



CELTIC EVENSONG AND COMMUNION

at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Trinity Sunday ☩ May 31, 2026 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. Throughout this bulletin, guidance is printed in italics. Nursery care is available (infant-4); speak with a door greeter. A "soft space" is also available in the Chapel of the

Good Shepherd, the side chapel nearest the parish house, where children and parents can continue to participate in the service if and when they need more room than a church pew provides. Children must be accompanied by a parent while using the soft space. 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 Andantino

Brian Crain

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

Opening

Jalal al-Din Rumi

Inside this new love, die.
Your way begins on the other side.
Become the sky.
Take an axe to the prison wall.
Escape.
Walk out like someone suddenly born into color.
Do it now.
You're covered with thick cloud.
Slide out the side.
Die, and be quiet.
Quietness is the surest sign that you've died.
Your old life was a frantic running from silence.

Silence is held after the reading.

Hymn

O Trinity of blessed light

Sung by all, standing as able.

O Waly Waly

1. O Trin - i - ty of bless - ed Light, O U - ni -
2. To thee our morn - ing song of praise, to thee our
3. To God the Fa - ther, heaven - ly Light, to Christ re -

ty of prince - ly might, the fier - y sun now goes his
eve - ning prayer we raise; O grant us with thy saints on
vealed in earth - ly night, to God the Ho - ly Ghost we

way; shed thou with - in our hearts thy ray.
high to praise thee through e - ter - ni - ty.
raise our e - qual and un - ceas - ing praise.

A Prayer for the Evening

adapted, Wild Goose Big Book, 2023

Deacon Holy Trinity, you welcome us into your family.

All **Remind us that we are all your children.**

Deacon Loving God, you welcome us into the shelter of your care.

All **Remind us about our siblings who are without shelter.**

Deacon Jesus Christ, you were a carpenter.

All **Guide us to build the house of belonging where there is a place for all.**

Deacon Holy Spirit, you inspire, challenge, and connect us.

All **Bind us together as one humanity, for the life of all. Amen.**

The Reading Matthew 18:16-20 *Please sit.*

Reader A Reading from the Gospel according to Matthew.

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Silence is held for one minute of reflection.

Reflection The Rev. John Jenkins

Silence is held for two minutes of reflection.

Music for Meditation *O Waly Waly*

arr. Anne Krentz Organ

Prayers for Ourselves and Others *Please stand.*

adapted from the Iona Abbey Worship Book

Deacon Let us pray for the church and the world.

Leader We bring to God someone whom we have met or remembered today and for whom we want to pray.

You may offer prayers silently or aloud.

Leader Lord, in your mercy,

All **Hear our prayer.**

Leader We bring to God someone who is hurting tonight and needs our prayer.

You may offer prayers silently or aloud.

Leader Lord, in your mercy,

All **Hear our prayer.**

Leader We bring to God a troubled situation in our world tonight.

You may offer prayers silently or aloud.

Leader Lord, in your mercy,

All **Hear our prayer.**

Leader We bring to God someone whom we find hard to forgive or trust.

You may offer prayers silently or aloud.

Leader Lord, in your mercy,

All **Hear our prayer.**

Leader We bring to God our hearts' hopes and concerns.

You may offer prayers silently or aloud.

Leader Lord, in your mercy,

All **Hear our prayer.**

Leader We bring to God our gratitude and joy for the blessings of life, [especially for ____].

You may offer prayers silently or aloud.

Leader Lord, in your mercy,

All **Hear our prayer.**

Leader We bring before God our losses... *You may offer prayers silently or aloud.*

Our heart for those who mourn...

and for those who have died...

[especially ____].

Leader Lord in your mercy,

All **Hear our prayer.**

Leader We bring ourselves to God.

All **that we might be healed
and drawn to love each other
as God loves us. 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 Scottish Legend, Op. 54, No. 1

Amy Beach

Hymn *Ubi caritas*

Jacques Berthier

Sung by all, standing. The refrain will be sung by the cantor, then repeated by all as the cantor sings the verses.



Translation: Where true charity and love dwell, God is there.

Verses: Your love, O Jesus Christ, has gathered us together. May your love, O Jesus Christ, be foremost in our lives. Let us love one another as God has loved us. Let us be one in love together in the one bread of Christ. The love of God in Jesus Christ will never have an end.

The Grace In Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.
Amen. *Galatians 3:26-28*

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 STSTEPHENS RVA to 73256.



At the Offertory Holy, holy, holy

arr. John Purifoy

The Great Thanksgiving Please stand.

