



The Third Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, June 14, 2026 at 10:00 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 a "soft space" is available in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd, one of the two side chapels in the church. It allows children and parents 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. 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 Choral (from *Four Pieces*), Opus 37/4

Joseph Jongen

The Word of God

Hymn 657 Love divine, all loves excelling

Hyfrydol

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 230

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. *A period of silence is kept.*

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson Genesis 18:1-15 *Please sit.*

Reader A reading from the Book of Genesis.

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed

to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?" The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too wonderful for the LORD? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son." But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. He said, "Oh yes, you did laugh."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

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

Psalm 116:1, 10-17 *Said responsively by whole verse, seated.*

Prayer Book, page 759

1 I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, *
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

**10 How shall I repay the LORD *
for all the good things he has done for me?**

11 I will lift up the cup of salvation *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.

**12 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
in the presence of all his people.**

13 Precious in the sight of the LORD *
is the death of his servants.

**14 O LORD, I am your servant; *
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.**

15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.

**16 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
in the presence of all his people,**

17 In the courts of the LORD's house, *
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

Silence is kept.

Hymn 51 We the Lord's people *Sung by all, standing.*

Decatur Place

The Gospel Matthew 9:35-10:8 *Please remain standing and face the reader of the Gospel.*

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon The Rev. John D. Rohrs

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 Elizabeth Birdwell Edwards to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

I present Christian Olivier Goode-Madrid to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

I present Laine Ware Grymes to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

I present Virginia Grace Simmons to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

I present Margaret Loving Staples 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 this child 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 People Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
I will, with God's help.

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

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

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

Celebrant People Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
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 follow the cross to the font, all children are invited to come to the font to participate in blessing the water.

Thanksgiving over the Water

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

Prayer Book, page 306

Celebrant People The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Celebrant People Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
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, Announcements, and Commissioning of Youth Missioners

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 STSTEPHENSVA to 73256.



At the Offertory My eyes for beauty pine Sung by the choir. Text: Robert Bridges; music: Herbert Howells

My eyes for beauty pine,
My soul for Goddes grace:
No other care nor hope is mine:
To heaven I turn my face.

And every gentle heart
That burns with true desire
Is lit from eyes that mirror part
Of that celestial fire.

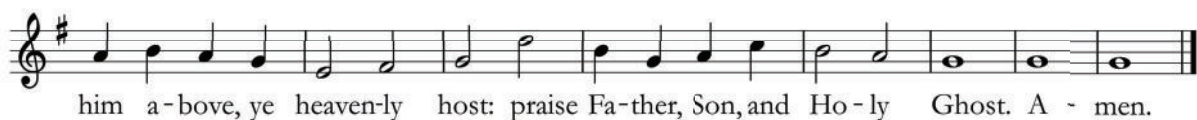
One splendour thence is shed
From all the stars above:
'Tis named when God's name is said
'Tis Love, 'tis heavenly Love.

At the Presentation

Sung by all, standing.

Old 100th

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



The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer C, *Alternate Form*

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 our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant God of all power, Source and Sustainer of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant At your command all things came to be: shining light and enfolding dark; the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People **By your will they were created and have their being.**

Celebrant From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with the capacity for memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of your creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Celebrant Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your eternal Word, born of your servant Mary, to fulfill your Law, opening for us the way of freedom and peace.

People **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

Celebrant And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus

Sung by all.

The Hymnal S-129, Robert Powell

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly — Lord, God of po - wer and might, hea - ven 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 stand or kneel.

Celebrant

Blessed are you, Lord our God, for sending us Jesus, the Christ, who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

People

We celebrate Christ's death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Celebrant

Therefore, O God, we who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Savior. Sanctify us also, and let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Celebrant

God of our ancestors; Redeemer and Mother of Israel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only and not for strength; for pardon only and not for renewal.

Accept these prayers and praises, Almighty God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **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 cantor sings the antiphon, then all repeat. All sing the antiphon again after each verse. Jack Warren Burnam



The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord. Je - sus in the break - ing of the bread.

- 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 chancel steps 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 He that shall endure to the end (*Elijah*) *Sung by the choir.* Felix Mendelssohn
He that shall endure to the end, shall be saved.

Hymn 321 My God, thy table now is spread *Sung by all, seated.* *Rockingham*

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 541 Come, labor on *Sung by all, standing.*

Ora Labora

Dismissal

Prayer Book, page 366

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary Improvisation

Robert McCormick



Presented for Holy Baptism

Elizabeth Birdwell Edwards, child of Michael Allen Edwards and Christina Crawford Edwards

Christian Olivier Goode-Madrid, child of Zachary Clay Benjamin Goode and Jeremy Madrid

Laine Ware Grymes, child of Edward Alexander Grymes and Margaret Szumski Grymes

Virginia Grace Simmons, child of Kyle Michael Simmons and Joanna Weland Simmons

Margaret Loving Staples, child of Paul Carlton Staples and Madeline Anne Hargis Staples

Memorials

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Caroline Myers Cooke and Richard Caswell Cooke; Caroline Cooke Holland and William Dinsmore Holland; and Elizabeth Campbell Myers by Anne Gordon Curran; and in memory of E. Holcombe Palmer by his friends.

Participants

CELEBRANT: The Rev. William S. Stanley; **DEACON:** The Rev. Judy Webb Davis; **SUBDEACON:** Barbara Massey; **READER:** Windsor Ross; **PREACHER:** The Rev. John D. Rohrs; **INTERCESSOR:** Deborah Waters; **LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTER:** Allison Koschak; **CHALICE BEARERS:** Kathy Brock, Pat Githens, Braxton Hill, Kim Spensieri; **ACOLYTES:** Rosie Ferrell, Pierce Rempe, Tom Rohrs, Will Rohrs; **MUSICIANS:** St. Stephen's Choir, Chris Edwards and Robert McCormick, *directors;* Diana Chou and Robert McCormick, *organists;* **VERGER:** Ben Emerson

Parish Prayer List

Copies of the parish prayer list are available at Information Central near the parish office and in the church vestibule. To ask that a name be added to or removed from the prayer list, please contact Kitty Ball in the parish office, kball@ststephensRVA.org or 804.288.2867.

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