



The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi

Sunday, October 4, 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	<i>Please stand as you are able.</i>	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	<i>Found on page 3.</i>	
The First Lesson	<i>Found on page 3; please sit.</i>	
The Psalm	<i>Found on page 3; please remain seated and read responsively.</i>	
The Gospel	<i>Found on page 3-4; please stand.</i>	
The Sermon	<i>Please sit.</i>	
The Nicene Creed	<i>Please stand.</i>	page 326
The Prayers of the People	<i>Please kneel as you are able.</i>	pages 328-330
The Confession of Sin		page 330
The Peace	<i>Please stand.</i>	page 332
Welcome and Announcements	<i>Please sit.</i>	

At the Presentation of Alms

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.



*All things come of thee, O Lord.
And of thine own have we given thee.*

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving *Please stand.*

pages 340-343

Please kneel after the Sanctus.

The Lord's Prayer

page 336

The Breaking of the Bread

page 337

The Prayer of Humble Access

page 337

The Distribution of Holy Communion

All are welcome at the altar in this place. Communion is distributed at the Communion rail in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd, and you may stand or kneel to receive. To receive Communion, place your hands together, 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 the smaller cup. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms against your chest. If you need us to bring the sacrament to you, please let the usher know.

The Post-Communion Prayer

page 339

The Blessing and Dismissal

page 339-340

The Collect and Readings

The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi

The Collect of the Day

The Book of Common Prayer, page 182

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may, for love of you, delight in your whole creation with perfectness of joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson Acts 4:32-35, 5:1-11 *Please sit.*

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

The whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the LORD Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. But a man named Ananias, with the consent of his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property; with his wife's knowledge, he kept back some of the proceeds, and brought only a part and laid it at the apostles' feet. "Ananias," Peter asked, "why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back part of the proceeds of the land? While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, were not the proceeds at your disposal? How is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You did not lie to us but to God!" Now when Ananias heard these words, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who heard of it. The young men came and wrapped up his body, then carried him out and buried him. After an interval of about three hours his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. Peter said to her, "Tell me whether you and your husband sold the land for such and such a price." And she said, "Yes, that was the price." Then Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to put the Spirit of the LORD to the test? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out." Immediately she fell down at his feet and died. When the young men came in they found her dead, so they carried her out and buried her beside her husband. And great fear seized the whole church and all who heard of these things.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

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

Psalm 121 *Said responsively by whole verse, seated.*

Prayer Book, page 779

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?
- 2 **My help comes from the LORD, ***
the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 **Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel ***
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The LORD himself watches over you; *
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 **So that the sun shall not strike you by day, ***
nor the moon by night.
- 7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 **The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, ***
from this time forth for evermore. *Silence is kept.*

The Gospel Luke 12:13-21 *Please stand and face the reader of the Gospel.*

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

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

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard

against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Memorial

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of William Penn Stanley by his family and John Wortham Christian III by his family.

Participants

CELEBRANT AND PREACHER: The Rev. John D. Rohrs; **READER AND CHALICE BEARER:** Brack Hill

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.