Eucharistic Prayer written by the Rev. Janet Trisk
for the Order of the Holy Cross,
Anglican Church of South Africa

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.**

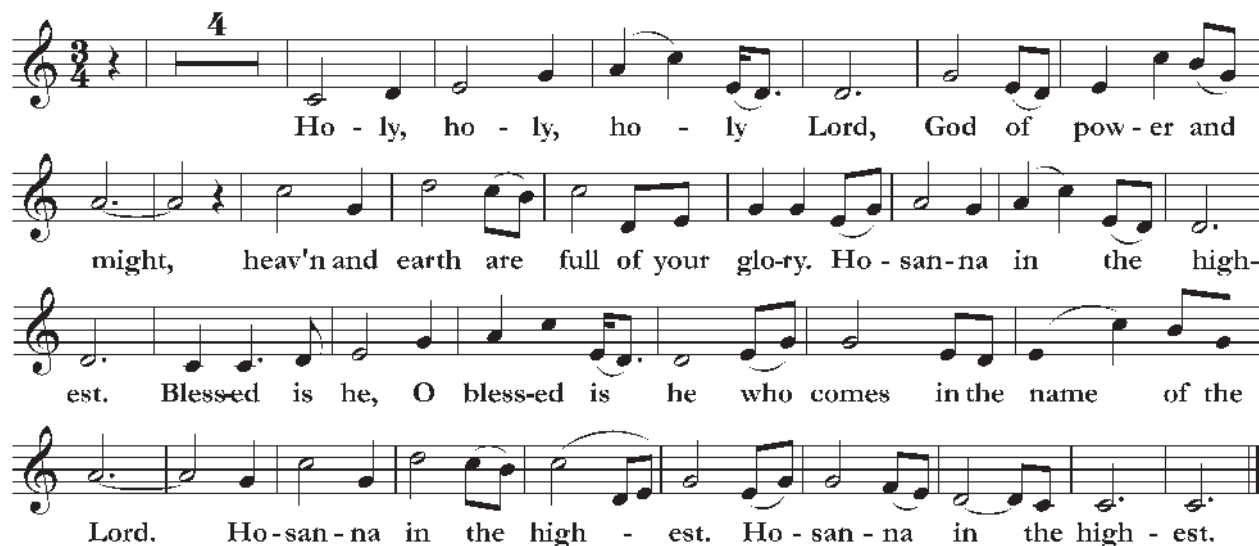
Celebrant O God of mystery and promise, you invite us to discover you in the intimate places of ourselves and our lives. You invite us to discover you within the complexities of our humanity, in passionate and tender loving, in struggle and pain, in confusion and unknowing, in flashes of insight and wisdom. You also call us beyond ourselves to places of imagination, beyond the silent stars, in the deep rhythms of the ocean, in the unending cycles of day and night, seasons of life and death.

With saints and ancestors, with the seas and earth and sky, with animals and birds, with our friends and those unknown to us, with all creation we join in the song of your unending glory:

Sanctus

Sung by all.

from *St. Anne's Mass*, 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. Blessed 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 praise you that in Jesus you make known to us the wonder and richness of our humanity. We give thanks for his life-giving love, for his healing touch, for his vulnerability and for his gentleness.

Before he gave up his life, he shared his humanity, his flesh and blood with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks for it, broke it and gave it to them saying:

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

Celebrant So too after they had eaten, he took wine, gave thanks for it and gave it to them saying:

All **“This is my blood, poured out in love for you. Do this to remember me.”**

Celebrant So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died.**

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant Come now, Spirit of God, bless these holy gifts, and as we eat and drink these bodily things, make us one body, food for the world, one blood to be poured out for the life of all. Touch us with your gentle creativity and fire us with longing for the new age of justice and peace.

We ask this through Jesus who gave his body that we might be one and his blood that we might find new life. With him, and through him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, be to you, O God, all honor and glory 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

Silence is held.

Blarney Pilgrim, arr. Larkin Bryant

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.____ 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	<i>Bunessan</i>	trad. Scottish, arr. Skaila Kanga
	A mighty fortress is our God	arr. Jennifer Haines
	<i>La nascita delle cose segrete</i> (The birth of secret things)	Ludovico Einaudi

After Communion

Celebrant Let us pray.
God of glory,
you nourish us with bread from heaven.
Fill us with your Holy Spirit
that through us the light of your glory
may shine in all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Celebrant Now, may the Lord Christ go before you to prepare your way;
Christ beside you, be companion to you everywhere you go;
Christ beneath you, strengthen and uphold you when you fall or fail;
Christ behind you, finish and complete what you must leave undone;
Christ within you, give you faith and courage, love and hope;
And Christ above you, bless and keep you, now and evermore. **Amen.**

Hymn

Christ be beside me

Sung by all.

Bunessan



1. Christ be be - side me; Christ be be - fore me;
2. Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand;
3. Christ be in all hearts, think - ing a - bout me;

Christ be be - hind me, King of my heart.
Christ all a - round me, shield in the strife.
Christ be on all tongues tell - ing of me.

