

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

180 Route 539, Whiting, NJ 08759

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ssechurch@gmail.com

www.ststephenswhitingnj.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 —email: pvansant@gmail.com

Gerianne Murphy Treasurer—email: ssechurch.treasurer@gmail.com

Sandra Gaskill, Assistant Treasurer —email: ssechuch.assisttr.com

Esther Graham, Music Minister

Colleen Clover, Parish Administrator—email: ssechurch@gmail.com

Tom O'Brien, Sexton

Wardens and Vestry 2020

Stefanie Rotsaert, Rector's Warden

Richard Smithson, Property Warden

Lillian Fink, Marge Pomykala, Peter Quigley

Pat Russo, Randy Walton, Dottie Kaster

Bill Bodine, Tom Larson, Sam Mauro

Jo Ann 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.

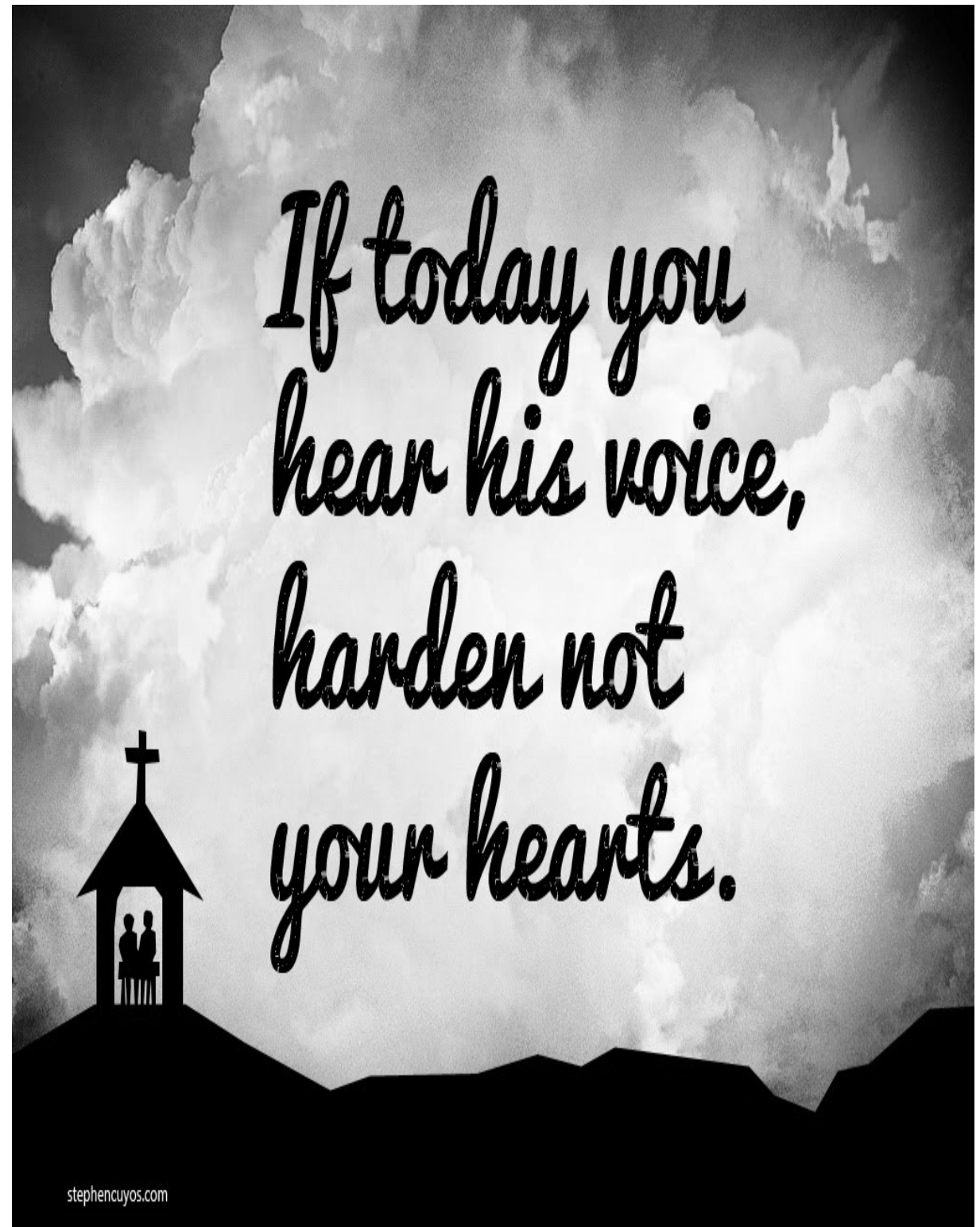
To Report Illness, Hospitalization, etc.

Greta Pearl for prayer requests: 732-350-7584

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.



THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

**HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I
Hymnal**

The Word of God

690	Processional Hymn: “ <i>Guide me, Oh Thou Great Jehovah</i> ”	
	Opening Acclamation	319
	Confession	320
S91	Kyrie	324
	Collect of the Day	Insert
	First Lesson: <i>Book of Exodus 17:1-7</i>	Insert
	<i>Psalms 95</i>	Lenten Booklet
	Second Lesson: <i>Letter to the Romans 5:1-11</i>	Insert
	Gradual Verse	Lenten Booklet
	Gospel: <i>John 4:5-42</i>	Insert
	Sermon — The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.	
	The Nicene Creed	327
	Prayers of the People	328
	The Peace	332
	Announcements	
	Offertory Anthem:	
	Doxology: “All things come of thee O Lord”	
	HOLY COMMUNION	
	The Great Thanksgiving	
	Eucharistic Prayer I	333
S112	Sursum Corda	
S113	Sanctus	
	The Lord’s Prayer	336
	Breaking of the Bread	337
S157	Agnus Dei	
	Communion Hymns:	
	“ <i>Worthy is the Lamb</i> ”	Insert
658	“ <i>As Long as the Deer</i> ”	
685	Post Communion Hymn “ <i>Rock of Ages</i> ”	
	Post Communion Prayer	339
	Blessing	688
	Recessional: “ <i>Jesus Keep me Near the Cross</i> ”	Insert
	Dismissal	

MARCH 15, 2020

8 AM & 10 AM

Third Sunday in Lent

MARCH 15, 2020

Serving in the Liturgy today:

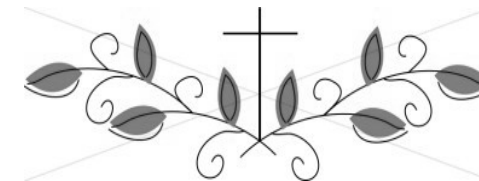
Lector 8:00 AM	Peter Quigley
LEM 8:00 AM	Bill Bodine
Altar Guild 8:00 AM	Mary Storey, Betty Carino, Debbie Fisher
Ushers 8:00 AM	Mary Storey, Glenn Mortimer, Bill Bodine, Peter Quigley
Lector 10:00 AM	Valerie Thompson
LEMs 10:00 AM	Richard Woods, Susan Clarke
Altar Guild 10:00 AM	Barbara Lavinio, Margaret Poper
Ushers 10:00 AM	Al Thompson, Jim Mason

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF

March 15, 2020 - March 21, 2020

Today	Holy Eucharist	8:00 am & 10:00 am
	AA Meeting	8:00 pm
Monday	Office Open	9:00 am—2:00 pm
Tuesday	Closed AA Meeting	2:00 pm
		2:00 pm
Wednesday	Closed AA Meeting	3:00 pm
	<i>Choir Practice</i>	10:00 am
Thursday	Healing Service	10:00 am
Friday	Pineland Symphonic Band	9:30 am
Saturday	AA Meeting	8:00 pm

Everyone is welcome to come to the coffee hour after worship
 All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion at our
 Lord’s Table, regardless of your church affiliation. We encourage you to
 share with us in this sacrament.



Memorials

In Memory of:

Frances Barton
Glenda Roedell
Glenda Roedell
Joan Axon
Stanley Joy
Stanley Joy
Barry Youmans

Donated by:

Greta Pearl
Greta Pearl
Linda Demas
Greta Pearl
Greta Pearl
Stefanie Rotsaert
Lois Talarowski



Saint Stephens

INDOOR FLEA MARKET

Saturday, April 25th

9 am-1 pm

Are you doing some spring cleaning? Our indoor flea market gives us a good chance to sell those odds and ends and *white elephants* we find cluttering our home. Tables are available for 10.00

To reserve a table call JoAnn Smithson

@ 732-408-5351

Third Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2020

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Reading

Book of Exodus 17:1-7

All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Reph'idim; but there was no water for the people to drink. Therefore the people found fault with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you find fault with me? Why do you put the LORD to the proof?" But the people thirsted there for water, and the people murmured against Moses, and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?" So Moses cried to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." And the LORD said to Moses, "Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel; and take in your hand the rod with which you struck the Nile, and go. Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, that the people may drink." And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the name of the place Massah and Mer'ibah, because of the faultfinding of the children of Israel, and because they put the LORD to the proof by saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

A couple of reminders.....

