

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.

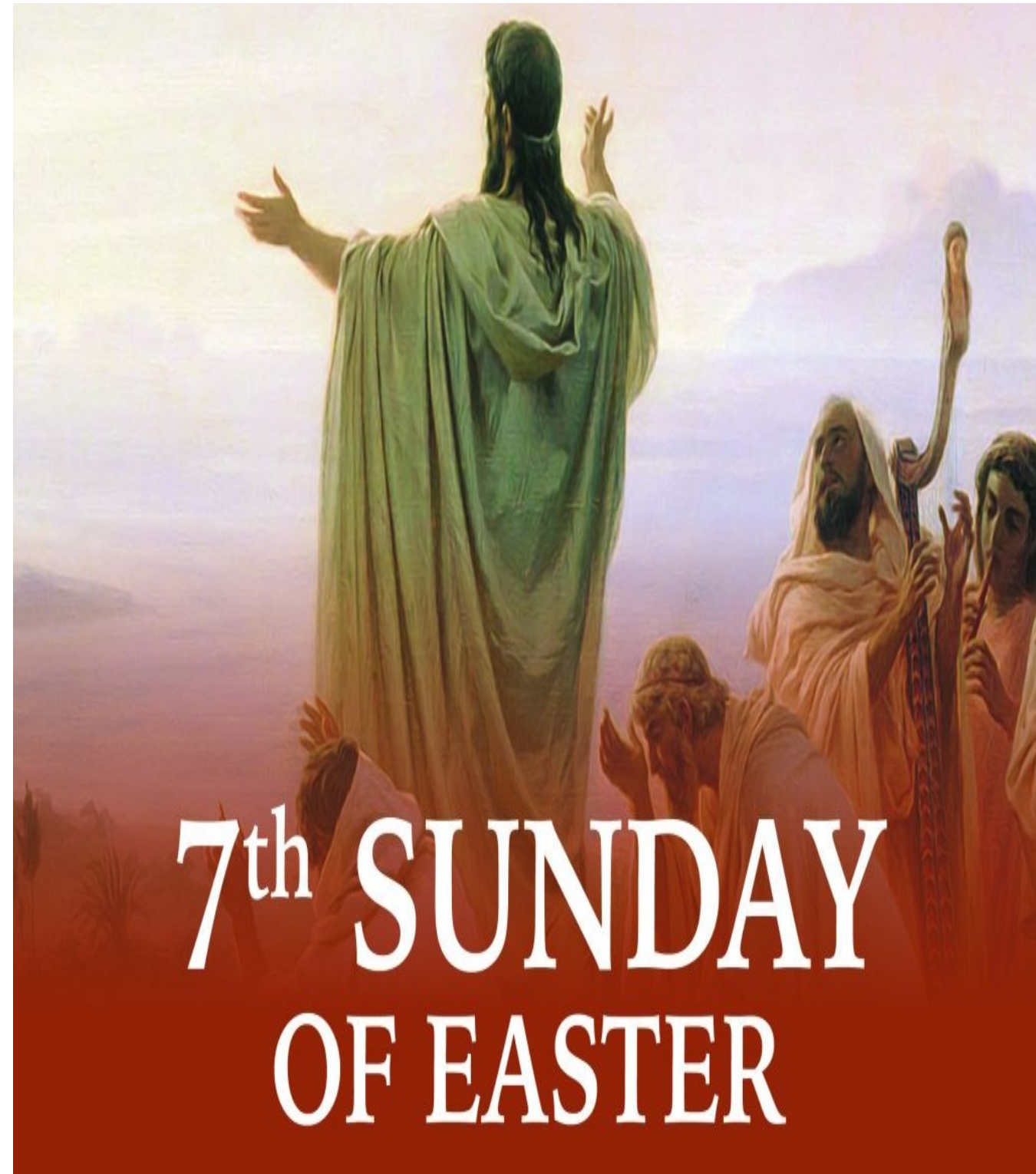
"Wherefore by their fruits you shall know them." Matthew 7:20

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.



SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

Hymnal

The Word of God

542 Processional Hymn: “Christ is the world’s true light”

Easter Acclamation

S280 Gloria

Collect of the Day

First Lesson: **Acts of the Apostles 16:16-34**

Psalms 97

Second Lesson: **Revelation to John 22:12-14,16-17,20-21**

Gradual: “Word of God, Speak” (Lyrics on next page)

Gospel: **John 17:20-26**

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

The Nicene Creed

Prayers of the People (Form VI)

Confession and Absolution

The Peace

Offertory Anthem

Doxology: “All things come of thee O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee”

HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer D

S120 Sursum Corda

S125 Sanctus

S140 Memorial Acclamation

The Lord’s Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

S152 Fraction Anthem

Communion Hymns:

325 “Let us break bread together”

450 “All hail the power of Jesus’ name”

497 “How bright appears the Morning Star”

Post Communion Prayer 365

Blessing

Announcements

460 Recessional: “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!”

Dismissal

MAY 29, 2022

8 & 10:15 am

BCP

355

Insert

Insert

Insert

Insert

Insert

Insert

358

392

393

372

373

375

364

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

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, June 9th - after Healing Service

VESTRY MEETING-

Monday, June 27th @ 10am

WHITING GARDEN CLUB-

Whiting Garden Club meets next on June 1st at 10AM in the Parish Hall call Stefanie if you plan to attend.

