



CELTIC EVENSONG AND COMMUNION

at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 16, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. We welcome and include all people without exception and invite you to participate fully in worship and after the service to enjoy the community supper in the fellowship hall. Throughout this bulletin, helpful guidance is printed in italics. Nursery care is available (infant-4); speak with a door greeter. A "soft space" is also available in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd, one of the two side chapels in the church. It is offered so that children and parents can continue to participate in the service if and when they need more room than a church pew provides. Children must be accompanied by a parent while using the soft space. Visitor Guides are found at entrances. When you want to be known here, place a Welcome card (in all pews, or submit online) in the basket by the baptismal font. The church is open for prayer from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.

From 5:10, the church is ready for prayer and rest. Please observe silence inside the church and remember to silence all devices.

Prelude The Father's Love Simon Lole
Please stand at the sound of the bell.

Opening This Moment Eavan Boland

A neighbourhood. At dusk. Things are getting ready to happen out of sight. Stars and moths. And rinds slanting around fruit. But not yet.	One tree is black. One window is yellow as butter. A woman leans down to catch a child who has run into her arms this moment. Stars rise. Moths flutter. Apples sweeten in the dark.
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Silence is held after the reading.

Hymn I come with joy to meet my Lord *Sung by all, standing.* *Land of Rest*

1. I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -
2. I come with Chris - tians far and near to
3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each
4. And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His
5. To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll
giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der
find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -
proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us
pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship
go our dif - f'rent ways, and as his peo - ple
to re - call his life laid down for me.
ty of love in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.
bet - ter known: we see and praise him here.
in the world we'll live and speak his praise.

A Prayer for the Evening

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit, and we shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth. **Amen.**

The Reading Mark 4:26-34 *Please sit.*

Reader A Reading from the Gospel according to Mark.

Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Silence is held for one minute of reflection.

Reflection The Rev. Torrence Harman

Silence is held for two minutes of reflection.

Music for Meditation *Céad míle fáilte romhat* (A hundred thousand welcomes, O Jesus) trad. Irish/
Fintan O'Carroll

Prayers for Ourselves and Others *Please stand.*

Deacon Let us keep silence before God, and through our minds and imaginations offer prayers which words might not contain. Let us pray.

Silence

Leader There is a time for every purpose under heaven.

Silence

Leader A time for gratitude...

Silence

Leader A time for what we have to lay down...

Silence

Leader A time for what we have to pick up...

Silence

Leader A time for confronting what we are avoiding...

Silence

Leader A time for holding compassion for ourselves and others, remembering especially those who suffer the violence of armed conflict.

Silence

Leader A time for recognizing what we hope for...

Silence

Leader A time for giving thanks, [especially _____].

Silence

Leader A time pray for those who have died, [especially _____].

Silence

Leader In our time and in your time, O God, fulfill our prayers as is best for us and may your kingdom come. **Amen.**

Candle Lighting, Additional Prayers

Lighting candles is as potent a symbol of offering one's prayer to God as candlelight is of God's abiding presence. All may light a votive at any station, now and hereafter. This Church is open daily for prayer and rest, and a permanent votive station is located near the piano in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit.

Music for Meditation *From the Southland: I. Through moanin' pines*
Navajo Vocable No. 11

Harry Burleigh
Connor Chee

Hymn Bless the Lord, my soul

Jacques Berthier

Sung by all, standing. This refrain will be repeated several times as the cantor sings verses.

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

The Grace Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly. **Amen.** *- Isaiah 58:6-8a*

The Peace May Christ, the Good Shepherd, bind us with a bond of love that cannot be broken. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

All greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying "peace."

The Holy Communion

Welcome and Announcements

All comes from God, so from all God has given into our care, we offer gifts from our gratitude. Please place offerings (or scan QR) into the basket near the baptismal font or food pantry items into the baskets by the main entrance.



At the Offertory *Three Visions: II. Summerland*

William Grant Still

The Great Thanksgiving

Please stand.

Iona Worship Book

Celebrant The Lord is with us.

