



# CELTIC EVENSONG AND COMMUNION

at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost ☩ June 28, 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** Terma

Tibetan, arr. Blake

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

**Opening** Having Come This Far

James Broughton

I've been through what my through was to be  
I did what I could and couldn't  
I was never sure how I would get there

I nourished an ardor for thresholds  
for stepping stones and for ladders  
I discovered detour and ditch

I swam in the high tides of greed  
I built sandcastles to house my dreams  
I survived the sunburns of love

No longer do I hunt for targets  
I've climbed all the summits I need to  
and I've eaten my share of lotus

Now I give praise and thanks  
for what could not be avoided  
and for every foolhardy choice

I cherish my wounds and their cures  
and the sweet enervations of bliss  
My book is an open life

I wave goodbye to the absolutes  
and send my regards to infinity  
I'd rather be blithe than correct

Until something transcendent turns up  
I splash in my poetry puddle  
and try to keep God amused

*Silence is held after the reading.*

**Hymn**

As we gather at your table

*Sung by all, standing as able.**Raquel*

1. As we ga - ther at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your Word,  
 2. Turn our wor - ship in - to wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;  
 3. Gra - cious Spi - rit, help us sum - mon oth - er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres - ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring - ing peace where there is strife.  
 where tri - um - phant Love will wel - come those who had been last and least.



Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
 Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for - give as you for - gave;  
 There no more will en - vy blind us, nor will pride our peace des - troy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban - quet how to make Love's vic - tory known.  
 may we still be - hold your i - mage in the world you died to save.  
 as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

**A Prayer for the Evening**

Lord, amid the noise and stress of daily life, help us to preserve a silence within. In moments of crisis may we turn to you, the center of our being, to find you awaiting us. Bless us with the vision of your changelessness and grant us peace. **Amen.**

**The Reading** Matthew 10:40-42 *Please sit.*

**Reader** A Reading from the Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said, "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

*Silence is held for one minute of reflection.*

**Reflection** Candace Pate

*Silence is held for two minutes of reflection.*

**Music for Meditation** My Shepherd will supply my need trad. American hymn, arr. Blake

**Prayers for Ourselves and Others** *Please stand.*

**Deacon** Let us keep silence before God, and through our minds and imaginations offer prayers which words might not contain.

*Within the "inner room" of your soul and in the time between each petition, open to receive or offer that which arises.*

**Leader** There is a time for every purpose under heaven. . .

*Silence*

Leader A time for gratitude... [especially for \_\_\_\_].

Silence

Leader A time for what we have to lay down...

Silence

Leader A time for what we have to pick up...

Silence

Leader A time for confronting what we are avoiding...

Silence

Leader A time for holding compassion for ourselves and others...

Silence

Leader A time for recognizing what we hope for...

Silence

Leader A time for standing for what is true, just, and good...

Silence

Leader A time to pray for those who have died, [especially \_\_\_\_].

Silence

Leader In our time and in your time, O God, fulfill our prayers as is best for us and may your kingdom come. **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** *Bryn Calfaría* trad. Welsh hymn, arr. Jane Southwick Cool

**Hymn** *Veni Sancte Spiritus* Jacques Berthier

*Sung by all, standing. The congregation will repeat the refrain as the cantor sings the verses.*

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Veni Sancte Spiritus'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics 'Ve - ni San - cte Spir - i - tus.' are written below the treble staff, with the final note of 'tus.' followed by a dotted line. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some notes beamed together.

*Translation: Come, Holy Spirit.*

Verses: Come, Holy Spirit, from heaven shine forth with your glorious light. Light in our hearts the flame of your love, that in the darkness of the world, it may glow and reach to all forever.

**The Grace** Listen to these words of Jesus, words that we can trust: Iona Worship Book

“Don’t be afraid.”

“I love you.”

“Abide in my love.”

“Your sins are forgiven.”

“I will be with you always.”

Write these words in our hearts, loving God, let them take root in our living. **Amen.**

**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** Burgalesa

Federico Moreno Torroba

**The Great Thanksgiving** Please stand.

Eucharistic Prayer Canon G 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.**

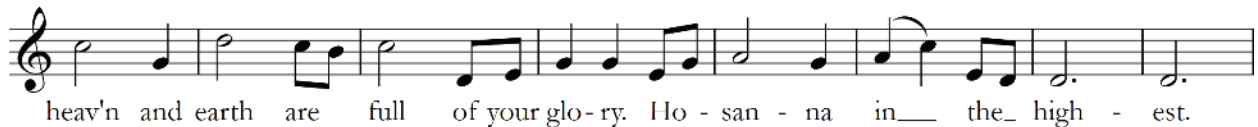
*Celebrant* O God of mystery and promise, you invite us to discover you in the intimate places of ourselves and our lives. You invite us to discover you within the complexities of our humanity, in passionate and tender loving, in struggle and pain, in confusion and unknowing, in flashes of insight and 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