FELLOWSHIP AND FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE-

June 12th Following the 10:15 am Service .

The MEN'S CLUB and ECW are planning a Roast Chicken Dinner

Saturday, June 4, 2022 from 3-5PM. Enjoy roast chicken, red potatoes, beans, carrots, tossed salad with dressings, rolls and butter, beverages (coffee, tea, water, soda) , and our delicious homemade desserts. In addition, door prizes, treasure auction, and a 50/50 will be available. All for \$15 per person. Call the Church At (732)-350-2121 Monday—Thursday, 9am –2pm, for tickets.



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!!!



LOOKING FOR WILLING AND AVAILABLE INDIVIDUALS TO HELP US IMPROVE OUR WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Do you like to read?

Are you the family sommelier?

Can you turn on a computer and do you have Internet access?

Do you love the way the church looks when we gather for worship?

Have you enjoyed worshipping from home?

Were you once an altar boy or girl?

Were you a teacher, pro or volunteer?

Have you been a Eucharistic minister or a member of the Altar Guild?

Would you like to try out these roles?

Then, in the spirit of many hands making light work, St Stephens needs you as part of the worship assistance and support team!

Join us for a practice and training day at the Church on June 11th at 10:00 am. Yes, we will be on Zoom and You-Tube.

RSVP to ssechurch@gmail.com or slclarke2005@yahoo.com by June 9th.

Collect of the Day

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting... *Amen.*

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 16:16-34

With Paul and Silas, we came to Philippi in Macedonia, a Roman colony, and, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas.

(Continued on next page)

Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

Psalm 97

Dominus regnavit

- 1 The LORD is King;
let the earth rejoice; *
let the multitude of the isles be glad.
- 2 Clouds and darkness are round about him, *
righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.
- 3 A fire goes before him *
and burns up his enemies on every side.
- 4 His lightnings light up the world; *
the earth sees it and is afraid.
- 5 The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the LORD, *
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
- 6 The heavens declare his righteousness, *
and all the peoples see his glory.
- 7 Confounded be all who worship carved images
and delight in false gods! *
Bow down before him, all you gods.
- 8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, *
because of your judgments, O LORD.
- 9 For you are the LORD,
most high over all the earth; *
you are exalted far above all gods.
- 10 The LORD loves those who hate evil; *
he preserves the lives of his saints
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
- 11 Light has sprung up for the righteous, *
and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.
- 12 Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, *
and give thanks to his holy Name.



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 soon after Lent. 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.

YOUR PERSONAL ESTATE PLANNING

Prayerfully consider making an endowment gift to St. Stephen's as part of your estate plan. Contact our Treasurer, *Gerrie Vergona* if interested.



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--June 9th, 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
Aristo Care	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

Revelation to John 22:12-14,16-17,20-21

At the end of the visions I, John, heard these words:

"See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

"It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come."

And let everyone who hears say, "Come."

And let everyone who is thirsty come.

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

Holy Gospel

John 17:20-26

Jesus prayed for his disciples, and then he said. "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

"Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."



Today we begin the final week of celebrating the victory Christ won over sin and death at Easter.

There were three aspects to that victory: Jesus' resurrection, his ascension into heaven, and his sending the Holy Spirit. Last Thursday the church celebrated the Ascension and in today's liturgy it is commemorated again. However, added to that is the theme of waiting for the Holy Spirit to come upon the church, empowering it for ministry.

Today's gospel reading is a portion of the "high priestly prayer" of Jesus for all his followers. This prayer, which he offered on the night before his death, was fulfilled at Easter. That unity between him and us for which he prayed was accomplished in the resurrection, ascension, and giving of the Spirit. We become united in his Spirit and his love by means of Holy Baptism and Holy Eucharist.

In our reading from Acts today, we hear how powerfully God's Spirit was at work in Paul and his friends. He and Silas were rescued from prison by an earthquake. As a result, the jailer was so impressed that he listened to their message, believed, and was baptized along with his family. The second reading is the concluding verses of Revelation in which the Lord's promise to return is anticipated.

Today's liturgy, then, looks forward to next Sunday when we celebrate God's presence with us in the Holy Spirit and the Spirit's gifts to us, equipping us to make Christ known to all people.

*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	Joann Smithson
LEM 8:00 am	Richard Smithson
Altar Guild 8:00 am	Valerie Thompson, Ann Solaequi
Ushers 8:00 am	Glenn Mortimer, Bill Bodine
Lector 10:15 am	Valerie Thompson
LEM 10:15 am	Stefani Bodine, Ann Solaequi
Altar Guild 10:15 am	Valerie Thompson, Ann Solaequi
Ushers 10:15 am	Al Thompson, Valerie Thompson



Sanctuary Candle

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

*In Memory of
Kathleen Molnar given by
her mother, Ruth Molnar*



Altar Flowers

*Altar Flowers are given to
the Glory of God*

*In Memory of
Diane Anderson
from Roberta Mackey*

*In Memory of
Robert Payne
from Sheila Tannenbaum*

*In Memory of
Robert Payne
from Rich & Joann Smithson*

*In Memory of
My sister, Pat Laursen
from Rich & Joann Smithson*

*In Memory of
Robert Payne given by
Al & Val Thompson*

*In Memory of
Warren Bruen given by
Al & Val Thompson*

