



# The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 30, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church & Richmond, Virginia

Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. We are glad you are here. We welcome and include all people without exception and we extend a special greeting to any visitors. Throughout this bulletin, helpful guidance is printed in italics. Visitor guides are found in racks at the entrance doors. When you wish to be known here, please fill out a welcome card (found in each pew or online); you may drop the card into the offering plate as it is passed. Children are very welcome in this service, and child care is also available for infants and children through age four in our nursery on the lower level near the main parking lot entrance; greeters are happy to guide you. The church is open for prayer from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Thursday. We hope to see you again soon!

**Voluntary**     *Jesu, meine Zuversicht*, BWV 728     J.S Bach  
                      *Herzlich tut mich verlangen*, BWV 727     J.S Bach

## The Word of God

**Hymn 411**     O bless the Lord, my soul!     *St. Thomas*  
                      *Sung by all, standing as you are able. All hymns are found in The Hymnal 1982, the blue book in your pew rack.*

**Opening Sentences**     *Enriching Our Worship*

**Celebrant**     Blessed be the God of our salvation;  
**People**     **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

**The Decalogue**     *You may stand or kneel.*     The Book of Common Prayer, page 350

**Celebrant**     Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
                      I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
                      You shall have no other gods but me.

**People**     **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

**Celebrant**     You shall not make for yourself any idol.

**People**     **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

**Celebrant**     You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

**People**     **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

**Celebrant**     Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

**People**     **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

**Celebrant**     Honor your father and your mother.

**People**     **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

**Celebrant**     You shall not commit murder.

**People**     **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

**Celebrant**     You shall not commit adultery.

**People**     **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

**Celebrant**     You shall not steal.

**People**     **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

**Celebrant**     You shall not be a false witness.

**People**     **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

**Celebrant**     You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

**People**     **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

**Celebrant** If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *I John 1:8, 9*

**Celebrant** Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence is kept.*

**All** **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.**

**Celebrant**

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 choir sings the following once, then all repeat twice.*

Alexander Archangelsky

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,  
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy on us.

### **The Collect of the Day**

Prayer Book, page 218

**Celebrant** The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

**Celebrant** Let us pray. *A period of silence is kept.*

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**The Lesson** 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 *Please sit.*

**Reader** A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

**Reader** The Word of the Lord.

**People** **Thanks be to God.** *A period of silence is kept.*

- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, \*  
and whose sin is put away!
- 2 Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, \*  
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, \*  
because of my groaning all day long.
- 4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; \*  
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**
- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, \*  
and did not conceal my guilt.
- 6 I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." \*  
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.**
- 7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; \*  
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
- 8 You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; \*  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**
- 9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; \*  
I will guide you with my eye.
- 10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; \*  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,  
or else they will not stay near you."**
- 11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; \*  
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.
- 12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; \*  
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.**
- Silence is kept.*

**Hymn 469**      There's a wideness in God's mercy

*Sung by all, standing.*

*St. Helena*

**The Gospel**      Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32      *Please remain standing and face the reader of the Gospel.*

**Deacon**              The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**People**                **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So Jesus told them this parable: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe--the best one--and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working

like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon The Rev. William L. Sachs

The Nicene Creed *Said by all, standing.*

Prayer Book, page 358

**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.**

The Prayers of the People, Form II

Prayer Book, page 385

Celebrant Let us pray for the church and the world.

*You may stand or kneel.*

*In the course of the pause after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.*

Leader I ask your prayers for God’s people throughout the world; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Leader I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

Leader I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison, remembering especially those who suffer in the Holy Land, Eastern Europe, and all places of conflict. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Leader I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Leader I ask your prayers of thanksgiving for all the blessings of this life, [especially \_\_\_\_\_]. Pray for a heart to perceive where Christ calls us to bless others each day of this life.

Leader I ask your prayers for the departed, [especially \_\_\_\_\_]. Pray for those who have died.

Leader Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Celebrant Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Peace** Please stand.  
**Celebrant** The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**People** **And also with you.**

The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord. After exchanging the Peace, please be seated.

