



Palmer Hall Chapel

Sunday, September 21, 2025 at 9 a.m. ☩ The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church ☩ Richmond, Virginia

Welcome to the Palmer Hall service

We are delighted you are here. Wherever you might be on your faith journey, we hope your experience here will strengthen and affirm you. We are sure that your presence among us today strengthens others, and we welcome you to join in everything that St. Stephen's offers. Every Sunday, we offer several different services of worship (at 8, 9 and 11:15 a.m., and 5:30 and 8 p.m.), each with its own character. At 9 a.m., two services are happening simultaneously—one in the main church, and this one which takes place in Palmer Hall Chapel.

The Palmer Hall service for some feels especially welcoming to families, particularly those with babies and children. Both of the 9 a.m. services—this one, and the one in the main church—include important roles for children, and people of all ages are welcome at any service. In Palmer Hall, our worship space includes a “soft space.” This is an area with a rug, floor cushions, and children's books where children can move a bit more freely and comfortably than they can in rows of seating. Please accompany your child to the soft space if and when they want to visit it; this helps us ensure the safety and comfort of our whole community.

Both of the 9 a.m. services include Holy Eucharist. All are welcome at the altar in this place. 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, touching the edge of the bread to the wine, please use one of the smaller cups. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms on the front of your chest. Children who have been baptized are welcome to receive communion. The important thing is that you know God welcomes you and that this church welcomes you. Please come back often.

Prelude

Welcome

The Word of God

Opening Hymn

'Tis the gift to be simple

Sung by all, standing, several times.

Simple Gifts



'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free, 'tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,



and when we find ourselves in the place just right, 'twill be in the val-ley of love and de-light.



When true sim-plic-i-ty is gained to bow and to bend we shan't be a-shamed, to



turn, turn, will be our de-light till by turn-ing, turn-ing we come round right.

Opening Prayer

Deacon This is the day that the Lord has made.

People **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

The Collect of the Day

Prayer Book, page 234

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 First Lesson Amos 8:4-7

Reader A reading from the Prophet 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.**

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.

The Gospel Song Celtic Alleluia

Sing with Joy

Sung twice by all, standing, before and after the Gospel.



The Gospel Luke 16:1-13

Reader 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."

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Wondering The Rev. Cate Anthony

The children are invited to gather on the center rug.

The Creed *Said by all, standing.*

I believe in God above,

I believe in Jesus' love.

I believe God's Spirit too,

comes to tell me what to do.

I believe that I can be

kind and good,

dear Lord, like thee.

The Prayers of the People, Form III *Please remain standing.*

Prayer Book, page 387

Celebrant Let us pray for the church and the world.

Please remain standing. The Leader and the People pray responsively.

Leader Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People **That we all may be one.**

Leader Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

Leader We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

People **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

Leader We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Leader Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Leader Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; remembering especially those who suffer in the Middle East, Eastern Europe, and all other places of conflict,

People **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Leader We pray for those who have died [especially _____]. Give to the departed eternal rest.

People **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Leader We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
People **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Leader [We pray/give thanks for _____.] Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The People may add their own petitions.

Celebrant Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Birthday Blessing

Prayer Book, page 830

All **O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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.

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. Ephesians 5:2

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 online (use the QR code, or text STSTEPHENSVA to 73256), or in the offering plates as they come by.



Offertory

Make me a light

music and text: Philip Wilby

Make me a light to lighten the world,
Make me a star to lighten the darkness,
Make me so bright with your living word,
That I may shine with your love.

I hold a candle in my hands,
Light which I hold and which I hold true,
Light of the world shine out in the dark,
May it always remind me of you.

I hold a mirror in my hands,
There what I am and what I may do,
Shines back to me in your glorious light,
Make me a worthy reflection of you.

I hold a seed within my hands,
Lend me your help to make it grow
Into the sweetest scented flower
That it may lovelier flowers sow.

At the Presentation

Sung by all, standing.

Old 100th



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 children are invited to follow the ushers forward to sit on the rug in front of the altar for the Great Thanksgiving.

The Great Thanksgiving

Common Worship, 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 always right to give you thanks, God our Creator, loving and faithful, holy and strong. You made us and the whole universe, and filled your world with life. You sent your Son to live among us, Jesus our Savior, Mary's child. He suffered on the cross; he died to save us from our sins; he rose in glory from the dead. You send your Spirit to bring new life to the world, and clothe us with power from on high. And so we join the angels to celebrate and sing:

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

Father, on the night before he died, Jesus shared a meal with his friends. He took the bread, and thanked you. He broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me."

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine. He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you. This is my blood, the new promise of God's unfailing love. Do this to remember me."

Great is the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died.**

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant

Father, as we bring this bread and wine, and remember Jesus' death and resurrection, send your Holy Spirit, that we who share these gifts may be fed by Christ's body and his blood. Pour your Spirit on us that we may love one another, work for the healing of the earth, and share the good news of Jesus, as we wait for his coming in glory. For honor and praise belong to you, Father, with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit: one God, 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.**

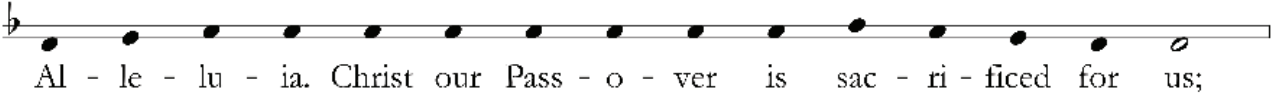
**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

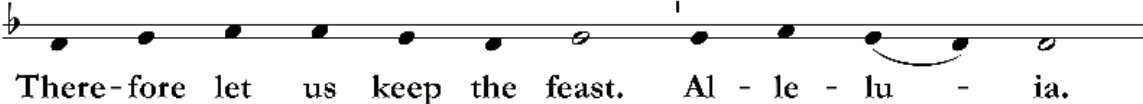
**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

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

Mason Martens, S-152

Cantor 
Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

All 
There-fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

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

Communion will be served at two stations, standing. All are welcome to come forward. To receive Communion, place your hands together, palms up. If you would like a gluten-free wafer, please tell the minister. If you prefer a blessing, please cross your arms on the front of your chest.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray. *Please stand.*

All **God of abundance,
you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people
in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The Blessing Song Go Now in Peace
Go now in peace, go now in peace.
May the love of God surround you,
everywhere, everywhere you may go.