*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. We ask this through Jesus who gave his body that we might be one and his blood that we might find new life. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, 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.

from *St. Anne's Mass*, James MacMillan

The musical score consists of three staves of music in a single system. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a time signature of 4/4. The melody starts with a quarter rest followed by a quarter note G4, then a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. The lyrics 'Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy\_ on us.' are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody with a quarter note D5, a quarter note E5, a quarter note F5, and a quarter note G5. The lyrics 'Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins\_ of the\_ world, have mer - cy\_ on us.' are written below. The third staff concludes the phrase with a quarter note A5, a quarter note B5, a quarter note C6, and a quarter note D6. The lyrics 'Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins\_ of the world, grant\_ us peace.' are written below. The piece ends with a double bar line.

## 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** Adagio (Sonata in A minor)  
Shenandoah  
Improvisation

Jean Baptiste Loeillet  
trad. American, arr. Blake  
Robert McCormick

**After Communion** Please stand.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*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

*Celebrant* Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world's grief.  
Do justly, now.  
Love mercy, now.  
Walk humbly, now.  
You are not obliged to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon it.  
And may God's blessing be with you, Christ's peace be with you,  
the Spirit's outpouring be with you, now and always. **Amen.**



1. Come with us, O bless - ed Je - sus, with us ev - er - more — to be;  
 2. Come with us, O might - y Sa - vior, God from God, and Light — from Light;  
 3. Come with us, O King of glo - ry, by an - gel - ic voic - es praised;

and though leav - ing now thine al - tar, let us nev - er more — leave thee.  
 thou art God, thy glo - ry veil - ing, so that we may bear — the sight.  
 in our hearts as in thy hea - ven, be en - rap - tured an - thems raised.

Be thou one with us for ev - er, in our life thy love di - vine  
 Now we go to seek and serve thee, through our work as through our prayer;  
 Let the might - y cho - rus ev - er sing its glad ex - ul - tant songs;

our own flesh and blood has ta - ken, and to us thou giv - est thine.  
 grant us light to see and know thee, in thy peo - ple ev - ery - where.  
 let its hymn be heard for - ev - er — peace for which cre - a - tion longs.

**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** To the woods

Blake

**Postlude** The south wind

trad. Irish, arr. Blake

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

**Flower Memorials**

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of W. Cabell Moore and Maggie Belle Moore by their family; H. Stephen Casey, Jr. and Paul E. Brandt by Caroline Brandt; and Harry G. Lee and Elizabeth C. Lee by their daughter.

**Participants**

**Celebrant:** The Rev. Will Stanley; **Deacon:** The Rev. John Jenkins; **Reflector:** Candace Pate; **Subdeacon:** Susan Wilkes; **Reader:** Lisa Van Devender; **Intercessor:** Tony Anthony; **Chalice Bearers:** Mary Martin, Pam Redd, Earl Roney, Audra Tuttle; **Musicians:** Lauren Clay, *cantor*; Amy Blake, *flute*; Cory Blake, *guitar*; Robert McCormick, *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, 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, Sara Hargrove, David Harrell, Emma Hassmer, Katie Hellebush, Dan Hill, Ron Hunt, Anna Hurdle, Ginny Moncure Jamerson, Alan Jameson, John Turner Jenkins, Lena Jones, David Kean, Jane Kelly, Linda Lewis, Eva Lindsay, Ashley Loughan, Genie Lucyk, Margaret Lyle, Pam Lynch, Barbara Mathison, Adrienne Maxwell, Adelia Mayer, Michael McCabe, Schnucki McCabe, Morgan McCall, Gertrude McLean, Nancy Meath, Jack Miller, Mary Miller, Tina Millner, Susan Minyard, Lee W. Mumford, Shelby Nichols, Ashley Nickerson, Mary Beth Noel, Sallie Nolte, Pauline O'Neill, Jan Orgain, Tricia Payne, Beth Pearce, Ivan Peramas, 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 Wootten, Sue Wootton, Rick Wortham, J. Morgan Wright, Margaret P. Young. **For the blessings of this life**, especially for the *marriage of Giles Houston Thompson and Alexandra Frances Ferrell*. **For those expecting a child**, especially Mason and Claire Mairead, 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 *Anglican Church of Southern Africa*. **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](mailto: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: "Having Come This Far" from *Packing Up for Paradise* by James Broughton © 1997 by James Broughton. Reprinted by permission of Black Sparrow Press, an Imprint of David R. Godine, Publisher.

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church ☞ 6000 Grove Avenue Richmond, Virginia 23226 ☞ 804.288.2867 ☞ [ststephensRVA.org](http://ststephensRVA.org)