

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 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.

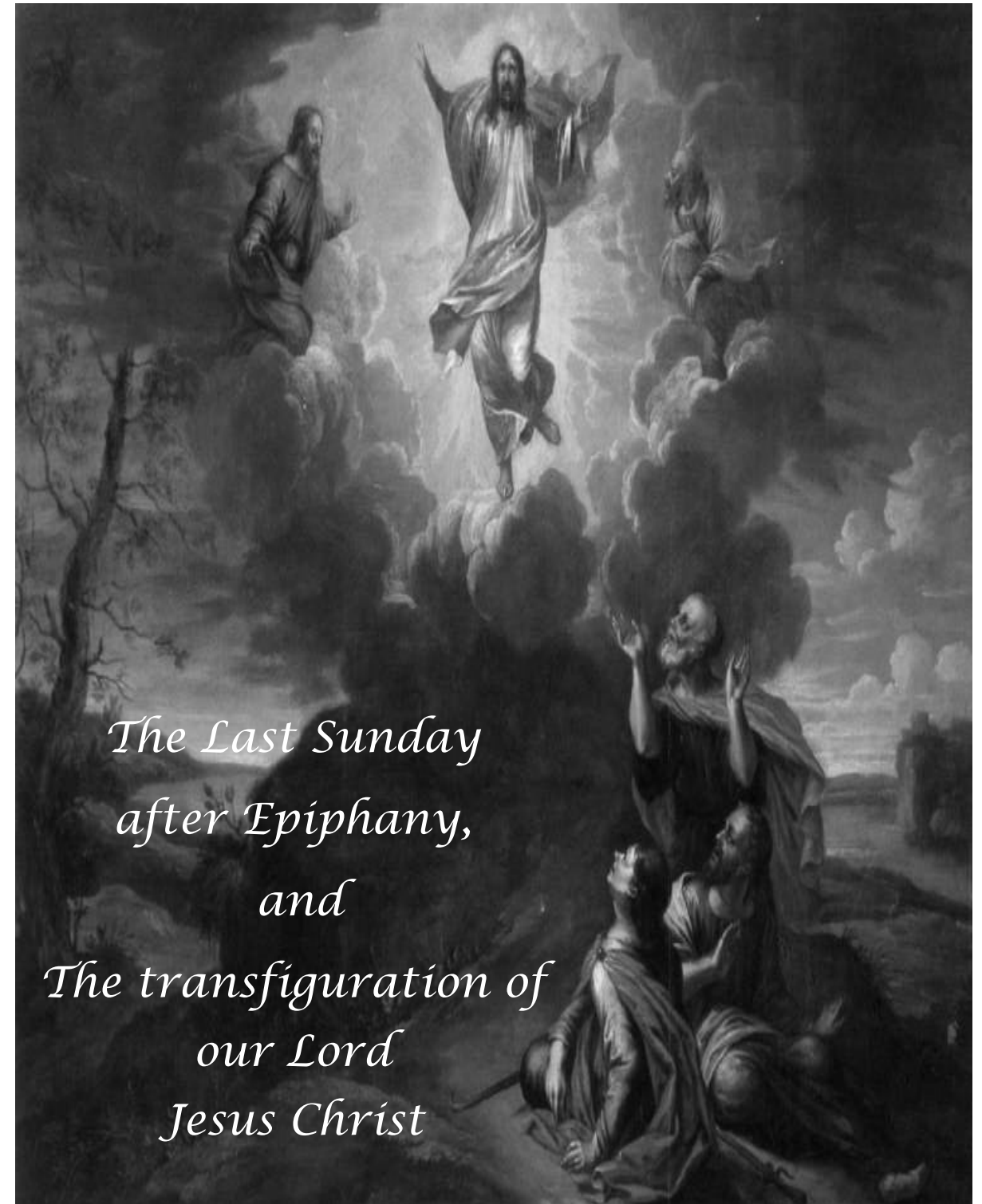
"Wherefore by their fruits you shall know them." Matthew 7:20

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.



*The Last Sunday
after Epiphany,
and
The transfiguration of
our Lord
Jesus Christ*

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

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

| Hymnal | The Word of God | BCP |
|---------------|--|---------------|
| 618 | Processional Hymn: “ <i>Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones</i> ” | |
| 717 | “ <i>My Country, 'Tis of Thee</i> ” | |
| | Open Acclamation | 355 |
| | Opening Sentence | |
| S280 | <i>Gloria!</i> | 356 |
| | Collect of the Day | <i>Insert</i> |
| | First Lesson: <i>Book of Exodus 34:29-35</i> | <i>Insert</i> |
| | <i>Psalm 99</i> | <i>Insert</i> |
| | Second Lesson: <i>Second Letter to the Corinthians 3:12-4:2</i> | <i>Insert</i> |
| | Gradual: “ <i>Word of God Speak</i> ” (<i>lyrics on next page</i>) | |
| | Gospel: <i>Luke 9:28-43a</i> | <i>Insert</i> |
| | Sermon — <i>The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.</i> | |
| | The Nicene Creed | 358 |
| | Prayers of the People (<i>Form III</i>) | 387 |
| | Collect at the Prayers (# 5) | 395 |
| | Confession and Absolution | 360 |
| | The Peace | 332 |
| | Offertory: | |
| | Doxology: “ <i>All things come of Thee, O Lord</i> ” | |
| | HOLY COMMUNION | |
| | Eucharistic Prayer “B” | 367 |
| S120 | Sursum Corda | |
| S125 | Sanctus | |
| | <i>The Lord's Prayer</i> | 364 |
| S152 | Breaking of the Bread | |
| | Communion Hymns: | |
| 325 | “ <i>Let Us Break Bread Together</i> ” | |
| | “ <i>Alleluia</i> ” | |
| | “ <i>Alleluia</i> ” (<i>Insert</i>) | |
| 427 | “ <i>When Morning Guides the Skies</i> ” | |
| | Post Communion Prayer | 366 |
| | Announcements | |
| | Blessing | |
| 205 | Closing Hymn: “ <i>Good Christians all Rejoice</i> ” | |
| | 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.

