

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.

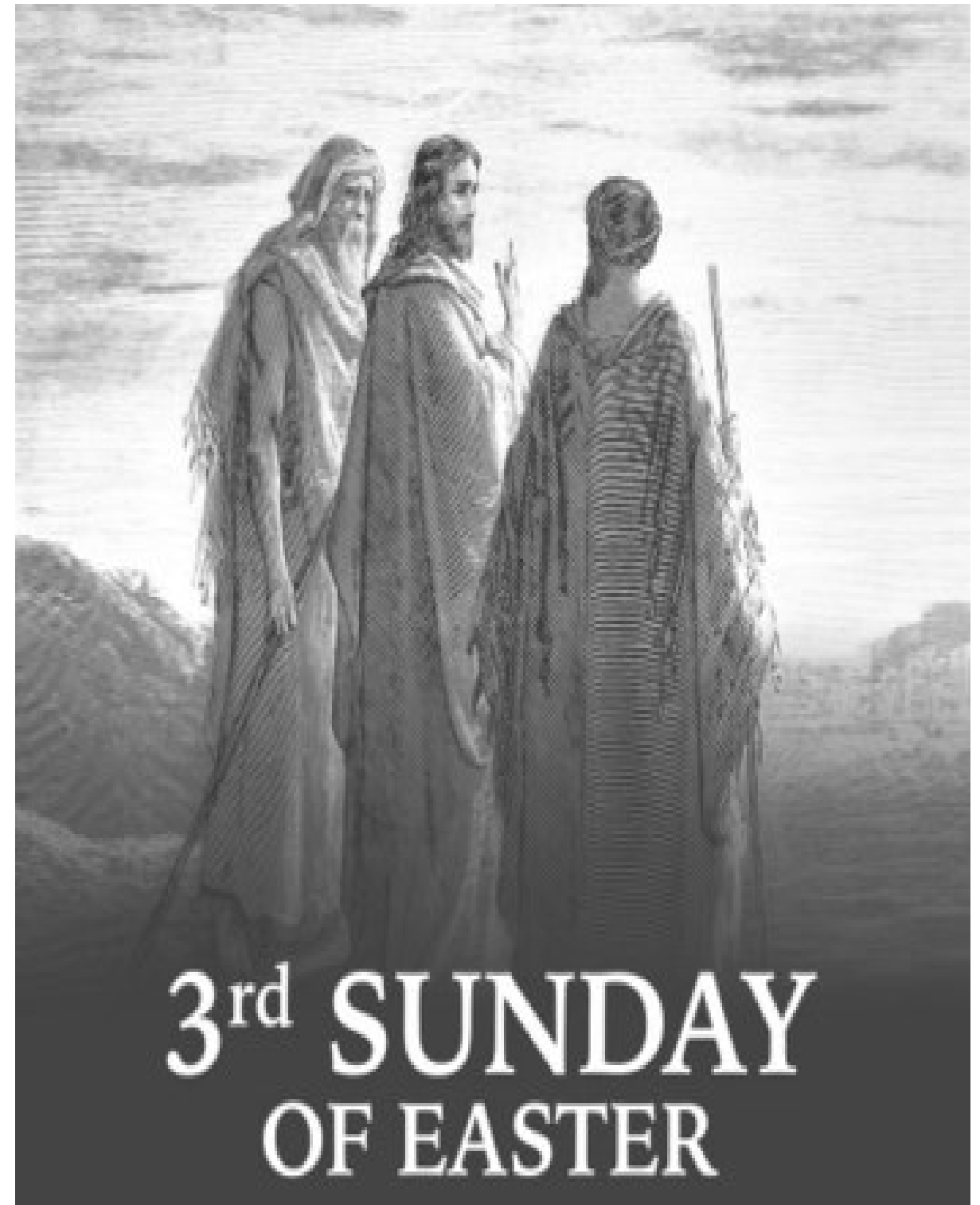
"Wherefore by their fruits you shall know them." Matthew 7:20

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.



**THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II**

Hymnal

The Word of God

535 Processional Hymn: “Ye servants of God your master Proclaim”

Easter Acclamation

S280 Gloria

Collect of the Day

First Lesson: **Acts 9:1-6, (7-20)**

Psalm 30

Second Lesson: **Revelation 5:11-14**

Gradual: “Word of God, Speak” (Lyrics below)

Gospel: **John 21:1-19**

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”

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”

372 “Praise to the Living God!”

457 “Thou Art The Way”

Post Communion Prayer *BCP p. 365*

Blessing

Announcements

232 Recessional: “By all your saints still striving”

Dismissal

**MAY 1, 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, May 12th - after Healing
Service

VESTRY MEETING-

Monday, May 23rd @ 10am

WHITING GARDEN CLUB-

Whiting Garden Club meets next on May 4th 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!!!

FATHER PAUL
WELCOMES YOU TO JOIN US
FOR OUR

26th ANNUAL

BLESSING OF THE BIKES

TODAY SUNDAY MAY 1st 2022

**HOURS 12 TO 4 RAIN OR
SHINE**

**BIKES WILL BE BLESSED AT 2
pm**

BY: *FATHER PAUL VAN SANT*

Donation \$15 per person

**Proceeds to benefit St. Stephen's
Ministry**

**NO CHARGE FOR CHILDREN
UNDER 10**

Collect of the Day

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Reading

Acts 9:1-6, (7-20)

Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." [The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."]

Psalm 30

Exaltabo te, Domine

1. *I* will exalt you, O LORD,
because you have lifted me up *
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.
2. O LORD my God, I cried out to you, *
and you restored me to health.
3. You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead; *
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.
4. Sing to the LORD, you servants of his; *
give thanks for the remembrance of his holiness.
5. For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye, *
his favor for a lifetime.
6. Weeping may spend the night, *
but joy comes in the morning.
7. While I felt secure, I said,
"I shall never be disturbed. *
You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains."
8. Then you hid your face, *
and I was filled with fear.
9. I cried to you, O LORD; *
I pleaded with the Lord, saying,
10. "What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the Pit? *
will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?"
11. Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me; *
O LORD, be my helper."
12. You have turned my wailing into dancing; *
you have put off my sack-cloth and clothed me with joy.
13. Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; *
O LORD my God, I will give you thanks for ever.



Second Reading

Revelation 5:11-14

I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice,

"Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might
and honor and glory and blessing!"

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea,



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-- May 12th, 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



and all that is in them, singing,

"To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"

And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

Holy Gospel

John 21:1-19

Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."



On this Third Sunday of Easter, the Gospel reading directs our attention to the Eucharist as our ongoing experience of the resurrection. On the first Easter afternoon Jesus met two of his followers, and as they walked to the village of Emmaus he explained the scriptures concerning his death and resurrection to them. At table with them he said the blessing and broke the bread and they recognized him.

Today's Gospel reading carries that story to its conclusion. Those two disciples are in the midst of telling the others that Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of bread when he appears in their midst. He again explains the scriptures and shares food with them. Thus from the very beginning of the Church's life in the risen Lord, the meal has been the most common way Jesus' resurrection is revealed to his people.

Our reading from Acts today is an account of the manifestation of Christ's presence in and through his followers. Peter and John heal a cripple in the name of Jesus and then Peter proclaims the Gospel of the dying and rising of Jesus. The second reading this Sunday speaks of the forgiveness of sins we have as a result of our life in Christ.

We are a people who through Baptism and Eucharist live in Christ's dying and rising. We meet him again and again in the Breaking of the Bread and acclaim him. "Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!"

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

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THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 1, 2022

Serving in the Liturgy today:

Lector 8:00 am	<i>Joann 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>Susan Clarke, 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
Kathleen Molnar given by
her Daughter, Ruth Molnar***



Altar Flowers

***Altar Flowers are given to
the Glory of God***

***In Memory of
Robert Payne given by
Jonnibelle Yates***

***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***

