

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 2021

Stefanie Rotsaert, Rector's Warden
Richard Smithson, Property Warden
Debbie Fisher, Marge Pomykala, Peter Quigley
Pat Russo, Maryann Payne, Dottie Kaster
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.

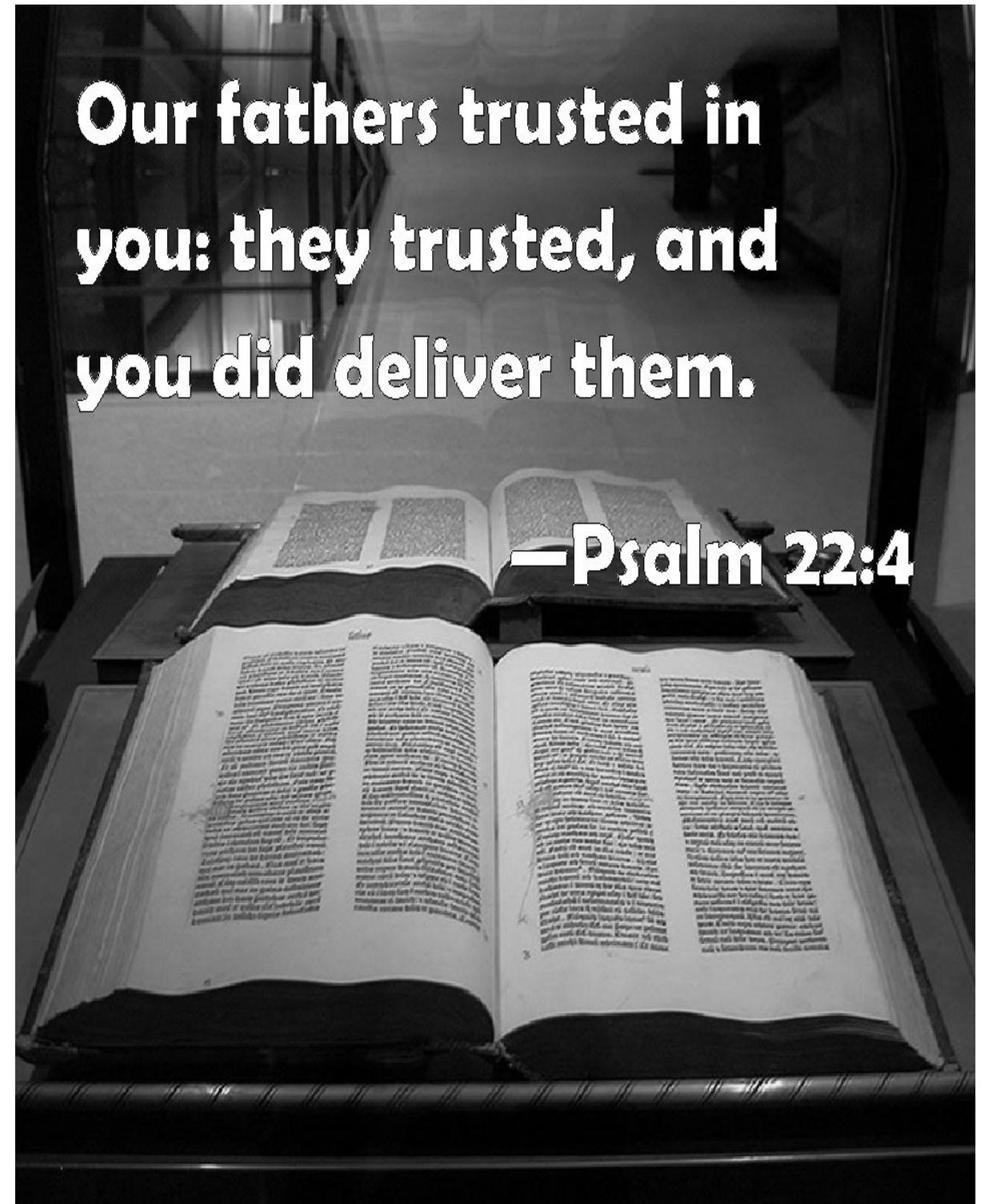
"Wherefore by their fruits you shall know them." Matthew 7:20

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 Rotsaert, Rector's Warden at 732-350-2904 or Father Paul at his home 609-268-2864.



