



# The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 30, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

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** Trumpet Rondo on *Laudes Domini*

Gary Davison

## The Word of God

**Hymn 427** When morning gilds the skies

*Laudes Domini*

*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 355

**Celebrant** Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**People** And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

### The Collect for Purity

*Said by all.*

Prayer Book, page 355

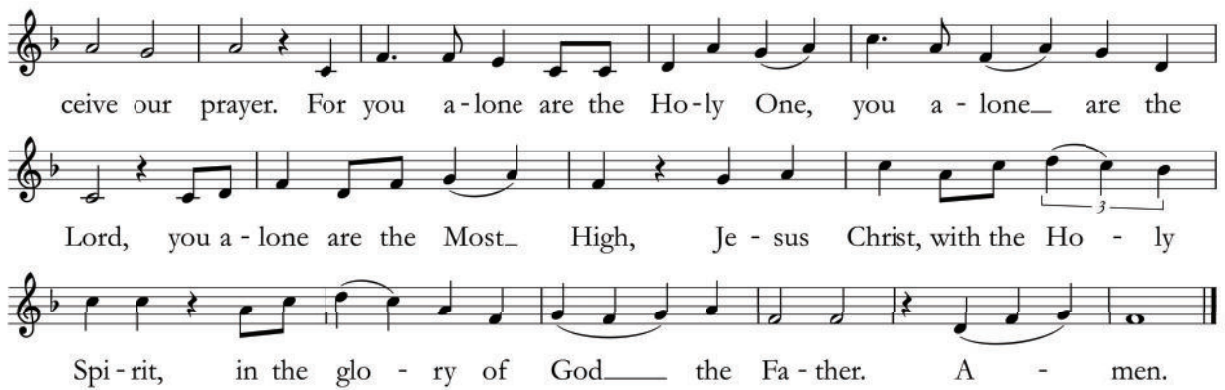
**Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Gloria in excelsis

*Sung by all, standing.*

The Hymnal S-280, Robert Powell

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his people on  
earth. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we worship you, we  
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the  
Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have  
mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -



### The Collect of the Day

Prayer Book, page 233

**Celebrant** The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

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

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**The Lesson** Exodus 3:1-15 *Please sit.*

**Reader** A reading from the Book of Exodus.

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain." But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations."

**Reader** The Word of the Lord.

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

**Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c** *Said responsively by whole verse, seated.*

Prayer Book, page 738

1 Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; \*  
 make known his deeds among the peoples.

2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, \*  
 and speak of all his marvelous works.

3 Glory in his holy Name; \*  
 let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

4 Search for the LORD and his strength; \*  
 continually seek his face.

5 Remember the marvels he has done, \*  
 his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,  
**6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, \***  
**O children of Jacob his chosen.**  
 23 Israel came into Egypt, \*  
 and Jacob became a sojourner in the land of Ham.  
**24 The LORD made his people exceedingly fruitful; \***  
**he made them stronger than their enemies;**  
 25 Whose heart he turned, so that they hated his people, \*  
 and dealt unjustly with his servants.  
**26 He sent Moses his servant, \***  
**and Aaron whom he had chosen.**  
 45 Hallelujah! *Silence is kept.*

**Hymn 675** Take up your cross, the Savior said *Sung by all, standing.* *Bourbon*  
**The Gospel** Matthew 16:21-28 *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 began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

**Deacon** The Gospel of the Lord.  
**People** **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon** The Rev. Whitney Z. Edwards