## Welcome and Announcements

### The Holy Communion

All comes from God, so from what God has given, we offer gifts as we participate in God's work in the world. You may offer your gift in an offering plate as they come by or make a gift online by scanning the QR code or texting STSTEPHENSVA to 73256.



#### At the Offertory

**Hymn 684** O for a closer walk with God *Sung by all, seated.*

*Caithness*

#### At the Presentation

*Sung by all, standing.*

*Gardiner*

The fruits of our labor are presented to God, along with gifts for our food ministry.



All things are thine; no gift have we, Lord of all gifts, to offer thee; and



hence with grateful hearts to-day thine own before thy feet we lay.

#### The Great Thanksgiving

*The people remain standing.*

*Enriching Our Worship, Eucharistic Prayer 1*

**Celebrant** 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 God thanks and praise.**

**Celebrant** It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You bid us to cleanse our hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, we may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

#### Sanctus

*Sung by all.*

William Bradley Roberts



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord God of power and might.\_\_\_\_



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est.\_\_\_\_



Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

*You may stand or kneel.*

*Celebrant*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

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

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all 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.**

*Celebrant*

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

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

*Celebrant and People*

Prayer Book, page 364

**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**

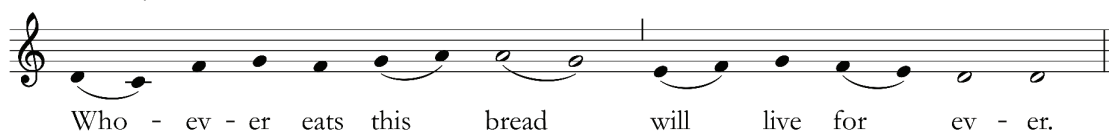
*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.*

The Hymnal S-170

*The cantor sings the antiphon, then all repeat. All sing the antiphon again after each verse.*

Mason Martens

Antiphon  
Cantor; then All



*Cantor:*

1. This is the true bread which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.
2. Whoever believes in me shall not hunger or thirst, for the bread which I give for the life of the world is my flesh.

## 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 are welcome at the altar in this place. Communion is distributed at the chancel steps and in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd (kneeling or standing). The altar also extends to your pew if you need us to bring the sacrament to you; just let an usher know. To receive Communion, place your hands together, palms up. You may consume the bread and then drink from the wine in the larger chalice. If you prefer to “intinct” or touch the edge of your bread to the wine, please use one of the smaller cups, available at all stations. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms against your chest.*

## Music at Communion

**Hymn 620** Jerusalem, my happy home

*Sung by all, seated.*

*Land of Rest*

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray. *You may stand or kneel.*

**All**  
**Almighty and everliving God,**  
**we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food**  
**of the most precious Body and Blood**  
**of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;**  
**and for assuring us in these holy mysteries**  
**that we are living members of the Body of your Son,**  
**and heirs of your eternal kingdom.**  
**And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do,**  
**to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.**  
**To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,**  
**be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

Prayer Book, page 366

## The Solemn Prayer

*The Book of Occasional Services*

*Celebrant* Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people who kneel before you; and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Hymn 690** Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

*Sung by all, standing.*

*Cwm Rhondda*

## Dismissal

Prayer Book, page 366

*Deacon* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Voluntary** Eleven Chorale Preludes: IX. *Herzlich tut mich verlangen*

Johannes Brahms



## Memorials

The arrangements are given to the glory of God and in memory of William Astor Stanley by his family. The vigil candle in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit is given in memory of Dr. Lionel Lane.