Save the Date on Upcoming Events

Hymnal	The Word of God	BCP
488	Processional Hymn: <i>“Be Thou My Vision”</i>	
717	Patriotic Hymn: <i>“Our Fathers’ God to Thee”</i>	
	Open Acclamation	355
S102	Trisagion	
	Collect of the Day	Insert
	First Lesson: <i>Job 23:1-9, 16-17</i>	Insert
	<i>Psalm 22</i>	Insert
	Second Lesson: <i>Letter to the Hebrews 4:12-16</i>	Insert
	Gradual: <i>“Word of God Speak”</i>	
	Gospel: <i>Mark 10:17-21</i>	Insert
	Sermon — <i>The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.</i>	
	The Nicene Creed	358
	Prayers of the People Form VI	392
	Confession and Absolution	393
	The Peace	
	Offertory: Choir Anthem	
	Doxology: <i>“All things come of Thee, O Lord”</i>	
	HOLY COMMUNION	
	The Great Thanksgiving	
	Eucharistic Prayer A	361
S120	Sursum Corda	
S125	Sanctus	
S133	Memorial Acclamation	363
	The Lord’s Prayer	364
	Breaking of the Bread	
S152	Fraction Anthem	
	Communion Hymns:	
325	<i>“Let Us Break Bread Together”</i>	
680	<i>“O God, Our help in ages Past”</i>	
707	<i>“Take my Life and Let it Be”</i>	
	Post Communion Prayer	365
	Blessing	
	Announcements	
655	Closing Hymn: <i>“O Jesus, I Have Promised”</i>	
	Dismissal	

BIBLE STUDY GROUP:

“The Bible, What Speaks to your Heart”, will be held Starting in November, Mondays at 11 am in the Parish Hall. For more info contact Roberta Mackey at (917) 696-6863

CHOIR PRACTICE:

Wednesdays @ 10:00 am

HEALING SERVECES:

Thursdays @ 10:00 am

ORDER OF ST. LUKE:

2nd Thursday of each month after Healing Service

PINELAND SYMPHONIC BAND:

Fridays @ 9:30 am (practice)

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD:

Pick up a shoebox on the table in the Narthex.

ARTS & CRAFTS:

Thursday October 21st from 10-12am & 1-3pm and is held every 3rd Thursday of the month. See Gerry Vergona for more details

CROPWALK:

Sunday Oct, 17th 1:30PM at St. Stephen's, walkers needed. For info See *Stefanie Rotsaert*

BOSCOV’S FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS:

Wednesday October 20th at Store. Buy a coupon from Stefanie for \$5 each.

25th ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE BIKES:

Saturday, October 23rd, 12-4pm, Blessing will be at 2:00 pm Rain or Shine

VESTRY MEETING:

Monday, October 25th (4th Monday of each month except August)



FATHER PAUL
WELCOMES YOU TO JOIN US FOR OUR
25th ANNUAL
BLESSING OF THE BIKES
SATURDAY OCTOBER 23RD
2021

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

Ticket price includes Pork, Barbeque, Non-Alcoholic
Beverages, Family's Welcome, Trophies

There will be a Bike Show for Best Bike at the Blessing
Our Address is

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH

180 RT 539, WHITING, NJ 08759

For info on where to purchase tickets & directions call the Church at:

732-350-2121 (Mon-Thurs 10am to 2pm)

or e-mail us at ssechurch@gmail.com

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 23

October 10, 2021
8&10:15am

Collect of the Day

Gracious and generous God, giver of all we have and hold as stewards; grant the people of this church a deep and abiding awareness that all that we have—our health, our incomes, our jobs, our talents – are gifts received from your hand. Send your Holy Spirit to help us as we swim against the rising tides of materialism and greed in our culture. Send your Holy Spirit to teach us that we make a living by what we get but we make a life by what we give! Send your Holy Spirit to remind us that when we give generously and joyfully, we grow in grace and our spiritual lives are transformed as our stewardship becomes a witness to the love of Jesus Christ in our lives. We pray with grateful, thankful hearts, in the name of Jesus, the Chris

AMEN!

First Reading

Job 23:1-9, 16-17

Then Job answered: "Today also my complaint is bitter, his hand is heavy in spite of my groaning. Oh, that I knew where I might find him, that I might come even to his seat! I would lay my case before him and fill my mouth with arguments. I would learn what he would answer me, and understand what he would say to me. Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power? No; he would give heed to me. There an upright man could reason with him, and I should be acquitted for ever by my judge. "Behold, I go forward, but he is not there; and backward, but I cannot perceive him; on the left hand I seek him, but I cannot behold him; I turn to the right hand, but I cannot see him. God has made my heart faint; the Almighty has terrified me; for I am hemmed in by darkness, and thick darkness covers my face.