Sung by all, standing.

Natalie Sleeth

Hymn 488 Be thou my vision

Sung by all.

Slane

Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Prayer Book, page 366

Postlude



Participants

CELEBRANT: The Rev. Cate Anthony

DEACON: The Rev. Abby Kocher

MUSICIANS: St. Stephen's Choristers, Diana Chou, *director*; Karen Harris, *piano*

The Parish Prayer List

Charles Adams, Richelle Anderson, Abigail Palmer Anthony, Rubylane Armstrong, Patricia Atkins-Smith, Sue Atkinson, Robert Baker, Elizabeth Bannerman, Lash Barksdale, Nancy Beale, Ken Blaisdell, Christine Boeteger, Denise Bondy, Genie Borum, Julia Bouck, Gene Bowles, Liz Brengel, Sturges Brian, Leslie Brockman, Alex H. Brown, Pat Brown, Sarah Jo Bryce, Turner Bruneau, Matt Boyd, Patti Bullen, the Robert Burns family, Ann Campbell, Tammy Carleton, Scott Carnohan, Paula Chambers, Percy Cochran, Sarah Cole, Susan Collier, Caswell Cooke, Mary Cooke, Prior Cooper, Kathy Conrad, Stephanie Copeland, John Corey, Randy Correll, Tom Coulbourn, Michelle Crim, the Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, Steven Dalle Mura, Daniel and family, Chris Davis, Patricia Delany, Alan Demascus, Jackie Dering, Ham DeRosa, Terry Dickinson, Davis Dunn Dillard, Barbara Hall Dunn, Charlotte and Wade Elliott, Proctor Ford, Guy Frank, Julia G., Yvette Gerardin, Frank Ginty, Janis Hall, Rodger Hardy, Marianne Harmuth, Katie Hellebush, Dan Hill, Deborah Hodgson-Lyons, Anna Hurdle, Esther Hutchison, Julie Imeson, *Alan Jamesieson*, the Rt. Rev. Shannon Johnston, Lena Jones, Gouthum Karadi, Jane Kelly, Dana King, *William Turner Kump*, Margee Krebs, Diedra Kriewald, Hanns Kuttner, Caleb Lambert, Laura Lewandowski, Linda Lewis, Eva Lindsay, Sharon Livsie, Brenda Lorenz, Genie Lucyk, Joy Luke, Margaret Lyle, Pam Lynch, Ross Mackenzie, Peggy Maguire, Michael J. Malone, Barbara Mathison, Adrienne Maxwell, Richard Maxwell, Virginia Maxwell, Michael McCabe, Schnucki McCabe, Morgan McCall, Stratton and Robin McCrady, Gertrude McLean, Nancy Meath, Melanie, Jack Miller, Mary Miller, Susan Minyard, Sallie Moncol, Lou Anne Nabhan, Ashley Nickerson, Mary Beth Noel, Jan Orgain, Tricia Payne, Beth Pearce, Ernest Perry, Courtney Phillips, Scott Pittman, Wilde Poole and family, Bob Pope, Lee Powell, Lyn Presson, Tom Rader, Bryson Raquet, Wick Raquet, Nancy B. Reed, Brenda Rohadfox, Stephanie Roberts, Linda Robinson, Alison Roussy, Brenda Quinn, Jason R., Jennifer Reed, Kaley Rosenthal, Richard Sanger, Robert Sass, James Saunders and Harriet Covey, T. Logan Scott, Margie Sesler, Jane Settle, Jim and Mary Beth Shannon, Todd Shelton, *Bette Shiflett*, Maj. David Shuford, Jr., Chrys Sills, Aiden Thomas Smith, Ross Southward, Josh Spain, Ben Sparks, Jayne Speck, Reilly Starr, Regena Stith, Dorothy Suskind, Margaret Teachey, Jens Tholand, Margaret Thompson, Matt Thompson, Sr., Nelson Toebbe, Langdon Tollett, Kenneth Valke, Cordelia Vogel, Timothy W., Mac Wade, Ozzie Wade, Carol and Don Wakeley, Suzanne Wallace, Tom White, Terri Wilcox, Donna Williams, Trevor Wingate, Claire Wood, Emily H. Wood, Sue Wootton, Paul Leddingdon Wright, Karen Young, Margaret P. Young. **For those who have died**, especially *John "Tad" Tadlock*. **For the blessings of this life**, especially for the baptisms of *Margaret Elizabeth Corey, Fielding Lewis Harrison, Jr., Katherine Alexandra Neal, and Sophie Adair Richardson*. **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 *Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan*. **For ReWork Richmond**. **For an end to gun violence**. **For peace and reconciliation** in Haiti, Iraq, Iran, 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, Lt. Jonathan Dean Hudson, Abraham Schlossberg, and Lt. Alex Whitmire. *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.

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