



CELTIC EVENSONG AND COMMUNION

at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost ☩ October 12, 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 found 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 on Sundays, the church is ready for prayer and rest. Please observe silence inside the church and thank you for remembering to "silence" all devices.

Prelude

Scenes from Dinétah: Cedar

Connor Chee

Please stand at the sound of the bell, as you are able.

Opening

Common Cause

Episcopal Bishop Steven Charleston, member of the Choctaw Nation

The more things in this world seem to slide out of control
The more we need every person
Of every faith and every tradition
To stand together to hold the center of love.

Now is not the time for us to hang our heads in despair
But rather to raise our expectation
Of what a united community can do
When it has the will to do it.

Across all lines of imagined division,
Against all odds of reaction
We extend our hands and hearts
To every person around our Mother Earth
Who will join in the struggle
For peace, reconciliation, and justice.
Faith is not a sign of our difference
But a clear call to our common cause.

Silence is held after the reading.

Hymn

Many and great, O God, are thy works

Sung by all, standing as able.

Lacquiparle



1. Man - y and great, O God, are thy works, ma - ker of earth and sky;
2. Grant un - to us com - mun - ion with thee, thou star - a - bid - ing one;



thy hands have set the hea - vens with stars; thy fin - gers spread the moun - tains and plains.
come un - to us and dwell with — us; with thee are found the gifts of — life.



Lo, at thy word the wa - ters were formed; deep seas o - bey thy voice.
Bless us with life that has no — end, e - ter - nal life with thee.

A Prayer for the Evening

from *Ojibwe Evening Prayer*

Great Spirit God,
we give you thanks for another day on this earth.
We give you thanks for this day
to enjoy the compassionate goodness of you, our Creator.
We acknowledge with one mind
our respect and gratefulness to all the sacred cycle of life.
Bind us together in the circle of compassion
to embrace all living creatures and one another **Amen.**

The Reading Luke 17:11-19 *Please sit.*

Reader A Reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

Silence is held for one minute of reflection.

Reflection Kathy Brock

Silence is held for two minutes of reflection.

Music for Meditation *Heleluyan* (Alleluia)

trad. Muscogee (Creek) hymn

Prayers for Ourselves and Others *Please stand.*

Deacon Let us pray for the revealing of the reign of God in the world, now and always.

During the silence after each bidding, the people offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

Leader Creator of earth, sea, and sky, kindle the fire of your Spirit within us that we may be bold to heal and defend the earth, and pour your blessing upon all who work for the good of the planet.

Leader God, Giver of life,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Source of life, heal and redeem the wounds of your creation, and visit the places and people who suffer from our indifference, neglect, and greed. We remember especially those who suffer in the Middle East, Eastern Europe, and all places of conflict.

Leader God, Giver of life,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Lover of all you have made, we thank you for the wondrous diversity of your creatures, and we pray for their well-being.

Leader God, Giver of life,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Giver of all good gifts, awaken us daily to our dependence upon your bounty, and make us always thankful for the abundance of your blessings, [especially _____].

Leader God, Giver of life,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Comforter of all the earth, sustain your people, especially the people of this congregation who desire or need your presence and help.

Leader God, Giver of life,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Rock and refuge of all your creatures, receive into everlasting mercy all those who have died, [especially _____].

Leader God, Giver of life,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Eternal God, the light of all who know you, come and fill our hearts with your love. Help us speak when many keep silent, help us stand for what is right when many sit in indifference. Increase our faith and charity, until your kingdom comes and heaven and earth rejoice in everlasting glory; through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **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 a 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 Navajo Vocable No. 3

Connor Chee

Hymn In the Lord I'll be ever thankful

Jacques Berthier

The congregation will repeat the refrain as the cantor sings the verses.

In the Lord I'll be ev-er thank-ful; in the Lord I will re-joice! Look to God, do not be a-
fraid. Lift up your voic-es, the Lord is near. Lift up your voic-es, the Lord is near.