Psalm 22

- 1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? *
and are so far from my cry
and from the words of my distress?
- 2 O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; *
by night as well, but I find no rest.
- 3 Yet you are the Holy One, *
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
- 4 Our forefathers put their trust in you; *
they trusted, and you delivered them.
- 5 They cried out to you and were delivered; *
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.
- 6 But as for me, I am a worm and no man, *
scorned by all and despised by the people.
- 7 All who see me laugh me to scorn; *
they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,
- 8 "He trusted in the LORD; let him deliver him; *
let him rescue him, if he delights in him."
- 9 Yet you are he who took me out of the womb, *
and kept me safe upon my mother's breast.
- 10 I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; *
you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.
- 11 Be not far from me, for trouble is near, *
and there is none to help.
- 12 Many young bulls encircle me; *
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.
- 13 They open wide their jaws at me, *
like a ravening and a roaring lion.
- 14 I am poured out like water;
all my bones are out of joint; *
my heart within my breast is melting wax.
- 15 My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherd;
my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; *
and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.



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 ~ 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 609/268-0821.

COFFEE HOUR

A new coffee hour sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. If you would like to share fruit, sandwiches, quiche, baked goods, sign up and help us. Everyone is so grateful for your help. It is also nice to chat after the services. Any questions, contact Stefanie.



On Sunday, October 10th after the 10:15am service, our coffee hour will be in honor of Anna and Joe Albaneses and their baby to be. Gifts are optional. Come join us.

Thank you.

Stefanie Rotsaert (732) 350-2904



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 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--October 14, November 11, and December 9, 2021.after the Healing Service.

Second Reading

Letter to the Hebrews 4:12-16

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are open and laid bare to the eyes of him with whom we have to do. Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Holy Gospel

Mark 10:17-21

And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not kill, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.'" And he said to him, "Teacher, all these I have observed from my youth." And Jesus looking upon him loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." At that saying his countenance fell, and he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions.

And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "With men it is impossible, but not with God; for all things are possible with God." Peter began to say to him, "Lo, we have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life. But many that are first will be last, and the last first."

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

Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

In the themes of the Sundays in this part of the year, we face some of the strongest challenges presented by our faith. We have reached the portion of the Gospel of Mark in which Jesus, nearing the final conflict, is preparing his followers for what lies ahead, not only for him, but also for them in the remainder of their lives. So today's Gospel is the account of the rich young man who discovers that there is more to salvation than following the Law. Jesus calls for a complete submission to God, even to the point of giving up everything. Only then can we gain what we really need.

We continue to read the Book of Job. This good man has suffered tragedy, severe illness, and busybody friends full of useless advice. He has not lost his faith but is complaining that he can't find God to ask why these things are happening. He believes that if he could understand God, he could understand.

We are reading through the Epistle to the Hebrews during this period. This letter to early Christians presents Jesus as Savior, as high priest, and as the model for Christian living. In today's passage the writer tells us that although God's judgment lays all our failure open to God, we know that God's response is that of the merciful high priest and therefore we may approach God with confidence.

Today's liturgy is filled with challenge and with hope. We are faced with the demands of the Gospel and also with its promise of salvation to those who persevere. We are called to enter into the painful yet joyful project of God in bringing the Kingdom into the lives of all people in our time.

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

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TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
PROPER 23

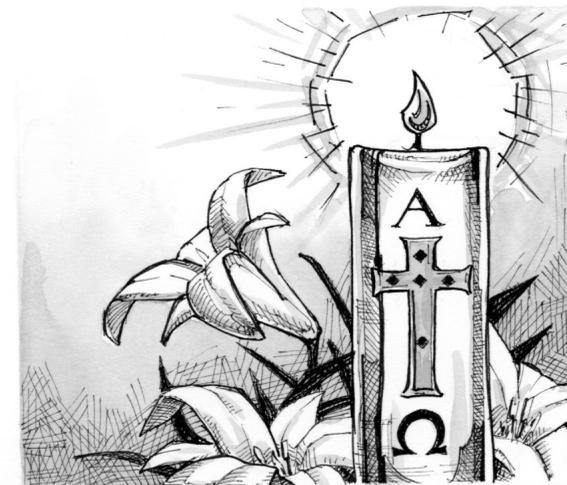
OCTOBER 10, 2021

Serving in the Liturgy today:

Lector 8:00 am	Susan Quigley
LEM 8:00 am	Bill Bodine
Altar Guild 8:00 am	Mary Storey, Debbie Fisher, Dave Fisher
Ushers 8:00 am	Mary Storey, Glenn Mortimer, Bill Bodine
Lector 10:15 am	Kay Karlick
LEM 10:15 am	Susan Clarke
Altar Guild 10:15 am	Valerie Thompson
Ushers 10:15 am	Al Thompson, Valerie Thompson

Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary Candle is given to
The Glory of God
Sans Memorial



Altar Flowers

Altar Flowers are given to the
Glory of God
Sans Memorial

