



The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 21, 2025 at 11:15 a.m.

Holy Baptism

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

Maestoso and Andante sostenuto

Hermann Schroeder

The Word of God

Hymn 368

Holy Father, great Creator

Regent Square

Sung by all, standing as you are able. All hymns are found in The Hymnal 1982, the blue book in your pew rack.

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, page 299

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant There is one Body and one Spirit;

People **There is one hope in God's call to us;**

Celebrant One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People **One God and Father of all.**

The Collect of the Day

Prayer Book, page 233

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. *Silence is kept.*

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson Amos 8:4-7 *Please sit.*

Reader A reading from the Book of Amos.

Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat." The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

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

Psalm 113 *Said responsively by whole verse, seated.*

Prayer Book, page 756

1 Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD; *
praise the Name of the LORD.

2 **Let the Name of the LORD be blessed, ***
from this time forth for evermore.

3 From the rising of the sun to its going down *

let the Name of the LORD be praised.

4 The LORD is high above all nations, *
and his glory above the heavens.

5 Who is like the LORD our God, who sits enthroned on high *
but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?

6 He takes up the weak out of the dust *
and lifts up the poor from the ashes.

7 He sets them with the princes, *
with the princes of his people.

8 He makes the woman of a childless house *
to be a joyful mother of children.

Silence is kept.

Hymn 488 Be thou my vision *Sung by all, standing as able.*

Slane

The Gospel Luke 16:1-13 *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.**

Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon The Rev. John W.A. Jenkins

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates *Remain seated.*

Prayer Book, page 301

Celebrant The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Godparents of the Candidates

I present Margaret Elizabeth Corey to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

I present Fielding Lewis Harrison Jr. to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

I present Katherine Alexandra Neal to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

I present Sophie Adair Richardson to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Question Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Answer I will, with God's help.

Question Will you by your prayers and witness help these children to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Answer I will, with God's help.

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?
Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?
Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?
Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?
Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?
Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?
Answer I do.

The Celebrant invites the congregation to stand and addresses them, saying

Celebrant Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?
People **We will.**

Celebrant Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant *Remain standing, as able.* Prayer Book, page 304

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge
the living and the dead.**

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Prayers for the Candidates

Prayer Book, page 305

Celebrant Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Leader Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Christ by water and the Spirit, may live reborn in the freedom and power of his resurrection, and so we offer thanks for the blessings of life, [especially for _____], and we commend to you those who have died [remembering especially _____]; with all the saints we offer our prayers, through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

As the baptismal families move toward the font, all children are invited to come to the font to participate in the blessing of the water.

Thanksgiving over the Water

Please remain standing, as able, and face the font.

Prayer Book, page 306

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Baptism

Prayer Book, page 307

Each candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, who then pours water upon the candidate, saying

*N., I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.***

A priest then anoints the newly baptized with oil, saying

*N., you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.***

Celebrant

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

All

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The Peace

Prayer Book, page 360

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 STSTEPHENS RVA to 73256.



At the Offertory

We shall walk through the valley in peace

Sung by the choir.

Traditional spiritual, arr. Undine Smith Moore

Lord, we shall walk, shall walk in peace.

We shall walk through the valley in peace.

If Jesus himself shall be our leader,

we shall walk through the valley in peace.

There will be no trials there.

If Jesus himself shall lead us,

we shall walk through the valley in peace.

At the Presentation

Sung by all, standing as able.

Old 100th

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

Musical notation for the Presentation hymn, consisting of two staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here be - low; praise
him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

The people remain standing.