**The Nicene Creed** *Said by all, standing.*

Prayer Book, page 358

**We believe in one God,**  
**the Father, the Almighty,**  
**maker of heaven and earth,**  
**of all that is, seen and unseen.**  
**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**  
**the only Son of God,**  
**eternally begotten of the Father,**  
**God from God, Light from Light,**  
**true God from true God,**  
**begotten, not made,**  
**of one Being with the Father.**  
**Through him all things were made.**  
**For us and for our salvation**  
**he came down from heaven:**  
**by the power of the Holy Spirit**  
**he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,**  
**and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**  
**he suffered death and was buried.**  
**On the third day he rose again**  
**in accordance with the Scriptures;**  
**he ascended into heaven**  
**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**  
**He will come again in glory to judge the living**  
**and the dead,**  
**and his kingdom will have no end.**  
**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,**  
**who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**  
**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.**  
**He has spoken through the Prophets.**  
**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**  
**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**  
**We look for the resurrection of the dead,**  
**and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Celebrant** In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*You may stand or kneel and pray responsively.*

**Leader** For all people in their daily life and work;

**People** **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

**Leader** For this community, the nation, and the world;

**People** **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

**Leader** For the just and proper use of your creation;

**People** **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

**Leader** For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**People** **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

**Leader** For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**People** **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

**Leader** For all bishops and other ministers;

**People** **For all who serve God in his Church.**

**Leader** For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, [especially \_\_\_\_\_ ].

*The People may add their own petitions either silently or aloud.*

**Leader** Hear us, Lord;

**People** **For your mercy is great.**

**Leader** We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life, [especially \_\_\_\_\_ ].

*The People may add their own petitions either silently or aloud.*

**Leader** We will exalt you, O God our King;

**People** **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

**Leader** We pray for all who have died, [especially \_\_\_\_\_ ], that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*The People may add their own petitions either silently or aloud.*

**Leader** Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**People** **Who put their trust in you.**

**Celebrant** We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins. *Silence is kept.*

**People** **Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
in your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown,  
things done and left undone;  
and so uphold us by your Spirit  
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Celebrant**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

**The Peace** *Please stand.*

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 and Announcements**

# 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 STSTEPHENSRYA to 73256.



**At the Offertory** Purest and highest

*Sung by the choir.*

text: Robert Bridges; music: Orlando Gibbons,  
arr. Charles Villiers Stanford

Purest and highest, wisest and most just,  
there is no truth save only in thy trust;  
thou dost the mind from earthly dreams recall,  
and bring, through Christ, to him for whom are all.

Eternal glory, all men thee adore,  
who art and shalt be worshipped evermore:  
us whom thou madest, comfort with thy might,  
and lead us to enjoy thy heavenly light.

**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**

*Enriching Our Worship, Prayer 2*

*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**

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

**Sanctus**

*Sung by all.*

The Hymnal S-129, Robert Powell



*You may stand or kneel.*

### *Celebrant*

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with Blessed Stephen; Blessed Mary, Mother of God; and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **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 Hymnal S-163, Robert Powell*

The image shows three staves of musical notation for the hymn 'Lamb of God'. Each staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 7/8 time signature. The first staff has a triplet of eighth notes marked with a '3' above it. The second staff also has a triplet of eighth notes marked with a '3' above it. The third staff has a triplet of eighth notes marked with a '3' above it. The lyrics are written below each staff.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mercy 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.

### *Celebrant*

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## 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** God be in my head *Sung by the choir.* Alexander L'Estrange  
God be in my head, and in my understanding; God be in mine eyes, and in my looking; God be in my mouth, and in my speaking; God be in my heart, and in my thinking; God be at mine end, and at my departing.

**Hymn 325** Let us break bread together *Sung by all, seated.* *Let Us Break Bread*

## Sending Forth Eucharistic Visitors

When a Lay Eucharistic Visitor is scheduled to visit a parishioner, the following is said.

Deacon *N.*, we send you out to share Communion with *N.*  
People **Carry the prayers of all of us as you take this sacrament of Christ's presence.**  
Deacon We who are many are one body because we share one bread and one cup. **Amen.**

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray. *You may stand or kneel.*  
All **Lord Jesus Christ,**  
**you have put your life into our hands;**  
**now we put our lives into yours.**  
**Take us, renew us and remake us.**  
**What we have been is past;**  
**what we shall be, through you, still awaits us.**  
**Lead us on. Take us with you. Amen.**

**The Blessing** *The Celebrant pronounces God's blessing.*

**Hymn 344** Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing *Sung by all, standing.* *Sicilian Mariners*

**Dismissal** *Prayer Book, page 366*

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People **Thanks be to God.**

**Voluntary** *Allegro assai vivace* from Sonata No. 1, Opus 65 *Felix Mendelssohn*

Anyone wishing to listen more closely to the organ voluntary is welcome to move to the chancel and sit in the choir chairs.