- **Come to Bible Study on Tuesday, March 3rd at Noon and again at 5:00 for Soup & Study. Our topic will be "Women of the Bible"**
- **Get your own Liturgical calendar for \$3.00 This calendar is a Church Year Guide with Eucharistic readings for the year at your fingertips.**
- **Purchase a Super 50/50 Tickets. Drawing is March 31, 2020**
- **Blessing of the Bikes Meeting Tuesday March 17, 2020 @ 4 PM**



Psalm 95

- 1 Come, let us sing to the LORD; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
- 2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
- 3 For the LORD is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
- 4 In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
- 5 The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.
- 6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the LORD our Maker.
- 7 For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!
- 8 Harden not your hearts,
as your forebears did in the wilderness, *
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah,
when they tempted me.
- 9 They put me to the test, *
though they had seen my works.
- 10 Forty years long I detested that generation and said, *
"This people are wayward in their hearts;
they do not know my ways."
- 11 So I swore in my wrath, *
"They shall not enter into my rest."



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

HEALING SERVICE Thursday 10:00 am
ORDER OF ST. LUKE: 2nd Thursday of each month after Healing Service
PINELAND SYMPHONIC BAND rehearsal: Fridays 9:30 am
CHOIR PRACTICE: Now on Wednesdays at 10 AM



CHAPEL CLOTHES LINE sells well to groups and meeting at our church. Now accepting **LADIES Spring/Summer** 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. We are very appreciative of your kind donations to, and purchases from, this fundraising project.

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEEDED There is an UR - GENT call out for Lay Eucharistic Ministers for both our 8:00 and 10:00a.m. services.



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 JoAnn Smithson is the Congregational Coordinator for Care Givers Volunteers here at St. Stephen's. Please continue to use the mailbox in the Office to put in your hours. JoAnn's phone number is 732-408-5351.



EASTER FLOWERS OFFERING deadline is Sunday, March 29, 2020. Easter Sunday is April 12 this year. This is a time when we especially want to remember our loved ones and friends, or express thanksgiving for someone's kindness and love.

For questions, please contact Val Thompson @ (732) 657-4510



HEALING PRAYERS The Order of St. Luke provides prayers of healing to anyone after Holy Communion on the last Sunday of the month at each service. Members are also available every Sunday after the services. Look for a member near the baptismal font if you would like a prayer of healing after any service.

YOUR PERSONAL ESTATE PLANNING Prayerfully consider making an endowment gift to St. Stephen's as part of your estate plan.

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 .

STEWARDSHIP

*"Both riches and honor come from you,
and you rule over all. In your hand are
power and might, and in your hand it is to
make great and to give strength to all."*

1 Chronicles 29:12

Bible Study
We will be studying
"Women of the Bible"
Beginning Tuesday, March 3
At Noon and again at 5 PM which is
for
Soup and Study
Please sign up in the
Narthex if you would
like to join us for this
6 week series.



Blessing of the Bikes Meeting

Tuesday, March 17, 2020

@ 4 PM



The Fellowship & Fundraising Committee invite everyone to purchase their tickets for the Super 50/50 draw taking place March 31st.
Tickets are 10.00 per chance.

And

We are collecting NEW items for the Dollar Auction for
April 4th at noon.
For information and questions
Please contact Beverly or Tom Larson
at
(732) 849-6256



Second Reading

Letter to the Romans 5:1-11

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man—though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. Not only so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received our reconciliation.



Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

This is the Sunday of the Samaritan Woman. This story is one of the classic biblical passages for those preparing for baptism at Easter. As the woman was gradually enlightened about Jesus and about her relationship to God, so the candidates are growing in their relationship with God during Lent. They look forward to receiving in baptism the "living water" of God's Spirit in their lives. Those already baptized are filled with that living water and continue to be enlightened by God's Spirit.

In the first reading, we move forward in the history of salvation from the call of Abraham and Sarah to the account of Moses and Israel in the Exodus from Egypt. On the occasion we read about today, God provides water for the people in the desert. This is an image of God's loving care for all people in the spiritual dryness of this world.

The second reading is about the new life we have in God through Christ. Jesus gave up his life for us, in order that we might be put right with God. In his death and resurrection, the estrangement between God and humanity is being repaired. We, in baptism, have been reconciled with God.

As people in the desert thirst for water, so Christians find in their Lenten living the thirst for life that only God can quench. All of us, both the baptized and those preparing for baptism, are, like the Samaritan woman, being enlightened and filled with the grace of the living water that comes from our Savior.

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

March 15, 2020

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.

*The Sanctuary Candle is given to the Glory of God
In Memory of George P. Frey, IV by his mother Joy
And
In Memory of Fr. John Dewland
By his daughter Joy Frey*



*The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God
Sans Memorial*

ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNION SERVICES

The Pines	1st Sunday of each month at 9:30 a.m.
Arista-Care	1st Monday of each month at 2:00 p.m.
The Arbors	2nd Monday of each month at 2:00 p.m.
The Pines	3rd Monday of each month at 2:00 p.m.
Crestwood Manor	4th Monday of each month at 1:00 p.m.