## Participants

**CELEBRANT:** The Rev. John D. Rohrs; **DEACON AND PREACHER:** The Rev. William L. Sachs; **SUBDEACON:** Kathy Brock; **READER:** Rosie Ferrell; **INTERCESSOR:** Mary Ball; **EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:** Barbara Massey; **CHALICE BEARERS:** Beth Crews, Chip Jamerson, Gibboney Huske, Kim Schmidt; **ACOLYTES:** Hayes Carithers, Rosie Ferrell, Abigail Moore, Tripp Schnell, Collin Weis; **MUSICIANS:** St. Stephen’s Hymn Choir, Chris Edwards, *director*; Diana Chou, *organ*; **VERGER:** Dave Davis

## The Parish Prayer List

Charles Adams, Abigail Palmer Anthony, Rubylane Armstrong, Patricia Atkins-Smith, Robert Baker, Elizabeth Bannerman, Lash Barksdale, Nancy Beale, Nancy Beeler, Robert Bjorkholm, Christine Boeteger, Denise Bondy, Genie Borum, Julia Bouck, Liz Brengel, Leslie Brockman, Alex H. Brown, Pat Brown, Sarah Jo Bryce, Turner Bruneau, Matt Boyd, Patti Bullen, Ann Campbell, Scott Carnohan, Paula Chambers, Helen Clendenin, Percy Cochran, Susan Collier, Caswell Cooke, Mary Cooke, Prior Cooper, Stephanie Copeland, John Corey, Randy Correll, Michelle Crim, the Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, Steven Dalle Mura, Chris Davis, Ham DeRosa, Terry Dickinson, Davis Dunn Dillard, Eddie Doyle, Barbara Hall Dunn, Guy Frank, Julia G., Yvette Gerardin, Frank Ginty, Janis Hall, Mary Hancock, Rodger Hardy, Marianne Harmuth, Katie Hellebush, Dan Hill, Tom Hodges, Deborah Hodgson-Lyons, Anna Hurdle, Esther Hutchison, Julie and Tom Imeson, the Rt. Rev. Shannon Johnston, Brian Jones, Lena Jones, Gouthum Karadi, Jane Kelly, Dana King, Diedra Kriewald, Hanns Kuttner, Caleb Lambert, Laura Lewandowski, Linda Lewis, Eva Lindsay, Sharon Livsie, Brenda Lorenz, Genie Lucyk, Margaret Lyle, Pam Lynch, Ross Mackenzie, Peggy Maguire, Nick Martina, Barbara Mathison, Richard Maxwell, Virginia Maxwell, Michael McCabe, Schnucki McCabe, Stratton and Robin McCrady, Gertrude McLean, Melanie, Jack Miller, John Miller, Mary Miller, Melanie Lohr Miller, Hoyt Minyard, Susan Minyard, Sallie Moncol, Mary Beth Noel, Lynn Parli, Tricia Payne, Beth Pearce, Ernest Perry, Courtney Phillips, Scott Pittman, Wilde Poole and family, Bob Pope, Tom Rader, Bryson Raquet, Wick Raquet, Sara Ritter, Stephanie Roberts, Linda Robinson, Alison Roussy, Brenda Quinn, Jason R., Jennifer Reed, Kaley Rosenthal, Robert Sass, James Saunders and Harriet Covey, T. Logan Scott, Charlie Seilheimer, Margie Sesler, Jane Settle, Jim and Mary Beth Shannon, Torrey Shuford, Chrys Sills, Aiden Thomas Smith, Josh Spain, Ben Sparks, Reilly Starr, Dorothy Suskind, Margaret Teachey, Jens Tholand, Margaret Thompson, Nelson Toebe, Langdon Tollett, Tom Turney, Kenneth Valke, Cordelia Vogel, Timothy W., Mac Wade, Ozzie Wade, Suzanne Wallace, Baird Weisleder, Tom White, Terri Wilcox, Nelson Williams, Trevor Wilson, Mary Wiltshire, Trevor Wingate, *Keith Witherspoon, Claire Wood, Emily Wood, Riley Wood, Paul Leddingdon Wright, Karen Young, Margaret P. Young.* **For those expecting a child**, especially Natalie and Lewis Jones, Stuart and Melissa Kegan, Sarah and Andrew Klein, and Elizabeth and Matson Roberts. **For those who have died**, especially *Kay Best*. **For our missionaries**, Heidi Schmidt and Monica Vega, and the people they serve in Argentina. **In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer**, we pray for *Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo*. **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:** 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](mailto:mfeldman@ststephensRVA.org).*

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