



The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 17, 2025 at 8:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist: Rite One

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church ☙ Richmond, Virginia

Welcome to St. Stephen's Church. We are so glad you are here. This service of Holy Eucharist follows the order found in the Book of Common Prayer (the red book in the pew rack) beginning on page 323. This bulletin provides page numbers and other information to guide you through the service. You will notice that several pews have been removed from the Chapel of the Good Shepherd and a "soft space" provided for young children and their parents. This is a temporary relocation of this important offering for young families during the summer months. In the fall, the soft space returns to its location in Palmer Hall Chapel.

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation *Please stand as you are able.* The Book of Common Prayer, page 323

The Collect for Purity page 323

The Summary of the Law page 324

Kyrie, Trisagion or Gloria page 324

The Collect of the Day *Found on page 3.*

The First Lesson *Found on page 3; please sit.*

The Psalm *Found on page 3; please remain seated and read responsively by whole verse.*

The Gospel *Found on page 3-4; please stand.*

The Sermon *Please sit.*

The Nicene Creed *Please stand.* page 326

The Prayers of the People *Please kneel as you are able.* pages 328-330

The Confession of Sin page 330

The Peace *Please stand.* page 332

Welcome and Announcements *Please sit.*

The Holy Communion

At the Presentation of Alms

All comes from God, so from what God has given, we offer gifts to sustain God's work in the world. If you wish to make your offering electronically, please scan the QR code or text STSTEPHENS RVA to 73256.



All things come of thee, O Lord.
And of thine own have we given thee.

The Great Thanksgiving Please stand.pages 340-343
Please kneel after the Sanctus.

The Lord's Prayer page 336The Breaking of the Bread page 337The Prayer of Humble Access page 337

The Distribution of Holy Communion

All are welcome at the altar in this place. Communion is distributed at the Communion rail in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd, and you may stand or kneel to receive. To receive Communion, extend your hands, one over another, 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 the smaller cup. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms against your chest. If you need us to bring the sacrament to you, please let the usher know.

The Post-Communion Prayer page 339The Blessing and Dismissal page 339-340

The Collect and Readings

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The Collect of the Day

The Book of Common Prayer, page 180

Almighty God, who hast given thy only Son to be unto us both a sacrifice for sin and also an example of godly life: Give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive that his inestimable benefit, and also daily endeavor ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life; through the same Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Reader A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

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

Psalm 82 *Said responsively by whole verse, seated.*

Prayer Book, page 702

1 God takes his stand in the council of heaven; *
he gives judgment in the midst of the gods:

**2 “How long will you judge unjustly, *
and show favor to the wicked?”**

3 Save the weak and the orphan; *
defend the humble and needy;

**4 Rescue the weak and the poor; *
deliver them from the power of the wicked.**

5 They do not know, neither do they understand;
they go about in darkness; *
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

**6 Now I say to you, ‘You are gods, *
and all of you children of the Most High;**

7 Nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, *
and fall like any prince.”

**8 Arise, O God, and rule the earth, *
for you shall take all nations for your own.**

The Gospel Luke 12:49-56 *Please stand as you are able and face the reader of the Gospel.*

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

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus said, "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Memorials

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mr. and Mrs. James Dunn Mason, Sr., Dr. and Mrs. James Dunn Mason, Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Hamilton Mason by Sarah Mason Ayers; John H. Beebe, Jr. and William H. Beebe by their family; and Mr. and Mrs. Vachel Augustine Downes and Mr. and Mrs. John Franklyn Newsom, Jr. by Mr. and Mrs. John Franklyn Newsom III and family.

Participants

CELEBRANT AND PREACHER: The Rev. Cate Anthony; READER AND CHALICE BEARER: Andy Luke

The Parish Prayer List

Copies of the parish prayer list are available inside the Three Chopt Road entrance to the church at Information Central, outside the parish office.