

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
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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.

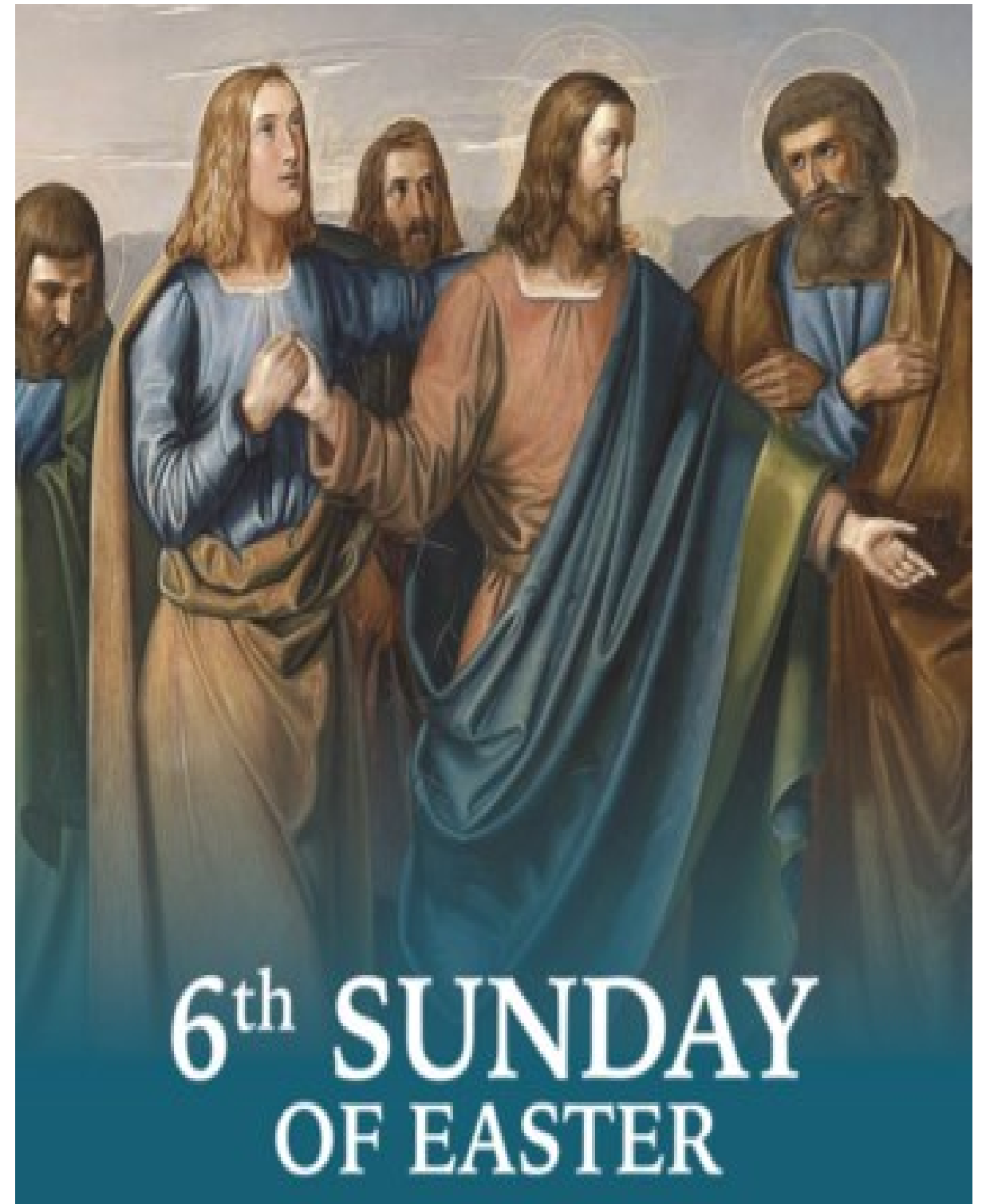
"Wherefore by their fruits you shall know them." Matthew 7:20

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.



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

Hymnal

The Word of God

518 Processional Hymn: “Christ is made the sure foundation”

Easter Acclamation

S280 Gloria

Collect of the Day

First Lesson: **Acts of the Apostles 16:9-15**

Psalm 67

Second Lesson: **Revelation to John 21:10, 22-22:5**

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

Gospel: **John 14:23-29**

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”

537 “Christ for the world we sing”

405 “All things bright and Beautiful”

Post Communion Prayer

Blessing

Announcements

400 Recessional: “All creatures of our God and King”

Dismissal

MAY 22, 2022

8 & 10:15 am

BCP

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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, May 23rd @ 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.

DO YOU NEED A PLEDGE CARD?

Please see our Treasurer, Gerrie Vergona.

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, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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 of the Apostles 16:9-15

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

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 67

Deus misereatur

1 May God be merciful to us and bless us, *
show us the light of his countenance and come to us.

2 Let your ways be known upon earth, *
your saving health among all nations.

3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, *
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations upon earth.

5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

6 The earth has brought forth her increase; *
may God, our own God, give us his blessing.

7 May God give us his blessing, *
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of 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 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.



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--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 21:10, 22-22:5

In the spirit the angel carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day-- and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

Holy Gospel

John 14:23-29

Jesus said to Judas (not Iscariot), "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."



Serving in the Liturgy today:

Lector 8:00 am	<i>Stefanie Bodine</i>
LEM 8:00 am	<i>Bill Bodine</i>
Altar Guild 8:00 am	<i>Valerie Thompson, Karen</i>
Ushers 8:00 am	<i>Glenn Mortimer, Bill Bodine</i>
Lector 10:15 am	<i>Greg Hartline</i>
LEM 10:15 am	<i>Susan Clarke, Barbara Marshall</i>
Altar Guild 10:15 am	<i>Valerie Thompson, Karen</i>
Ushers 10:15 am	<i>Al Thompson, Valerie Thompson</i>

The liturgy today continues to be concerned with exploring the consequences of Christ’s resurrection and our new life in him through baptism and Eucharist.

Today’s gospel reading is a portion of the discourses between Jesus and the disciples on the evening before his crucifixion. Here Jesus talks about the union between himself and the Father. This union is shared with us so that we can say with St. Paul, “not I, but Christ in me.” The source of that union is the Holy Spirit given us in Baptism. The ultimate result of this union is peace; in Hebrew, *Shalom*. Shalom is the restored unity of the creation with God, and the resultant reconciliation between all peoples.

In the first reading, Paul, Silas, Timothy, and Luke come to Philippi, the first time the gospel moves from Asia Minor to Europe. There Paul encounters a woman who worshipped God although she was a Gentile. After hearing Paul proclaim the resurrection of Jesus, she and her household were baptized and her house became Paul’s center of ministry there and quite likely the home of the church in that city.

It is not the created universe that is the ultimate destiny of the human race but the new, perfect city of God’s Kingdom. John, in today’s reading from the Revelation, envisions the perfection and peace of that Kingdom.

Shalom—the peace and wholeness of God’s Spirit—is our destiny and our present reality. The peace and unity of God’s reign is revealed in the inclusiveness of the church as people of every race and nation are called by God. In the Eucharist, we have the foretaste of the new life in the holy city prepared for us by God.



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*