Christ be with - in me; Christ be be - low me;
Christ in my sleep - ing, Christ in my sit - ting,
Christ be the vi - sion, in eyes that see me;

Christ be a - bove me, nev - er to part.
Christ in my ris - ing, light of my life.
in cars that hear me Christ ev - er be.

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. *Please sit for the Music for Meditation.*

Music for Meditation *Sōshun-hu* (An ode to springtime)

Nakada Akira

Postlude

The water is wide (*O Waly Waly*)

arr. Daniel Burton

During the postlude, you are welcome to remain to rest or pray, or to depart in silence.

Flowers

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Danielle Joron by Lisa and Thierry Ott and family; and in thanksgiving for the sextons of St. Stephen's Church: Rashawn Dover, Claire Hackley, Ian Hayes, Jack Hotchkiss, Randy Ransone, and Andrew Scully.

Participants

Celebrant and Reflector: The Rev. John Jenkins; **Deacon:** The Rev. John Rohrs; **Subdeacon:** Susan Wilkes;

Reader: Gabrielle Maes; **Intercessor:** Sarah Shutt; **Chalice Bearers:** Iffet Araniti-Davis, Dave Davis, Earl Roney, Cary Wyatt; **Musicians:** Matt Hassmer, *cantor*; Treesa Gold, *violin*; 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.

continued

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

Loretta Albertis, Kay Alley, Leilani Allwine, Patricia Atkins-Smith, Sue Atkinson, Elizabeth Bannerman, Lash Barksdale, Nancy Beale, Linda Bennett, Christine Boeteger, Emma Bolduc, Genie Borum, Julia Bouck, Gene Bowles, Sturges Brian, Kathy Brock, Leslie Brockman, Alex H. Brown, Pat Brown, Sarah Jo Bryce, Turner Bruneau, Matt Boyd, Patti Bullen, Tammy Carleton, Scott Carnohan, Paula Chambers, Michael Click, Nancy Cole, Sarah Cole, Susan Collier, Mary Cooke, Prior Cooper, Kathy Conrad, John Corey, Tracy Councill, Don Cowles, Michelle Crim, the Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, Debbie Cuseo, Chris Davis, Patricia Delany, Ham DeRosa, Terry Dickinson, Davis Dunn Dillard, Stephen Drake Sr., *Reid Ebert*, Kristen Estes, Jonathan Fava, Debbie Ferguson, Guy Frank, April Greenwood, Janis Hall, Rodger Hardy, David Harrell, Emma Hassmer, Katie Hellebush, Dan Hill, Ron Hunt, Anna Hurdle, *Ginny Moncure Jamerson*, Alan Jameson, John Turner Jenkins, Lena Jones, Justin Jones-Nickerson, Jane Kelly, Linda Lewis, Eva Lindsay, Ashley Loughan, Genie Lucyk, Margaret Lyle, Pam Lynch, Barbara Mathison, Adrienne Maxwell, Michael McCabe, Schnucki McCabe, Morgan McCall, Stratton and Robin McCrady, Gertrude McLean, Nancy Meath, Jack Miller, Mary Miller, Tina Millner, Susan Minyard, Lee W. Mumford, Shelby Nichols, Ashley Nickerson, Mary Beth Noel, Sallie Nolte, Jan Orgain, Tricia Payne, Beth Pearce, Ernest Perry, Courtney Phillips, Scott Pittman, Wilde Poole and family, Lyn Presson, Alma Price, Jamey Price, Julia Putney-Brandt, Brick Quinn, Cary Ragland, Luke Robertson, Jennifer Reed, Aleta Richards, Ryan Rohadfox, Bette Shiflett, Chrys Sills, Aiden Thomas Smith, Josh Spain, Aaron Spicer, Margie Spicer, Regena Stith, Beth Thomas, Bruce Thomas, Margaret Thompson, Brian Trollope, Kenneth Valke, Pam W., Timothy W., Ozzie Wade, Suzanne Wallace, Tom White, Terri Wilcox, Steve Wilson, Donna Williams, Steve Williams, Martha Wilson, Claire Wood, Emily H. Wood, Rosalyn Wootton, Sue Wootton, Rick Wortham, J. Morgan Wright, Margaret P. Young. **For the blessings of this life**, especially for the baptisms of *Graham Webb Anderson & Millie Harper Lincoln*. **For those expecting a child**, especially Coleman and Jessica Stewart, and Megan and Tim Watson. **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 *Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda*. **For ReWork Richmond**. **For an end to gun violence**. **For peace and reconciliation** in Haiti, Iraq, Iran, Israel/Palestine, Nigeria, North Korea, South Sudan, Syria, and Ukraine, and at our borders. **For those serving overseas in the military or diplomatic service:** *Col. Matthew Bryce Dibble, USAF*, CPT Anna Broadbent-Evelyn, and Caroline Finn.

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 Kitty Ball at kball@ststephensRVA.org.

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: "Inside this new love, die" by Jalal al-Din Rumi. Public domain.