LENTEN SCHEDULES-

Available in the Narthex

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER-

The Men's Club , will be hosting their wonderful Pancake Dinner for members of our Parish on Tuesday, March 1 at 3-5PM. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex so we know how many to prepare for.

CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE DINNER

The Men's Club, with the help of ECW, will have the delicious Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner on Saturday, March 12 beginning at 3PM-5PM. Tickets are \$15 each. Enjoy the usual items--corned beef, cabbage, carrots, potatoes, Irish soda bread, and delicious desserts. There will be door prizes, a treasure auction, and a 50/50. Call the office for tickets, or buy them on Sundays 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*

The Last Sunday after the Epiphany;

February 27, 2022

Collect of the Day

O God, who before the passion of your only begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; 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 34:29-35

When Moses came down from Mount Sinai, with the two tables of the testimony in his hand as he came down from the mountain, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. And when Aaron and all the people of Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses talked with them. And afterward all the people of Israel came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him in Mount Sinai. And when Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he took the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the people of Israel what he was commanded, the people of Israel saw the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face shone; and Moses would put the veil upon his face again, until he went in to speak 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 99

- 1 The LORD is King;
let the people tremble; *
He is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake.
- 2 The LORD is great in Zion; *
He is high above all peoples.
- 3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *
He is the Holy One.
- 4 "O mighty King, lover of justice,
You have established equity; *
You have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."
- 5 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God
and fall down before his footstool; *
He is the Holy One.
- 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon His Name, *
they called upon the LORD, and He answered them.
- 7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept his testimonies and the decree that He gave them.
- 8 O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; *
You were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds.
- 9 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God
and worship Him upon His holy hill; *
for the LORD our God is the Holy One.



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.

DIOCESAN CONVENTION MEETING (VIRTUAL)

Saturday, February 5th Online. Please contact Fr Paul or Stefanie Bodine with any questions.

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.

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



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.**



World Day of Prayer - Friday, March 4, 2022 @ 1PM

Come join us at the Church. The service represents England, Northern Ireland, Wales and is based on the Prophet Jeremiah.

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

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not see the end of the fading splendor. But their minds were hardened; for to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their minds; but when a man turns to the Lord the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being changed into his likeness from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. We have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways; we refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

Holy Gospel

Luke 9:28-43a

Now about eight days after these sayings he took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And as he was praying, the appearance of his countenance was altered, and his raiment became dazzling white. And behold, two men talked with him, Moses and Eli'jah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, and when they wakened they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is well that we are here; let us make three booths, one for you and one for Moses and one for Eli'jah" --not knowing what he said. As he said this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silence and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen. On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. And behold, a man from the crowd cried, "Teacher, I beg you to look upon my son, for he is my only child; and behold, a spirit seizes him, and he suddenly cries out; it convulses him till he foams, and shatters him, and will hardly leave him. And I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." Jesus answered, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long am I to be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." While he was coming, the demon tore him and convulsed him. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, and healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. And all were astonished at the majesty of God.



On this final Sunday before Lent, the Epiphany theme of the manifestation of Jesus as the Son of God ends with the account of the most striking manifestation of all, prior to the resurrection. The transfiguration of Christ was the turning point in his ministry, and for this reason, it comes at this turning point in the Church's year.

In today's Gospel reading, we are told that the conversation between Jesus and Moses and Elijah concerned his departure (in Greek, "exodus"), which he was to perform in Jerusalem. Luke's use of exodus reminds us of the close relationship in meaning as well as in time between Passover and the dying and rising of Jesus. Luke also tells us a few verses later that it was at this point that he "set his face to go up to Jerusalem," to his certain death. So today we set our faces to go through Lent and Good Friday in order to arrive at Easter.

The Old Testament reading gives us a parallel event in the life of Moses. In his encounters with God during his leadership of Israel, Moses' face was transfigured. The light of God shone forth from him. Starting with that story, Paul, in our second reading, describes the process of our growth in grace and one of gradually being transfigured into the image and likeness of Christ.

Today is traditionally the last Sunday we use "Alleluia" until Easter. It is not that we give up rejoicing, but rather that do this so that the restoration of its use at Easter will be a dramatic sign of Easter's newness. We now move to our Lenten pilgrimage looking toward the ultimate transfiguration of all people in the eternal Easter.

Serving in the Liturgy today:

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Lector 8:00 am | <i>Greta Pearl</i> |
| LEM 8:00 am | <i>Bill Bodine</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>Kay Karlick</i> |
| LEM 10:15 am | <i>Susan Clarke</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

