



CELTIC EVENSONG AND COMMUNION

at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
The Second Sunday after the Epiphany
January 19, 2025 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. Visitor guides are available 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 Thursday. From 5:10, the church is ready for prayer and rest. Please observe silence inside the church and remember to silence all devices.

Prelude Song of the River trad. Peruvian, arr. Amy and Cory Blake
Please stand at the sound of the bell.

Opening The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
I still believe that standing up for the truth of God is the greatest thing in the world. This is the end of life. The end of life is not to be happy. The end of life is not to achieve pleasure and avoid pain. The end of life is to do the will of God, come what may.

Silence is held after the reading.

Hymn Let us break bread together *Sung by all, standing.* *Let Us Break Bread*



1. Let us break bread to - gether on our knees; _____
2. Let us drink wine to - gether on our knees; _____



let us break bread to - gether on our knees; _____
let us drink wine to - gether on our knees; _____

Refrain



when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me. _____



3. Let us praise God to - gether on our knees; _____



let us praise God to - gether on our knees; _____ *to Refrain*

A Prayer for the Evening

O Christ, our love and encircler,
Each day and each night,
Each light and each dark,
Be near us, uphold us,
Our treasure and our truth. **Amen.**

The Reading John 2:1-11 *Please sit.*

Reader A Reading from the Gospel according to John.

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Silence is held for one minute of reflection.

Reflection Dave Davis

Silence is held for two minutes of reflection.

Music for Meditation Salinas Dance

Stephan Micus, arr. Blake

Prayers for Ourselves and Others *Please stand.*

from *The Book of Common Prayer of Ireland*

Deacon God has promised to hear the prayers of those who ask in faith; therefore, let us pray for the Church and the world.

In the silence following each petition the people may add their prayers either silently or aloud.

Leader Lord of your people: strengthen and renew your Church in all the world, and build us up in faith and love.

Leader Lord of creation: look with favor on the world you have made, and guide the nations in the ways of justice and of peace. We pray especially for our country and President-elect Donald Trump on the eve of his inauguration.

Leader Lord of relationship: comfort and sustain the communities in which we live and work; help us to love our neighbors as ourselves; enable us to serve our families and friends, and to love one another as you love us.

Leader Lord of healing: relieve and protect all who suffer in body, spirit, and mind; sustain and deliver all who know danger, violence, or suffering throughout the world, [especially ____].

Leader Lord of blessing: receive our thanks and gratitude for the ways you fill our lives with goodness, faith, hope, opportunity and every nourishment and comforting kindness, [especially ____].

Leader Lord of life: in the strong hope of resurrection in Christ, come near to all who grieve at the loss or death of beloved ones, [especially for ____].

Leader Lord of eternity: bind us together by your Holy Spirit in communion with your saints, that we may entrust ourselves, and one another, and our whole life to you. **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 one 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 By an' by trad. spiritual, arr. Harry T. Burleigh

Hymn Bless the Lord, my soul *Sung by all, standing.* Jacques Berthier

The refrain will be repeated several times as the cantor sings the 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 Love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for God is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as God is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you.

Amen. *Luke 6:35-38a*

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 into the basket near the baptismal font or food pantry items into the baskets by the main entrance, or make a gift online by scanning the QR code or texting STSTEPHENSVA to 73256.



At the Offertory Etude no. 6

Leo Brouwer

The Great Thanksgiving

Please stand.

Iona Worship Book, adapted

Celebrant The Lord is here.

People **God's spirit is with us.**

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 God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant 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 and outcast, with the poor and needy, with the trusting and hopeful in all the ages, we praise you, singing:

Sanctus *Sung by all.* *Land of Rest*

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 the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, — Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant We praise you for Jesus Christ, born of peasant parents, friend of lepers and tax collectors, who chose a life given up for others. On the night before he died, he shared a meal with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them saying:

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

Celebrant After supper he took a cup of wine, blessed it and gave it to them saying:

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

Celebrant Therefore according to his command, O Father,

All **We remember his death,
 We proclaim his resurrection,
 We await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant Come now Holy Spirit of God. Come upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine, that in sharing this feast we may become the body of Christ. Break down walls of selfishness and fear and bring us all to the new age in which none go hungry and all are fed. Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ in the unity of the holy Spirit be all honor and glory now and forever. **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

The Celebrant breaks the bread. A period of silence is held.

Sung by all.