## Participants

CELEBRANT: The Rev. John D. Rohrs; DEACON: The Rev. William S. Stanley; SUBDEACON: Nancy Emerson; READER: Sherlyn Dibble; PREACHER: The Rev. Whitney Z. Edwards; INTERCESSOR: Iffet Araniti-Davis; ASSISTING PRIEST: The Rev. Judy Webb Davis; LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTER: Earl Roney; CHALICE BEARERS: Mary Ball, Beth Crews, Barbara Massey, Kim Spensieri; ACOLYTES: Wyatt Hobbs, Ada Mathews, Nina Matos, Linley Rose; LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITOR: Marty Easton; MUSICIANS: St. Stephen's Choir, Chris Edwards, *director*; Diana Chou and Robert McCormick, *organists*; VERGER: Dave Davis

## The Parish Prayer List

Loretta Albertis, Kay Alley, Leilani Allwine, Patricia Atkins-Smith, Elizabeth Bannerman, Ben Barbot, Lash Barksdale, Nancy Beale, Linda Bennett, Christine Boeteger, Emma Bolduc, Genie Borum, Julia Bouck, Kathy Brock, Leslie Brockman, Alex H. Brown, Pat Brown, Sarah Jo Bryce, Turner Bruneau, Matt Boyd, Patti Bullen, Frances Caldwell, 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, Shirley Crim, *Lake Curry*, the Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, Debbie Cuseo, Chris Davis, *Rhonda Davis*, Patricia Delany, Ham DeRosa, Davis Dunn Dillard, Stephen Drake Sr., Reid Ebert, Kristen Estes, Jonathan Fava, Debbie Ferguson, Guy Frank, April Greenwood, Vishal Iab Gunti, Janis Hall, Rodger Hardy, David Harrell, Emma Hassmer, Katie Hellebush, Trey Harrington, Dan Hill, Ron Hunt, Anna Hurdle, Ginny Moncure Jamerson, Alan Jameson, John Turner Jenkins, Charles Johnson, Lena Jones, David Kean, Jane Kelly, Brian Kemp, Linda Lewis, Eva Lindsay, Ashley Loughan, Genie Lucyk, Margaret Lyle, Pam Lynch, Frank Maloney, Barbara Mathison, Adrienne Maxwell, Michael 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, *Susan Porter*, Lyn Presson, Alma Price, Jamey Price, Julia Putney-Brandt, Brick Quinn, Jennifer Reed, Luke Robertson, Kaley Rosenthal, Aleta Richards, Emily Robinson, Ryan Rohadfox, David Ruffin and family, Bette Shiflett, Chrys Sills, Aiden Thomas Smith, Ross Southward, Josh Spain, Aaron Spicer, Margie Spicer, Regena Stith, Beth Thomas, Bruce Thomas, Margaret Thompson, Brian Trollope, Crystal Vines, Pam W., Timothy W., Ozzie Wade, Heather Walker, Suzanne Wallace, Tom White, Terri Wilcox, Steve Wilson, Donna Williams, Steve Williams, Martha Wilson, Claire Wood, Emily H. Wood, Rosalyn Wootten, Sue Wootton, Bill Wright, J. Morgan Wright, Margaret P. Young. **For those who have died** especially *William C. Newman III and Ellen Thompson*. **For those expecting a child**, especially Kristen and Hayden Glasstetter, Mason and Claire Mairead, Carlee and Robert Rhoton, 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 Church in the Province of the West Indies*. **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).*

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