People **God's spirit is here.**

Celebrant Look with kindness, O God, on your people gathered here before you. We praise you for the prophets who in spite of persecution spoke your challenging word. We praise you that in Christ you chose to be born in a stable and revealed to poor shepherds. We praise you for Mary Magdalene, first witness of the resurrection; and for all the women and men who have been trusted and empowered by you. With all the unremembered, outcast, with the poor and needy, with the trusting and hopeful in all the ages we lift our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Sanctus

Sung by all.

James Macmillan

4
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless - ed is he, O bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant Loving God, you are always thinking about your people. You never forget us. You sent your son, Jesus, who gave his life for us and who came to forgive us and taught us to forgive each other. On the very night he was betrayed, Jesus gathered his friends, took bread and said the blessing. He broke it and gave it to them, saying,

All **“Take and eat. This is my own body given for you. Do this to remember me.”**

Celebrant After supper he took the cup, gave thanks and gave it to them, saying,

All **“This is my life-blood given for you. Do this to remember me.”**

Celebrant So we proclaim the mystery of faith:


All **Christ has died;
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

Celebrant Send your Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ, in whom we have become your own. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

All **Blessed be God, now and for ever. AMEN.**

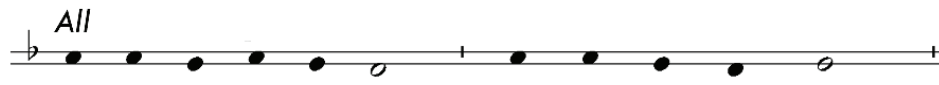
The Lord's Prayer

Cantor

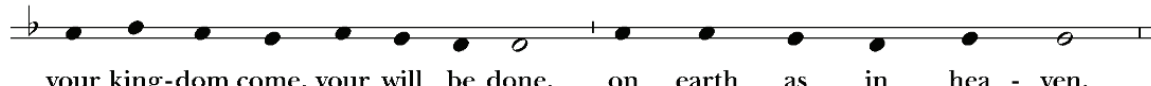


As our Sa - vior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

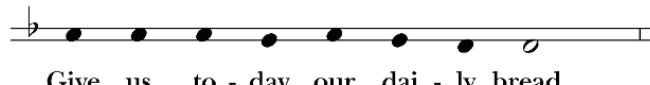
All



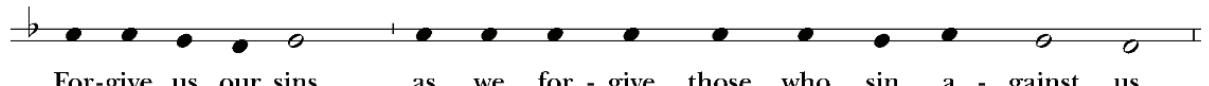
Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,



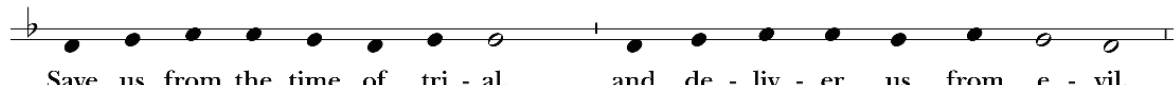
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.



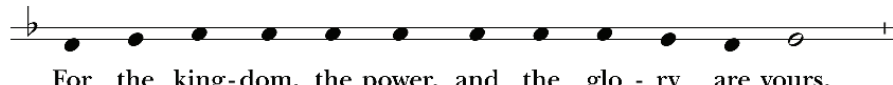
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.



For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.



Save us from the time of tri - al, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.



For the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours,




now and for ev - er. A - men.


The Breaking of the Bread

Silence is held.


James Macmillan



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, grant us peace.

The Invitation

Celebrant This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is the Lord who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

At the Communion of the People

All who seek God's presence through Communion or God's blessing are welcome to come forward. Extend your hands, one upon another, to receive a bread wafer (request gluten-free) or, to receive God's blessing instead, cross your arms over your chest in an "X". Wine for sipping is offered next to the bread or dip the edge of your wafer in the small cup by the pillars. **Healing prayer and anointing** are offered to all at the side chapels from the beginning of Communion through the end of the service. More information is found at the end of this bulletin.