Christopher Walker

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have
 mercy on us, mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
 sins of the world: have mercy on us, mercy on us. Lamb of God, you
 take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace, 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 Arietta
Wayfaring Stranger
Evening shadows

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor
trad. American, arr. Blake
Florence Price

After Communion *Please stand.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Lord Jesus Christ,
you have put your life into our hands;
now we put our lives into yours.
Take us, renew us and remake us.
What we have been is past;
what we shall be, through you,
still awaits us.
Lead us on. Take us with you. Amen.**

The Blessing

from *A New Zealand Prayer Book*

Celebrant God be your comfort, your strength;
God be your hope and support;
God be your light and your way;
and the blessing of God,
Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life,
remain with you now and for ever. **Amen.**

Hymn

Love divine, all loves excelling *Sung by all, standing.*

Pleading Savior



1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heav'n, to earth comedown,
2. Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy life re - ceive;
3. Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less let us be;



fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.
let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee:



Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;
Thee we would be al - way bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,
changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in heaven we take our place,



vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion, en - ter cv - cry trem - bling heart.
pray, and praise thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
till we cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

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 Precious Lord, take my hand

Thomas Dorsey, arr. Blake

Postlude Amazing Grace

trad. American, arr. Blake

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



Memorials

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of David L. Davis, Sr. by his family, and Lucy Stockdell by Dede Stockdell Welch.

Participants

Celebrant: The Rev. John Jenkins; **Deacon:** The Rev. Cate Anthony; **Reflector:** Dave Davis; **Subdeacon:** Barbara Massey; **Reader/Intercessor:** Annette Sparks; **Chalice Bearers:** Iffet Araniti-Davis, Katy Groover, Stephanie Peramas, Elizabeth Spell; **Musicians:** Abby Outlaw, *cantor*; Amy Blake, *flute*; Cory Blake, *guitar*; Brent te Velde, *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

Ken Abrams, Charles Adams, Abigail Palmer Anthony, Rubylane Armstrong, Robert Baker, Elizabeth Bannerman, Lash Barksdale, Nancy Beale, Nancy Beeler, Kay Best, Christine Boeteger, Denise Bondy, Genie Borum, Julia Bouck, Liz Brengel, Leslie Brockman, Alex H. Brown, Pat Brown, Turner Bruneau, Patti Bullen, Ann Campbell, Scott Carnohan, Percy Cochran, Stephanie Coleman, Susan Collier, Caswell Cooke, Mary Cooke, Prior Cooper, John Corey, Randy Correll, Michelle Crim, the Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, Steven Dalle Mura, Hedley Hines Davey, Chris Davis, Alan Demascus, Ham DeRosa, Terry Dickinson, Eddie Doyle, Barbara Hall Dunn, Guy Frank, Julia G., Nancy Gauldin, Yvette Gerardin, Frank Ginty, Janis Hall, Mary Hancock, Rodger Hardy, Marianne Harmuth, Katie Hellebush, Bob Hines, Tom Hodges, Deborah Hodgson-Lyons, Anna Hurdle, Esther Hutchison, Julie and Tom Imeson, the Rt. Rev. Shannon Johnston, Gouthum Karadi, Jane Kelly, Donna Kessler, Dana King, Diedra Kriewald, Hanns Kuttner, Caleb Lambert, Laura Lewandowski, Linda Lewis, Brenda Lorenz, Genie Lucyk, Margaret Lyle, Pam Lynch, Ross Mackenzie, Peggy Maguire, Nick Martina, Barbara Mathison, Richard Maxwell, Virginia Maxwell, Michael McCabe, Stratton and Robin McCrady, Gertrude McLean, Lydia Melton, Jack Miller, John Miller, Mary Miller, Hoyt Minyard, Susan Minyard, Sallie Moncol, Blair Barre Morris, Tricia Payne, Beth Pearce, Iralin Peple, Wilde Poole and family, Bob Pope, Tom Rader, Bryson Raquet, Wick Raquet, Stephanie Roberts, Linda Robinson, Alison Roussy, Brenda Quinn, Jason R., Jennifer Reed, Robert Sass, James Saunders and Harriet Covey, T. Logan Scott, Charlie Seilheimer, Margie Sesler, Jane Settle, Jim and Mary Beth Shannon, Chrys Sills, Aiden Thomas Smith, Josh Spain, Reilly Starr, Dorothy Suskind, Jim Teachey, Jens Tholand, Margaret Thompson, Tim, Nelson Toebbe, Langdon Tollett, Tom Turney, Kenneth Valke, Cordelia Vogel, Timothy W., Mac Wade, Ozzie Wade, Jane Wallace, Suzanne Wallace, Baird Weisleder, Tom White, Terri Wilcox, Nelson Williams, Trevor Wilson, Mary Wiltshire, Trevor Wingate, Paul Leddingdon Wright, Karen Young, Margaret P. Young, *Mitt Younts*. **For the blessings of this life, especially for the birth of Eleanor Adams Nexsen to Lindsay and Gray Nexsen. For those expecting a child,** especially Sarah and Andrew Klein, Meghan and Andrew Lawrence, and Sarah and Nathan Smith. **For our missionaries,** Heidi Schmidt and Monica Vega, and the people they serve in Argentina. **In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer,** we pray for *the Church in the Province of the West Indies*. **For ReWork Richmond. For an end to gun violence. For the victims of the wildfires in California. 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:** CPT Anna Broadbent-Evelyn and Lt. Jonathan Dean Hudson.

Names in italics were 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: The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., "The Most Durable Power," excerpt from sermon at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church on 6 November 1956, accessed: The Martin Luther King, Jr. Research and Education Institute, Stanford University.

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