Verses: In the Lord I'll be ever thankful; in the Lord I will rejoice! Look to God, do not be afraid. Lift up your voices, the Lord is near. You are my salvation; I trust in you, I shall not be afraid, you are my strength; you are my song. I call upon the Lord God who is worthy of praise. The Lord shall save me.

The Grace Wherever I turn my eyes, around on Earth or to the heavens
I see you in the field of stars
I see you in the yield of the land
In every breath and sound, a blade of grass, a simple flower,
An echo of Your holy Name. **Amen.**

Rabbi Abraham ibn Ezra

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."

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

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 *Hine e hine*

Te Rangi Pai, arr. Sarah Class

The Great Thanksgiving

Please stand.

A Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes, Eucharistic Prayer II

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 offer thanks and praise.**

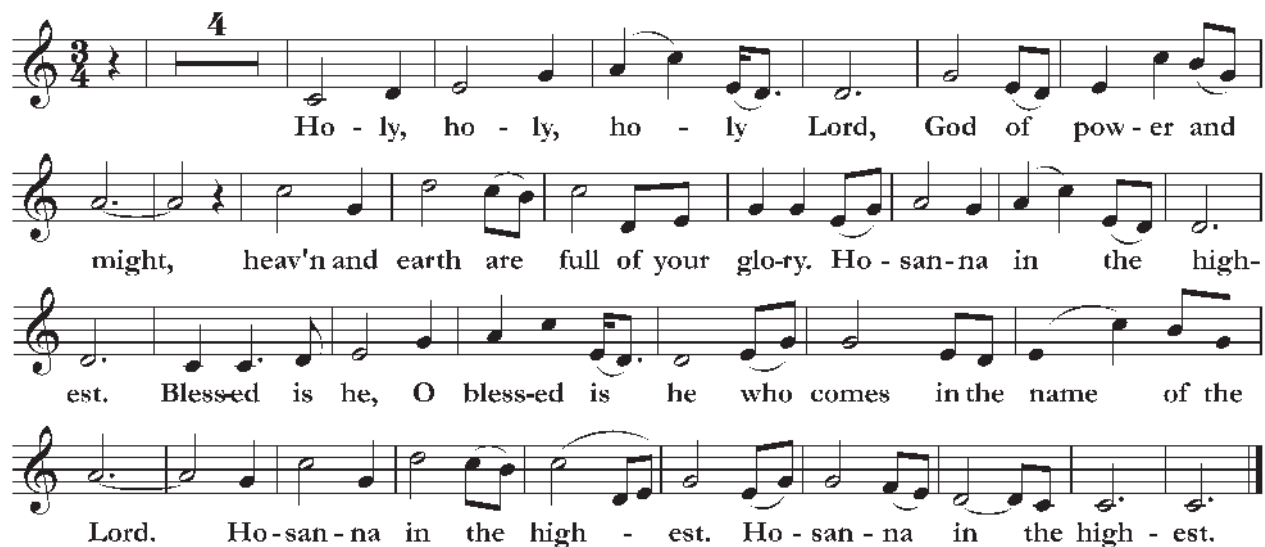
Celebrant It is right in all times and in all places to thank and praise you, Creator of all. We praise you here, at the falls of the James: where piedmont opens to coastal plain, and forest and farm meet suburb and city. We praise you at a time when the body of earth is broken again and again. We give thanks for our place in the story of salvation. Our ancestors journeyed with you in creation and migration. They depended on the land, were displaced from the land and displaced others from their lands. They knew you in tents and cities, on mountains and by wells, in families and in dreams, and through wilderness prophets who spoke of cedars and listened to ravens.

Together with angels and ancestors, with dogwood and magnolia, cardinal and sparrow, white-tail deer and roving black bear, we join our voices with all creation in this ancient honor song:

Sanctus

Sung by all.