Music for Communion Nobody knows the trouble I've seen trad. spiritual, arr. Florence Price
Sometimes I feel like a motherless child trad. spiritual,
arr. Samuel Coleridge-Taylor
Cinnamon Grove: II. Adagio cantabile Robert Nathaniel Dett

After Communion *Please stand.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **God our creator,
You feed your children with the true manna,
The living bread from heaven.
Let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage
Until we come to that place
Where hunger and thirst are no more;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing

Paraphrase of Henri Frederic Amiel

Celebrant Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who are traveling the journey with us. So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn Lord God, you now have set your servant free *Sung by all, standing.* *Song I*

Lord God, you now have set your ser - vant free to go in peace as
pro-mised in your word; my eyes have seen the Sa - vior, Christ the Lord,
pre-pared by you for all the world to see, to shine on na - tions
trapped in dark - est night, the glo - ry of your peo - ple, and their light.

Dismissal

Deacon Go out into the world in peace, have courage, hold on to what is good, return no one evil for evil, strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, help the suffering, honor everyone, love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Music for Meditation She moved through the fair trad. Irish

Postlude This little light of mine trad. spiritual, arr. Margaret Bonds

Please feel free to depart during or after the Postlude, holding silence.



Music in this evening's service

In recognition of Juneteenth this Wednesday, this service features a number of music selections by Black composers and several arrangements of traditional spirituals. Notes with additional information about these pieces and composers can be picked up at Information Central or found at ststephensrva.org/music-notes.

Memorials

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Horace Graham Buchanan, Jr. and John Michael Oslack by Mr. and Mrs. Michaux Buchanan; and Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Leitch by their family.

Participants

Celebrant: The Rev. John Jenkins; **Deacon:** The Rev. John Rohrs; **Reflector:** The Rev. Torrence Harman; **Subdeacon:** Earl Roney; **Reader/Intercessor:** Margaret Mackinnon; **Chalice Bearers:** Mary Ball, Guy Frank, Chip Jamerson, Mim Oman; **Musicians:** Kelsey Snyder, *cantor*; Vicky Hamrick, *oboe*; Diana Chou, *piano*

The Ministry of Healing Prayer at St. Stephen's Church

TO PRESENT YOURSELF FOR HEALING PRAYER OR ANOINTING: Healing ministers are located in both side chapels from the time people receive communion until after the service concludes. Go to either side chapel either after receiving communion or a blessing, or at any time following irrespective of what else is happening in the service. Because these ministries will continue through the end of the service, please respect those in prayer by exiting in silence from any of the rear doors. Whether or not you participate in these ministries tonight, you may contribute to the work of healing prayer by offering your personal prayers for yourself and that all who worship here may experience the healing love of God in their lives and bear that love into the world for its healing.

HEALING PRAYER: If you wish to sit for a moment with a healing prayer minister, it is helpful if you share your name and the concern for which you ask God's healing. The minister will lay hands on your shoulders, join with you in silently opening ourselves to God, and offering your prayer concern to the healing One who is with us always. This is not a ministry of magical incantations. It is simply about fellow pilgrims opening ourselves more completely to God's presence and healing love.

ANOINTING: If you wish to receive anointing with healing oil, approach the anointer with you palms open and extended. She or he will mark your hand with the sign of the cross and offer a simple prayer for your healing.

Healing ministries of prayer and anointing have practiced by Christians from the very beginning. God's grace is freely given to all people for the healing of spirit, mind, and body, and these practices provide ways for us to present ourselves just as we are with open hands and open hearts. We do not believe in magical incantations. Instead, these sacramental acts are simply about fellow pilgrims opening ourselves more completely to the healing love of God.

