



# The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 13, 2026 at 9:00 and 11:15 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 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**      *Cantabile from Trois pièces*

César Franck

## The Word of God

**Hymn 376**      Joyful, joyful, we adore thee

*Hymn to Joy*

*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-278, William Mathias

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and  
peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-might-y God and  
Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.  
3. Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; 5. you are seat-ed at the  
right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



### 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.*

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### The First Reading Exodus 14:19-31

*Please sit.*

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

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

**Reader** The Word of the Lord.

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

### Psalm 114 Said responsively by whole verse, seated.

Prayer Book, page 787

1 Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, \*  
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

**2 Judah became God's sanctuary \*  
and Israel his dominion.**

3 The sea beheld it and fled; \*  
Jordan turned and went back.

**4 The mountains skipped like rams, \*  
and the little hills like young sheep.**

5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? \*  
O Jordan, that you turned back?

**6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? \***  
**you little hills like young sheep?**

7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the LORD, \*  
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

**8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water \***  
**and flint-stone into a flowing spring.**

*Silence is kept.*

*At 11:15 only*

**The Second Reading** Romans 14:1-12

**Reader** A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

**Reader** The Word of the Lord.

**People** **Thanks be to God.**

*A period of silence is kept.*

**Hymn 593** Lord, make us servants of your peace

*Sung by all, standing.*

*Dickinson College*

**The Gospel** Matthew 18:21-35 *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.**

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

**Deacon** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**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.**

**The Prayers of the People**

*Celebrant*    Let us pray for the Church and the world.

*You may stand or kneel. In the pause after each petition, the People may add their own prayers either silently or aloud.*

*Leader*    Let us bring before God the leaders of our community, our nation, and the world, that they may be strengthened and guided by a spirit of compassion.

*Leader*    Let us bring before God the poor, the forgotten, and those who are marginalized, as we renew our commitment to the lonely and the unloved.

*Leader*    Let us pray for our families and friends, for the departed, [especially \_\_\_\_\_] and for all who have requested our prayers.

*Leader*    Let us ask God to use our prayerful intentions for the benefit of all who are with us now, people we know and love, as well as those who are strangers to us. May we be blessings to one another.

*Leader*    Let us call to mind our reasons to be thankful, as we remember the life-giving way of gratitude. We offer our thanksgivings, [especially for \_\_\_\_\_].

*Celebrant*    May God still our minds, calm our hearts, breathe fresh life into us, and make us instruments of peace.

*All*    **Amen.**

*Celebrant*    Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence is kept.*

*All*    **Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. 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 STSTEPHENSVA to 73256.*



**At the Offertory**      *Jubilate Deo (Collegium Regale)*

*Sung by the choir.*

Herbert Howells

*For text, see the Prayer Book, page 45.*

**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 B

Prayer Book, page 367

*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 God thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant*      It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. *Here a proper preface is said.*

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



## Sanctus

*Sung by all.*

The Hymnal S-128, William Mathias



*You may stand or kneel.*

### *Celebrant*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

### *Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;**

### *Celebrant*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Blessed Stephen; Blessed Mary, Mother of God; and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

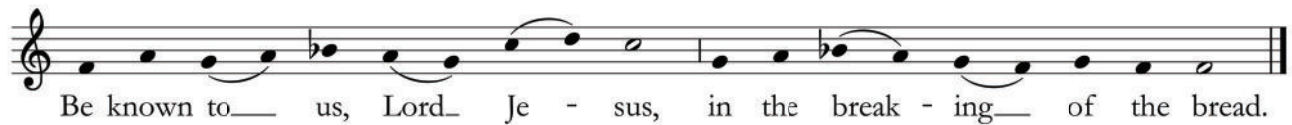
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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.*

*This antiphon will be sung by the cantor, then by all, and repeated after each verse. The Hymnal S-171, Mason Martens*



**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**

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** Go down, Moses *Sung by the choir.*

arr. Alice Parker

When Israel was in Egypt's land: let my people go.

Oppressed so hard they could not stand: let my people go.

*Refrain:* Go down, Moses, 'way down in Egypt's land, tell ol' Pharoah to let my people go.

"Thus spoke the Lord," bold Moses said: "Let my people go!

If not I'll strike you're firstborn dead!" Let my people go. *Refrain*

No more shall they in bondage toil, let my people go.

Let them come out with Egypt's spoil, let my people go. *Refrain*

**Hymn 581** Where charity and love prevail *Sung by all, seated.*

*Cheshire*

### **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** **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 690** Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

*Sung by all, standing.*

*Cwm Rhondda*

## Dismissal

Prayer Book, page 366

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary *[Praeludium and] Fugue in G*

Nicolaus Bruhns

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



## Memorials

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Sara Frances and Sam Derieux by their family; Ruth Powers Davis and John Kennerly Davis and Margaret Moore Evans and Frank Brooke Evans III by Ann and Ken Davis; the Rev. Dr. E. Allen Coffey by his family.

## Participants

9:00 | CELEBRANT: The Rev. William S. Stanley; DEACON: The Rev. John W.A. Jenkins; SUBDEACON: Kathy Brock; READER: Caroline Farley; PREACHER: The Rev. John D. Rohrs; INTERCESSOR: Kristen Estes; LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTER: Elizabeth Spell; CHALICE BEARERS: Iffet Araniti-Davis, Beth Crews, Pat Githens, Scott Green; ACOLYTES: Jay Driscoll, Lee Driscoll, Tabitha Johnson, Dalton Mika, Amy Phillips; LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITOR: Barbara Massey; MUSICIANS: St. Stephen's Choir, Diana Chou, Chris Edwards, and Robert McCormick; VERGER: Dave Davis

11:15 | CELEBRANT: The Rev. William S. Stanley; DEACON: The Rev. Judy Webb Davis; SUBDEACON: Braxton Hill; READERS: Sarah Bartenstein, Jay Moore; PREACHER: The Rev. John D. Rohrs; INTERCESSOR: Lisa Van Devender; ASSISTING CLERGY: The Rev. Cate Anthony, the Rev. John W.A. Jenkins; CHALICE BEARERS: Bob Dibble, Mim Oman, Meg Tucker, Audra Tuttle; ACOLYTES: Wyatt Hobbs, Sadie Kidd, Charles Oakey, Abigail Moore, Hayes Williams; MUSICIANS: St. Stephen's Choir, Diana Chou, Chris Edwards, and Robert McCormick; VERGER: Penn Rogers

## 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, 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, *Charleigh Jones*, 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, *Judy Ward*, Tom White, Terri Wilcox, Steve Wilson, Donna Williams, Steve Williams, Martha Wilson, Claire Wood, Emily H. Wood, Rosalyn Wootton, Sue Wootton, Bill Wright, J. Morgan Wright, Margaret P. Young. **For those who have died**, especially *Tracy Councill*. **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 Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia*. **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**: CPT Anna Broadbent-Evelyn, and Caroline Finn. *Names in italics were added to the prayer list this week.*

Rite Planning, Copyright©2021 by Church Publishing Incorporated, All rights reserved; from Copyright©1977; used by permission. Adapted from Common Worship, Copyright © The Archbishops' Council of the Church of England, 2000-2006; All of the official Common Worship publications are being published by Church House Publishing. All music reprinted with permission via OneLicense #A710911.

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