James MacMillan



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 he, O bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant We give thanks to you for Jesus, whose first bed was a feed trough. He was baptized in the Jordan, tested in the wilderness, he traveled in fishing boats and told parables of farmers and seeds, labor and wages, yeast and bread. On the night before he died, Jesus took bread, food of the poor, the work of field and hearth, he gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his friends saying:

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

Celebrant Again after supper he took the cup of wine, fruit of the land, gave thanks and gave it to his friends saying:

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

Celebrant Remembering Jesus’ life, death and resurrection and awaiting his coming kingdom, we offer you this bread and this cup. Holy Creator, send your Spirit on these gifts so that we know Jesus in them and are gathered together with everyone who shares this sacred meal of justice and community. Fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that we may strive for justice and peace, respect the dignity of every human being, and safeguard the integrity of creation. Bring us with and all your saints to your commonwealth of sparrow and lily, child and beggar, which is both now and yet to come.

All honor and glory are yours, Creator, Christ, and Spirit, 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.

James MacMillan



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, 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

Sandpainting No. 6: Southern Clouds

Connor Chee

E moe te Ra (Shadows of evening)

Māori waiata by Erima Maewa Kaihu

Choctaw Animals: III. Nashoba (Wolf)

Charles Shadle

After Communion

Please stand.

from *In this Season of Waiting*, Wild Goose Publications

Celebrant

The earth still waits for its healing...

All

**May we who are part of that waiting
take and use the dreaming times
to re-imagine the world;
inhabit and use the liminal times
to discover the patterns of God;
embrace and use the quickening times
to learn how to live and love;
thus may our watching and waiting
join with that of Emmanuel
to realize God's Kingdom
here on earth. Amen.**

The Blessing

Celebrant

Let us take care as we move through God's creation, for it does not belong to us. And may we be gentle with ourselves and with one another, for we are all the dwelling place of the most High. Now may God's blessing be with you, Christ's peace be with you, the Spirit's outpouring be with you, now and always. **Amen.**

Hymn

Lord, make us servants of your peace

Sung by all, standing as able.

O Waly Waly



1. Lord, make us ser - vants of your peace: where there is
2. Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; where all is
3. Je - sus, our Lord, may we not seek to be con -
4. May we not look for love's re - turn, but seek to
5. And when we die, we are re - born through death's dark
hate, may we sow love; where there is hurt, may we for -
gloom, may we sow hope; where all is night, may we sow
soled, but to con - sole, nor look to un - der - stand - ing
love un - self - ish - ly, for in our giv - ing we re -
night to end - less day. Lord, make us ser - vants of your
give; where there is strife, may we make one.
light; where all is tears, may we sow joy.
hearts, but look for hearts to un - der - stand.
ceive, and in for - giv - ing are for - giv'n.
peace to wake at last in heav - en's light.

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

Cem mēkusapeyvtē (Lord, dismiss us)

trad. Muscogee (Creek) hymn

Postlude

Aloha 'Oe (Farewell to thee)

Queen Lili'uokalani, arr. Jennifer Eklund

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



Flowers

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Camilla Beck Rohrbach by her husband, Philip S. Rohrbach; Bobby Stockdell by Dede Stockdell Welch; Sandy Graves by Ted Graves and her family; Ellen Williams by her family; Joseph Lanier Brockman by his family; and in thanksgiving for the baptism of Samuel Barrett Sullivan by his grandparents, Tom and Margaret Sullivan.

Participants

Celebrant: The Rev. John Rohrs; **Deacon:** The Rev. John Jenkins; **Reflector:** Kathy Brock; **Subdeacon:** Earl Roney; **Reader:** Rob Nease; **Intercessor:** Tony Anthony; **Chalice Bearers:** Guy Frank, Sarah Shutt, Kim Spensieri, Cary Wyatt; **Musicians:** Quinn Bitsas, *cantor*; David Garcia, *oboe*; Diana Chou, *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 been 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

The parish prayer list is available in the narthex (the church vestibule) and at Information Central (the large table outside the parish office).

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 from *Spirit Wheel: Meditations from an Indigenous Elder* by Steven Charleston (Bishop, retired, The Episcopal Diocese of Alaska), Broadleaf Books, Minneapolis, 2023. Used by permission.

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