The Parish Prayer List

Charles Adams, Becky Anthony, Abigail Palmer Anthony, Rubylane Armstrong, Robert Baker, Elizabeth Bannerman, Lash Barksdale, Sandra Barnthouse, Eileen Baxter, Nancy Beale, Nancy Beeler, Kay Best, Christine Boeteger, Denise Bondy, Genie Borum, Julia Bouck, Viola Cleo Bradshaw, Liz Brengel, Elaine Brown, Pat Brown, Turner Bruneau, Sturges Bryan, Patti Bullen, Ann Campbell, Scott Carnohan, Percy Cochran, Stephanie Coleman, Susan Collier, Caswell Cooke, Mary Cooke, Prior Cooper, Gail Copeland, Randy Correll, Michelle Crim, the Most Rev. Michael Curry, Steven Dalle Mura, *Hedley Hines Davey*, Chris Davis, Ken Dibble, Carol Drawbaugh, Mary Fish, Guy Frank, Nancy Gauldin, Frank Ginty, Bill Gouldin, Grace, Mary Hancock, Rodger Hardy, Marion Hargrove, Marianne Harmuth, Reese Harrington, Katie Hellebush, Bob Hines, Tom Hodges, Deborah Hodgson-Lyons, Anna Hurdle, Esther Hutchison, Julie and Tom Imeson, the Rt. Rev. Shannon Johnston, Gouthum Karadi, the Katz family, Jane Kelly, Donna Kessler, Dana King, King Charles III, Stoney Koschak, Margee Krebs, Jim and Diedra Kriewald, Hanns Kuttner, Caleb Lambert, Brenda Lorenz, Genie Lucyk, Joy Luke, Margaret Lyle, Ross Mackenzie, Peggy Maguire, Nick Martina, Karen and Steve Matteo, Barbara Mathison, *Richard Maxwell*, *Virginia Maxwell*, Michael McCabe, Stratton and Robin McCrady, Jenks McCory, Melissa, Jack Miller, Mary Miller, Hoyt Minyard, Susan Minyard, Sallie Moncol, Caroline Hughes Neal, Anne P., Tricia Payne, Jim and Sarah Cooke Picton, Wilde Poole and family, Bob Pope, Bryson Raquet, Wick Raquet, Paul Raver, Richard Rennolds, Linda Robinson, Paul Roper, *Art Royals*, Brenda Quinn, James Saunders and Harriet Covey, Frances Scales, T. Logan Scott, Charlie Seilheimer, Margie Sesler, Jane Settle, Aiden Thomas Smith, Josh Spain, Reilly Starr, Joy Stevenson, Hew Stith, Regena Stith, Dorothy Suskind, Ron Swain, Jim Teachey, *Margaret Thompson*, Will Thompson, Tim, Nelson Toebbe, Langdon Tollett, Kenneth Valke, Crystal Vines, Cordelia Vogel, Timothy W., Ozzie Wade, Suzanne Wallace, Baird Weisleder, Tom White, Nelson Williams, Mary Wiltshire, Trevor Wingate, Paul Leddingdon Wright, Karen Young, Margaret P. Young. **For those expecting a child**, especially Emily and Andrew Morris. **For our missionaries**, Heidi Schmidt and Monica Vega, and the people they serve in Argentina. **In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer**, we pray for *Iglesia Anglicana de Chile*. **For the women, men, and staff of the City Jail. For racial reconciliation and healing. For ReWork Richmond. For an end to gun violence. For peace and reconciliation** in Haiti, Iraq, Israel/Palestine, North Korea, South Sudan, Syria, and Ukraine, and at our borders. **For those serving overseas in the military or diplomatic service:** Senior Airman Cooper Murphy, US Army Special Forces. *Names in italics have been added to the prayer list this week.*

In order to keep our prayer list current and facilitate the intentionality and mindfulness with which we pray, we print names on the list for three months or less. If you would like for someone to remain on the list for more (or less) time, please call the office or email Mary Feldman at mfeldman@ststephensRVA.org.

Prayers and blessings adapted from the following sources: The Northumbria Community, Celtic Daily Prayer: Prayers and Readings from the Northumbria Community, Harper Collins, © 2002; Intercessions for the Christian People, The Liturgical Press, ©1990; A New Zealand Prayer Book, Harper Collins, © 1997; Philip Newell, Celtic Benediction: Morning and Night Prayer, William B. Eardmans Publishing Company, © 2000; Iona Community, Iona Community Worship Book. Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, © 2017; Wild Goose Worship Group, Big Book of Liturgies, Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, © 2023. Rite Planning, © 2021, by Church Publishing Incorporated, all rights reserved, used by permission. All copyrighted music by permission, under OneLicense #A710911. Opening: "This Moment" from *In a Time of Violence*, © 1994 by Eavan Boland. Reprinted by permission of W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.

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