



The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 17, 2026 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.

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.*

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 Easter season, known as the Great Fifty Days, is the longest liturgical season in order to celebrate God's saving acts through Christ's risen life. In recognition of God's reconciling love, we abstain from confession until the season after Pentecost.

The Peace *Please stand.* page 332

Welcome and Announcements *Please sit.*

The Collect and Readings

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

The Collect of the Day

The Book of Common Prayer, page 175

O God, the King of glory, who hast exalted thine only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph unto thy kingdom in heaven: We beseech thee, leave us not comfortless, but send to us thine Holy Ghost to comfort us, and exalt us unto the same place whither our Savior Christ is gone before; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

The Lesson Acts 1:6-14 *Please sit.*

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

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

Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36

Said responsively by whole verse, seated.

Prayer Book, page 676

1 Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; *
let those who hate him flee before him.

**2 Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; *
as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**

3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; *
let them also be merry and joyful.

**4 Sing to God, sing praises to his Name;
exalt him who rides upon the heavens; *
YAHWEH is his Name, rejoice before him!**

5 Father of orphans, defender of widows, *
God in his holy habitation!

**6 God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; *
but the rebels shall live in dry places.**

7 O God, when you went forth before your people, *
when you marched through the wilderness,

**8 The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain,
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, *
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; *
you refreshed the land when it was weary.

10 Your people found their home in it; *
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.

33 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; *
sing praises to the LORD.

34 He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; *
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.

35 Ascribe power to God; *
his majesty is over Israel;
his strength is in the skies.

36 How wonderful is God in his holy places! *
the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people!
Blessed be God!

The Gospel John 17:1-11 *Please stand and face the reader of the Gospel.*

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

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

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

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 Anna Stockdell and Barbara Stockdell by Dede Stockdell Welch.

Participants

CELEBRANT AND PREACHER: The Rev. William S. Stanley; READER AND CHALICE BEARER: Kathy Brock

The Parish Prayer List

Copies of the parish prayer list are available in the narthex (the church vestibule inside the Three Chopt Road entrance) and at Information Central, just outside the parish office.