

## 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

Gerianne Murphy Treasurer

Esther Graham Music Director

Colleen Goodhue, 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!

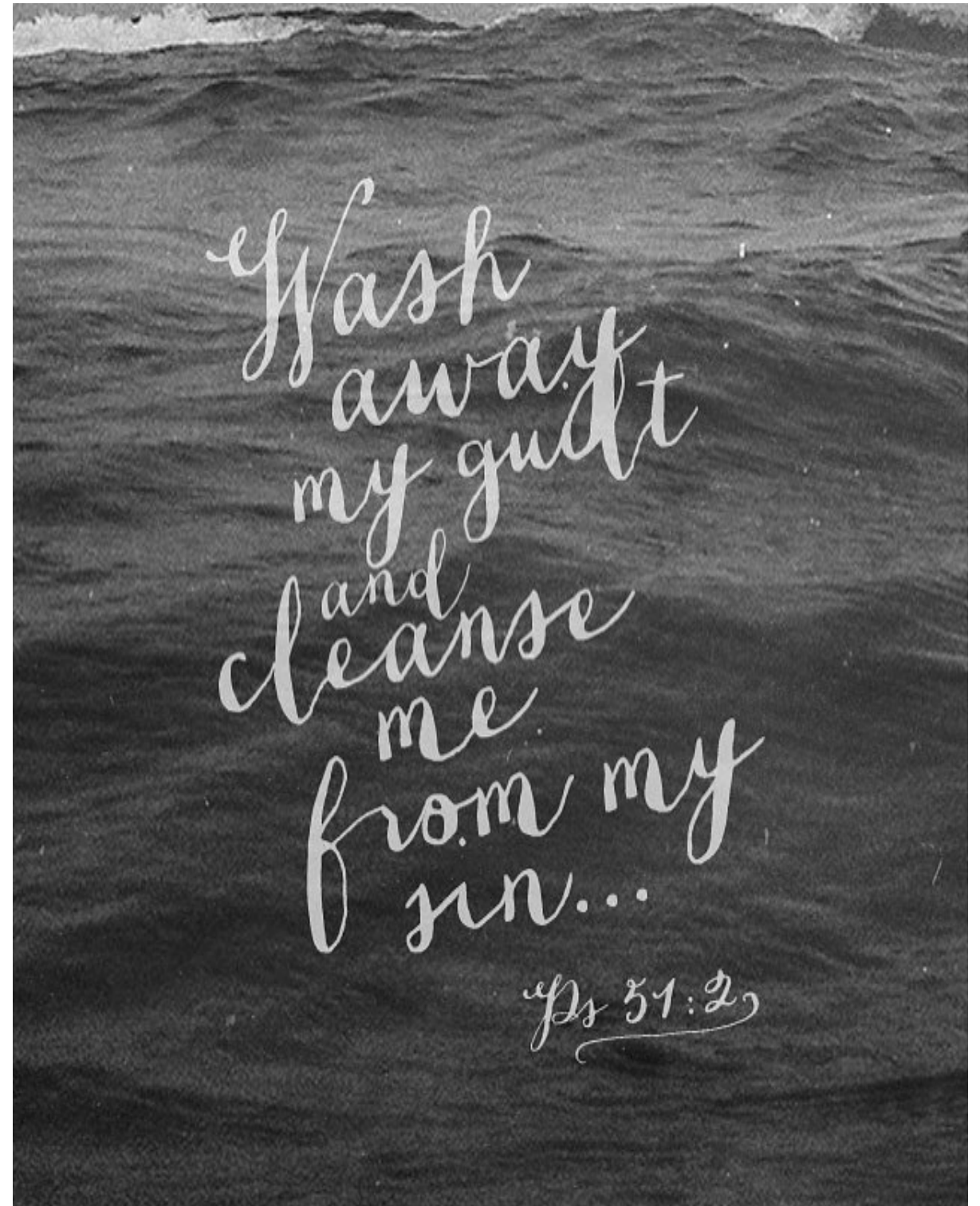
We thank you for joining us for worship today. Please stay for coffee hour, and sign our guest book at the podium in the Narthex. If you are looking for a church home, you have just found it. We would love to have you at St. Stephen's. Arrangements for weddings and baptisms can be made by speaking directly 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.



**TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST PROPER 13  
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II**

**AUGUST 1, 2021  
8 & 10 AM**

<b>Hymnal</b>	<b>The Word of God</b>	<b>BCP</b>
305	Processional Hymn: <i>"Come Risen Lord and Deign to be our Guest "</i>	
	Open Acclamation	355
	Collect of the Day	Insert
	First Lesson: <b><i>Second Book of Samuel 11:26-12:13a</i></b>	Insert
	<b><i>Psalms 51</i></b>	Insert
	Second Lesson: <b><i>Letter to the Ephesians 4:1-16</i></b>	Insert
	Gradual: "Word of God, Speak"	Insert
	Gospel: <b><i>John 6:24-35</i></b>	Insert
	Sermon — The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.	
	The Nicene Creed	358
	Prayers of the People Form VI	392
	Confession and Absolution	393
	The Peace	
	Offertory: <i>Psalms 51 "Change My Heart Oh Lord And Create in Me a Clean Heart"</i>	
<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>		
<b>The Great Thanksgiving</b>		
	Eucharistic Prayer A	361
S120	Sursum Corda	
S125	Sanctus	
S136	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>	
321	<i>"My God Thy Table now is Spread "</i>	
339	<i>"Deck Thyself, My soul With Gladness"</i>	
	Post Communion Prayer	365
	Blessing	
	Announcements	
690	Closing Hymn: <i>"Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah"</i>	Insert
	Dismissal	

**TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
PROPER 13**

**AUGUST 1, 2021**

Serving in the Liturgy today:

Lector 8:00 am	Mary Storey
LEM 8:00 am	Stefanie Rotsaert
Altar Guild 8:00 am	Debbie Fisher, David Fisher
Ushers 8:00 am	Mary Storey, Glenn Mortimer, Bill Bodine
Lector 10:00 am	Kay Karlick
LEM 10:00 am	Bill Bodine
Altar Guild 10:00 am	Valerie Thompson
Ushers 10:00 am	Al Thompson, Valerie Thompson

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**Mark Your Calendars!**

Sunday, August 29, 2021

One service only @ 9 AM—to recognize  
Gerianne Murphy as she moves to Delaware.  
A reception to follow in the Parish Hall.  
Please sign up so we may have an accurate  
count.

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**Sanctuary Candle**

The Sanctuary Candle is given  
to  
The Glory of God  
in Honor of  
*Stefanie Rotsaert's Birthday*  
*July 16, 2021*

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**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 in-  
terested 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, neigh-  
bors, or friends who would like prayers for heal-  
ing, comfort, or any other purpose.



## Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Today we hear the response of the crowd after Jesus had fed the 5,000 people with five loaves and two fish. Then we hear the first part of the discourse from the Gospel of John on Jesus as the bread of life. Starting with bread as a material object and earthly food, Jesus then leads his hearers to an understanding of communion or fellowship with him as food for our spiritual nature. It is that spiritual nourishment which gives eternal life.

Last Sunday we heard the story of David's adultery with Bathsheba and his murder of her husband. The prophet Nathan comes and, in a parable about a rich man stealing a poor man's only lamb, induces David to confess. David repents, but the damage is done. His household will be in turmoil from that time forward. Sin can be forgiven, but its damage continues to work through those around the sinner.

In today's reading from Ephesians, one of the Pauline tradition's strongest themes is introduced. We are in unity with God and with all people through our baptism. Baptism has joined us together into one life as the body of Christ—the same body which we receive in Holy Communion.

The Christian Gospel takes as its basis the nature of human life in this world and sees our life as being shot through with signs of the fuller life that is ours in Christ. Ours is not a religion of the spirit alone, nor is it solely a means of dealing with material life in this world. As bread and wine are revealed in the liturgy to be instruments of God's presence in us, so all of life is revealed as the sacrament of God in the world; we remember that we are (in the words of St. Augustine) "...means of grace and vehicles of the eternal charity."

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

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## Tenth Sunday after Pentecost Collect of the Day

August 1, 2021  
8 & 10AM

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### First Reading

*Second Book of Samuel 11:26-12:13a*

When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son.

But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD, and the LORD sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds; but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him." Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity." Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; I gave you your master's house, and your master's wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. Thus says the LORD: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes, and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this very sun. For you did it secretly; but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun." David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD.

## Psalm 51

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; \*  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness \*  
and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I know my transgressions, \*  
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned \*  
and done what is evil in your sight.
- 5 And so you are justified when you speak \*  
and upright in your judgment.
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, \*  
a sinner from my mother's womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \*  
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \*  
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, \*  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 Hide your face from my sins \*  
and blot out all my iniquities.
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, \*  
and renew a right spirit within me.
- 12 Cast me not away from your presence \*  
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again \*  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

## Second Reading

*Letter to the Ephesians 4:1-16*

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, who is above all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is he who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ; so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the cunning of men, by their craftiness in deceitful wiles. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every joint with which it is supplied, when each part is working properly, makes bodily growth and upbuilds itself in love.

## Holy Gospel

*John 6:24-35*

So when the people saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Caper'na-um, seeking Jesus. When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you seek me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of man will give to you; for on him has God the Father set his seal." Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." So they said to him, "Then what sign do you do, that we may see, and believe you? What work do you perform? Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven, and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Lord, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to me shall not hunger, and he who believes in me shall never thirst.