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.**

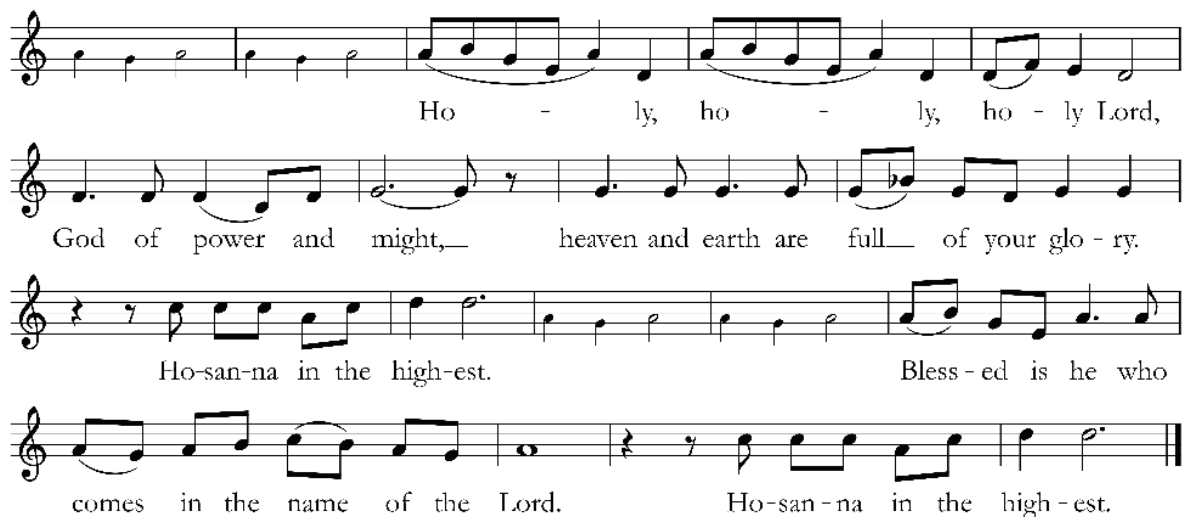
Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. *Here a proper preface is said.*

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:

Sanctus

Sung by all.

The Hymnal S-128, William Mathias



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
 God of power and might, — heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho-san-na in the high-est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

You may remain standing or kneel.

Celebrant

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into 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 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

Celebrant

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Blessed Stephen; Blessed Mary, Mother of God; and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 *The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept. The Hymnal S-171*
The cantor sings the antiphon, then all repeat. All sing the antiphon again after each verse. Mason Martens



Cantor 1. The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ. *Antiphon*
2. One body are we, alleluia, for though many we share one bread. *Antiphon*

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 high altar and in both side chapels. 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, cross one hand over the other, 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

Anthem All that I am
All that I am, all I ever can be
I owe to you, Lord, for you have molded me.
All that I have, all that I call mine
I owe to you, Lord, for all things are thine.
You are the source of light:
Light that's offered all.
In your wisdom you give to each his due.

Sung by the choir.

William Grant Still

You are the source of love:
Love that binds in unity.
In your love and mercy I find lasting peace.
All that I love, all that's dear to me,
All of my blessings come, my Lord, from thee.
All that I own, all that belongs to me,
All I surrender, my Lord, to thee.

Hymn 549 Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult

Sung by all, seated.

St. Andrew

After Communion, the Celebrant says

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

All **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.

Prayer Book, page 365

The Blessing *The Celebrant pronounces God's blessing.*

Hymn 594 God of grace and God of glory *Sung by all.*

Cwm Rhondda

Dismissal

Prayer Book, page 366

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary Poco vivace

Hermann Schroeder



Memorials

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Dr. Walter Mayer and Dr. Robin Mayer by their family.

Participants

CELEBRANT: The Rev. Cate Anthony; DEACON: The Rev. John D. Rohrs; SUBDEACON: Bob Dibble; LAY READER/
INTERCESSOR: Darrell Headrick; PREACHER: The Rev. John W. A. Jenkins; ASSISTING PRIEST: The Rev. William L.
Sachs; CHALICE BEARERS: Clarice Dibble, Mim Oman, Laurie Rogers, Kim Spensieri; ACOLYTES: Tabitha Johnson,
Sadie Kidd, Amy Phillips, Lucy Phillips; MUSICIANS: Members of St. Stephen's Choir, Chris Edwards, *director*; Greg
Vick, *organ*; VERGER: Penn Rogers

Presented for Holy Baptism

Margaret Elizabeth Corey, child of John Mason Corey and Katherine Saffelle Corey

Fielding Lewis Harrison Jr., child of Fielding Lewis Harrison and Caroline Shands Harrison

Katherine Alexandra Neal, child of John Hylton Neal and Jennifer Lou Neal

Sophie Adair Richardson, child of Adam Conrad Richardson and Greta Kells Richardson

The Parish Prayer List

Copies of the parish prayer list are available at Information Central (the large table outside the parish office) and in the narthex (the vestibule inside the Three Chopt Road entrance to the church). To add someone to the prayer list, please contact Kitty Ball in the parish office, kball@ststephensRVA.org.

Rite Planning, Copyright©2021 by Church Publishing Incorporated, All rights reserved; from Copyright©1977; used by permission. Adapted from Common Worship, Copyright © The Archbishops' Council of the Church of England, 2000-2006; All of the official Common Worship publications are being published by Church House Publishing. All music reprinted with permission via OneLicense #A710911.

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church ☎ 6000 Grove Avenue Richmond, Virginia 23226 ☎ 804.288.2867 ☎ ststephensRVA.org