



The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 13, 2026 at 8:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist: Rite One

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church ☩ Richmond, Virginia

Welcome to St. Stephen's Church. We are so glad you are here. This service of Holy Eucharist follows the order found in the Book of Common Prayer (the red book in the pew rack) beginning on page 323. This bulletin provides page numbers and other information to guide you through the service.

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation *Please stand as you are able.* The Book of Common Prayer, page 323

The Collect for Purity page 323

The Summary of the Law page 324

Kyrie, Trisagion or Gloria page 324

The Collect of the Day *Found on page 3.*

The First Lesson *Found on page 3; please sit.*

The Psalm *Found on page 3; please remain seated and read responsively.*

The Gospel *Found on page 3-4; please stand.*

The Sermon *Please sit.*

The Nicene Creed *Please stand.* page 326

The Prayers of the People *Please kneel as you are able.* pages 328-330

The Confession of Sin page 330

The Peace *Please stand.* page 332

Welcome and Announcements *Please sit.*

All comes from God, so from what God has given, we offer gifts to sustain God's work in the world. If you wish to make your offering electronically, please scan the QR code or text STSTEPHENS RVA to 73256.



The Holy Communion

The Blessing and Dismissal page 339-340

The Collect and Readings

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Collect of the Day

The Book of Common Prayer, page 182

O God, forasmuch as without thee we are not able to please thee, mercifully grant that thy Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the same Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson 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 756

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.**

The Gospel Matthew 18:21-35 *Please stand and face the reader of the Gospel.*

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

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

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."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

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

CELEBRANT AND PREACHER: The Rev. John D. Rohrs; READER AND CHALICE BEARER: Mary Ball

The Parish Prayer List

Copies of the parish prayer list are available in the narthex (the church vestibule inside the Three Chopt Road entrance) and at Information Central, just outside the parish office.