
	The Nicene Creed	358
	Prayers of the People (Form III)	387
	Collect at the Prayers (# 5)	395
	Confession and Absolution	360
	The Peace	332
	Offertory:	
	Doxology: “All things come of Thee, O Lord”	
	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>	
	Eucharistic Prayer “B”	367
S120	Sursum Corda	
S125	Sanctus	
	<i>The Lord’s Prayer</i>	364
S152	Breaking of the Bread	
	Communion Hymns:	
325	“Let Us Break Bread Together”	
	“You called me by name” (insert)	
656	”Blest are the pure of heart”	
	Post Communion Prayer	366
	Announcements	
	Blessing	
390	Closing Hymn: “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”	
	Dismissal	

**Save the Date on Upcoming Events**

**BIBLE STUDY GROUP-**

“The Bible, What Speaks to your Heart”, Mondays at 11am, for info contact Roberta Mackey at (917) 696-6863

**CHOIR PRACTICE-**

Wednesdays at 10am

**HEALING SERVICES -**

Thursdays at 10:00 am

**ORDER OF ST. LUKE-**

2nd Thursday of each month, - March 10th after Healing Service

**VESTRY MEETING-**

Monday, February 28st @ 10am

**WHITING GARDEN CLUB -**

Whiting Garden Club meets next on March 2 at 10AM in the Parish Hall call Stefanie if you plan to attend.

**DO YOU NEED A PLEDGE CARD?**

Please see our Treasurer, Gerrie Vergona.

**BLESSING OF THE BIKES, “PLANNING MEETING”**

February 23th, 11am at Susan Quigley’s house located at, 2001 Elizabeth Ave, Whiting.

Anyone who is interested in attending and helping with the Planning, please call Susan for more details at 732-849-1707

**LENTEN SCHEDULES-**

Available in the Narthex



## 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!!!



## LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

*“Embracing the Uncertain”*

Bible reflections on dealing with uncertainty

Beginning Tuesday, March 1st, at 11am and 5pm and every Tuesday after for the next Seven weeks during lent.

A sign up sheet is in the Narthex or call the office to reserve a book.

*Dear Friends:*

*I am sending this request to you because I am in need of a living donor kidney. Presently, I do home dialysis every day for 9 hours each time. By getting a living donor, I would be able to lead a normal life again.*

*The donor does not have to be a match to me. St. Barnabas Hospital will match that donor kidney to someone, and they then find me a matching donor. It is a win, win for 2 people. The donor can be a complete stranger willing to do this unselfish act. I am praying for a special angel to help.*

*If you have any questions, please call me at (732) 330-6781, or the St. Barnabas Transplant Center at (973) 322-5346.*

*Thank you for your consideration*

*Pat Hayton*

*32 A Texas Boulevard*

*Whiting, NJ 08759*

*Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany;*

*February 20, 2022*

## *Collect of the Day*

O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing; Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever...*Amen.*

## *First Reading*

*Genesis 45:3-11, 15*

And Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph; is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence.

So Joseph said to his brothers, “Come near to me, I pray you.” And they came near. And he said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; and he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Make haste and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not tarry; you shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, and your flocks, your herds, and all that you have; and there I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come; lest you and your household, and all that you have, come to poverty.’

And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him

### *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

## *Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42*

### *Noli aemulari*

- 1 Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; \*  
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
- 2 For they shall soon wither like the grass, \*  
and like the green grass fade away.
- 3 Put your trust in the LORD and do good; \*  
dwell in the land and feed on its riches.
- 4 Take delight in the LORD, \*  
and he shall give you your heart's desire.
- 5 Commit your way to the LORD and put your trust in him, \*  
and he will bring it to pass.
- 6 He will make your righteousness as clear as the light \*  
and your just dealing as the noonday.
- 7 Be still before the LORD \*  
and wait patiently for him.
- 8 Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, \*  
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
- 9 Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; \*  
do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.
- 10 For evildoers shall be cut off, \*  
but those who wait upon the LORD shall possess the land.
- 11 In a little while the wicked shall be no more; \*  
you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.
- 12 But the lowly shall possess the land; \*  
they will delight in abundance of peace.
- 41 But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the LORD; \*  
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.
- 42 The LORD will help them and rescue them; \*  
he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,  
because they seek refuge in him.



**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** ~ We will be revisiting the Caregivers program sometime after our annual meeting on January 30th. Please continue to use the mailbox in the Office to put in your hours. If you have any questions please feel free to contact JoAnn Smithson at 609-268-0821.

### **COFFEE HOUR**



help wanted



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



## 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.**

### 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--March 10th, 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

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 Corinthians 15:35-38,42-50*

But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" You foolish man! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And what you sow is not the body, which is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual, which is first but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven. I tell you this, brethren: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

## *Holy Gospel*

*Luke 6:27-38*

"But I say to you that hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To him who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from him who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to every one who begs from you; and of him who takes away your goods do not ask them again. And as you wish that men would do to you, do so to them.

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

"Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For the measure you give will be the measure you get back."



On these Sundays after the Epiphany, the liturgy brings before us Jesus' manifestation as Savior. He is revealed first by his own life and ministry, and especially in his death and resurrection. He is also revealed in subsequent times and in all places through us, his body, the Church.

Because of this Epiphany theme, we have been reading every Sunday from 1 Corinthians. That congregation had become a hotbed of contention and factionalism. In seeking to call them back into unity, Paul gives the fullest expression found in the Scriptures of the true nature of the Church. Paul calls those who believe they are wiser than the other members are and those who have divided into groups supporting various leaders, to recognize that they are united in one Body and to act accordingly.

In the first reading, we hear the basic principles of conduct toward others that Jesus reiterated in his teaching. He calls us into a kind of living that is far different from normal worldly life. The hard sayings that we hear today present us with the way of living that is to characterize those who are expecting God's Kingdom. It is not in a legalistic following of these sayings as rules, but in grasping the underlying principle of them that we become signs of God's Reign. That principle is to depend upon God rather than on the world for the model of behavior we are to follow.

Christ, manifested to us in Word and Sacrament, is God's model for us. More importantly, as we gather in Eucharist as his Body to meet him, his Spirit conforms our lives to his life. As we continue to grow in Christ, his life will shine forth more strongly through us.

*Serving in the Liturgy today:*

Lector 8:00 am	<i>JoAnne Smithson</i>
LEM 8:00 am	<i>Richard Smithson</i>
Altar Guild 8:00 am	<i>Debbie Fisher, Linda Chiappetta</i>
Ushers 8:00 am	<i>Glenn Mortimer, Bill Bodine</i>
Lector 10:15 am	<i>Valerie Thompson</i>
LEM 10:15 am	<i>Robert Virtue</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**

*Charles Rotsaert by Stefanie and Bill Bodine*



*Altar Flowers*

Altar Flowers are given to the

Glory of God

**In Memory of**

*Virginia Clarke by Sandy Gaskill*

**In Memory of**

*My cat "Allura", by Sandy Gaskill*

