



The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
August 29, 2021

9:30am - Rite II

*"Before the service, speak silently to God.
During the service, let God speak to you.
After the service, speak to one another."*

***A Warm Welcome** to all visitors to our parish today, and we hope that you will find St. Stephen's a spiritual home! Take a moment to introduce yourself to the clergy and greeters.*

Communion is a sign of the unity of the Church that Christ envisioned when he prayed "that they may become completely one" (John 17:23). Therefore, all baptized Christians may receive communion at the altar. Visitors who are not baptized are welcome to come forward during the Sacrament to receive a blessing. Fold your arms over your chest as indication to the priest.

Your prayers are asked for our parish, especially Byron Burgess, Tiger Warfield, Dave Brown, Louis George, Jim Duguid, Charles, Ann Gerald, Mead Parsons, Cheryl Fairchild, Issac, Larry, Joan Parsons, Jack, Carver, Marianne, Kathy & Samuel Evans, Roberta Proffitt, Katie, Romana, Jeremy, Martha Rucker, Laura Finley, Chris McGraw, Linda Kay, Angie, Stephanie Morton, Phyllis Gross, Mariah Patterson, Jaxon Minetti, Randal Hurst, Kim Muncy, Richard Klein, Patricia Meadows, Scarlett, and Jane Morton.

For those celebrating birthdays;

For those celebrating anniversaries;

In the Anglican cycle of prayer: The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan.

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer: Trinity in Huntington served by The Rev. Jim Morgan.

For those serving in the armed forces especially: Jayson Morton, Nate Willard, Ben Sulwer, and Andrew Khalil.

For first responders, especially: Sam Tuttle and Lee Price

SERVING TODAY

Celebrant & Preacher	The Rev. Dr. Susan Q. Claytor
Lector	Debbie Ventura
Music	Donna Burnside
Choir Director	Robert Burnside
Soloist	Jason Hogie
Altar Guild	TBA
Eucharistic Minister	Grif Callahan & Danielle Stewart

HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

8:00 A.M.

The Word of God

Salutation **page 323** in the *Book of Common Prayer*

Gloria **page 324** in the *Book of Common Prayer*

The Collect of the Day

Lord of all power and might, who art the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of thy Name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

The lectionary begins at the end of the announcements

The First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

The Response: Psalm 15

The Epistle: James 1:17-27

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Susan Claytor

The Nicene Creed

page 326 in the *Book of Common Prayer*

The Prayers of the People

page 328 in the *Book of Common Prayer*

Confession of Sin

page 330 in the *Book of Common Prayer*

The Peace

page 332 in the *Book of Common Prayer*

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer I

page 333 in the *Book of Common Prayer*

The Sanctus (*spoken*)

page 334 in the *Book of Common Prayer*

The Lord's Prayer

page 336 in the *Book of Common Prayer*

The Breaking of the Bread and Communion of the People

Post Communion Prayer

page 339 in the *Book of Common Prayer*

Blessing and Dismissal

Important News/Announcements are at the end of the bulletin following the 9:30 am service.

HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

Prelude: "I Love to Tell the Story" by William G. Fischer
with Ann Lilly on flute

Opening Hymn: "Love divine, all loves excelling..."

Hymnal page 657

The Word of God

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may
perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Gloria Hymnal page S278

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

People The Lord be with you.
Celebrant And also with you.
People Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A Reading from: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you. You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!' For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children—

The Word of the Lord... **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 15

- 1 LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? *
who may abide upon your holy hill?
- 2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, *
who speaks the truth from his heart.
- 3 There is no guile upon his tongue;
he does no evil to his friend; *
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.
- 4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, *
but he honors those who fear the LORD.
- 5 He has sworn to do no wrong *
and does not take back his word.
- 6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, *
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.
- 7 Whoever does these things *
shall never be overthrown.

EPISTLE: James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who

look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

The Word of the Lord... **Thanks be to God**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23**
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, ‘Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?’ He said to them, ‘Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, “This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.” You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.’

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, ‘Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.’ For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.’

The Gospel of the Lord.... **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People Form III

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and
humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and
Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations
of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,
strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

People The peace of the Lord be always with you.
 And also with you.

The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer A

In this prayer, the lines in italics are spoken by the People.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. In fulfillment of his true promise, the Holy Spirit came down from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to your Church the power to serve you as a royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

Sanctus Hymnal page S125

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the

Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior
Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

[Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Spiritual Communion Prayer

**My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present
in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.
I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
come spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you;
never permit me to be separated from you.
Amen**

After communion

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn: "O Zion, haste,..."

Hymnal page 539

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS

The Vestry will meet September 8th at 6pm in the library.

DOK is meeting again! September 15th at 5pm in the library will be their next gathering.

The Bishop's walk about has been cancelled, and there are flyers posted with the updated info on how that will proceed virtually.

Help St. Stephen's stay involved with the community! The City of Beckley's Kid's Fair will be September 11th and we would like some volunteers to represent the church. The space we reserved will be set up from 10am to 2pm and we will be giving out books and puzzles.

St. Luke will have their annual rummage sale on September 16, 17, & 18, so mark it on your calendar!

The Episcopal Relief & Development Organization is currently taking donations for the earthquake victims in Haiti. You can make donations several different ways:
website www.episcopalrelief.org

phone 1.855.312.4325

by mail: Episcopal Relief & Development
P.O. Box 7058
Merrifield, VA 22116-7058

**If you donate by mail, please be sure to specify Haiti Relief Efforts in the memo*

What is your Spiritual type? If you wonder how to best grow spiritually you might want to sign up for a free online workshop offered by Sandscreech Retreat & Conference Center. The September 15th workshop ***“Your Spiritual Type”*** uses an experience-based process which gives insight into your spirituality type and provides a clear direction to spiritual practices that help you grow spiritually. The hour-long workshop begins on Zoom at 7 pm. Materials and the Zoom link for the workshop will be sent to you. To register for the workshop email sandscreech.director@wvdiocese.org.