



Palmer Hall Chapel

Sunday, October 18, 2026, at 9 a.m. ☩ The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church ☩ Richmond, Virginia

Welcome to the Palmer Hall service

We are delighted you are here. Wherever you might be on your faith journey, we hope your experience here will strengthen and affirm you. We are sure that your presence among us today strengthens others, and we welcome you to join in everything that St. Stephen's offers. Every Sunday, we offer several different services of worship (at 8, 9 and 11:15 a.m., and 5:30 and 8 p.m.), each with its own character. At 9 a.m., two services are happening simultaneously—one in the main church, and this one which takes place in Palmer Hall Chapel.

The Palmer Hall service for some feels especially welcoming to families, particularly those with babies and children. Both of the 9 a.m. services—this one, and the one in the main church—include important roles for children, and people of all ages are welcome at any service. In Palmer Hall, our worship space includes a “soft space.” This is an area with a rug, floor cushions, and children's books where children can move a bit more freely and comfortably than they can in rows of seating. Please accompany your child to the soft space if and when they want to visit it; this helps us ensure the safety and comfort of our whole community.

Both of the 9 a.m. services include Holy Eucharist. All are welcome at the altar in this place. 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, touching the edge of the bread to the wine, please use one of the smaller cups. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms on the front of your chest. Children who have been baptized are welcome to receive communion. The important thing is that you know God welcomes you and that this church welcomes you. Please come back often.

Prelude

Welcome

The Word of God

Hymn 554 'Tis the gift to be simple

Sung by all, standing.

Simple Gifts

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free, 'tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,
and when we find ourselves in the place just right, 'twill be in the val-ley of love and de-light.
When true sim-plic-i-ty is gained to bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed, to
turn, turn, will be our de-light till by turn-ing, turn-ing we come round right.

Opening Prayer

Leader Glory to the Holy One:
People **God beyond us, God with us, and God within us,**
Leader Ever living, everlasting, ever loving One,
People **As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.**

The Collect of the Day

The Book of Common Prayer, page 235

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray. *Silence is kept.*

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Reading Exodus 33:12-23

Reader A reading from the Book of Exodus.

Moses said to the Lord, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth."

The Lord said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray." And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The Lord'; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live." And the Lord continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

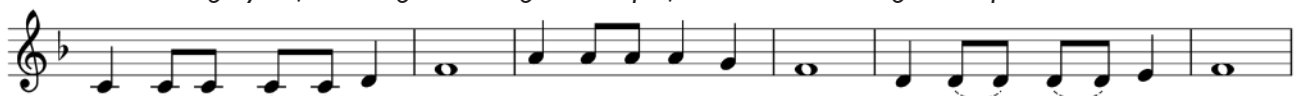
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Song

This little light of mine

traditional Spiritual

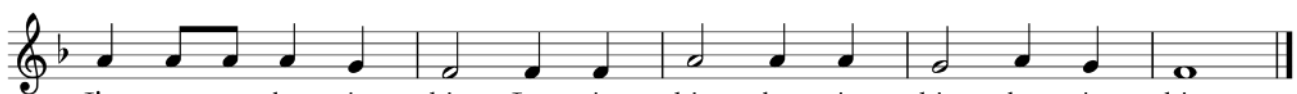
Sung by all, standing. Following the Gospel, all remain standing and repeat verse 1.



1. This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine. This lit-tle light of mine,
2. Je - sus_ gave it to me, I'm gon-na let it shine. Je - sus_ gave it to me,
3. Ev-'ry - where I go, I'm gon-na let it shine. Ev-'ry - where I go,



I'm gon - na let it shine. This lit - tle light of mine,
I'm gon - na let it shine. Je - sus_ gave it to me,
I'm gon - na let it shine. Ev - 'ry - where I go,



I'm gon-na let it shine. Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
I'm gon-na let it shine. Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
I'm gon-na let it shine. Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

The Gospel Matthew 22:15-22

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

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

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Wondering The Rev. Cate Anthony

The children are invited to gather on the center rug.

The Creed *Said by all, standing.*

I believe in God above,

I believe in Jesus' love.

I believe God's Spirit too,

comes to tell me what to do.

I believe that I can be

kind and good,

dear Lord, like thee.

The Prayers of the People *Please stand.*

We give thanks for what is good and pray for the Church, the world and our local community, the sick, those who need our prayers, and those who have died. After each intercession, you are invited to speak aloud the particular prayer of your heart.

Leader In our prayers today, we put all thoughts and worries and hopes into the hands of God. You may like to hold your own hands in front of you as you pray.

Leader We place into the hands of God our difficulties and frustrations, and our hopes and our worries about the future.

Leader We place into the hands of God the leaders of every nation, the poor of our own and every land, those who live in fear, and all who hold the lives of others in their hands.

Leader We place into the hands of God our families, our friends, and our neighbors, those who live and work in our city, those who are unemployed, and all who pass through this city on their travels.

Leader We place into the hands of God all those we know who are suffering from sickness or sorrow or any other challenges.

Leader We place into the hands of God every good thing we celebrate, all of our joy, and the things for which we are grateful.

Leader We place into the hands of God all those who have died.

All **Loving God, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our friend Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Peace

The Book of Common Prayer, 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.

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. Ephesians 5:2

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 online (use the QR code, or text STSTEPHENS RVA to 73256), or in the offering plates as they come by.

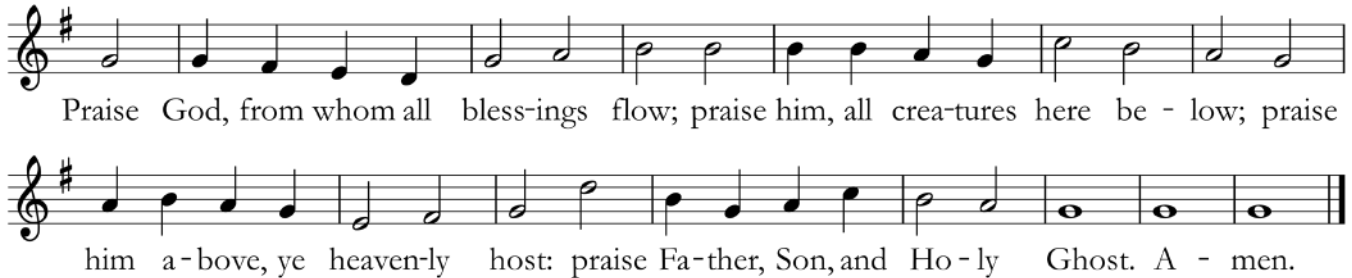


Offertory Music

At the Presentation

Sung by all, standing.

Old 100th



The children are invited to follow the ushers forward to sit on the rug in front of the altar for the Great Thanksgiving.

The Great Thanksgiving

A New Zealand Prayer Book

Celebrant The Lord is here.

People **God's Spirit is with us.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

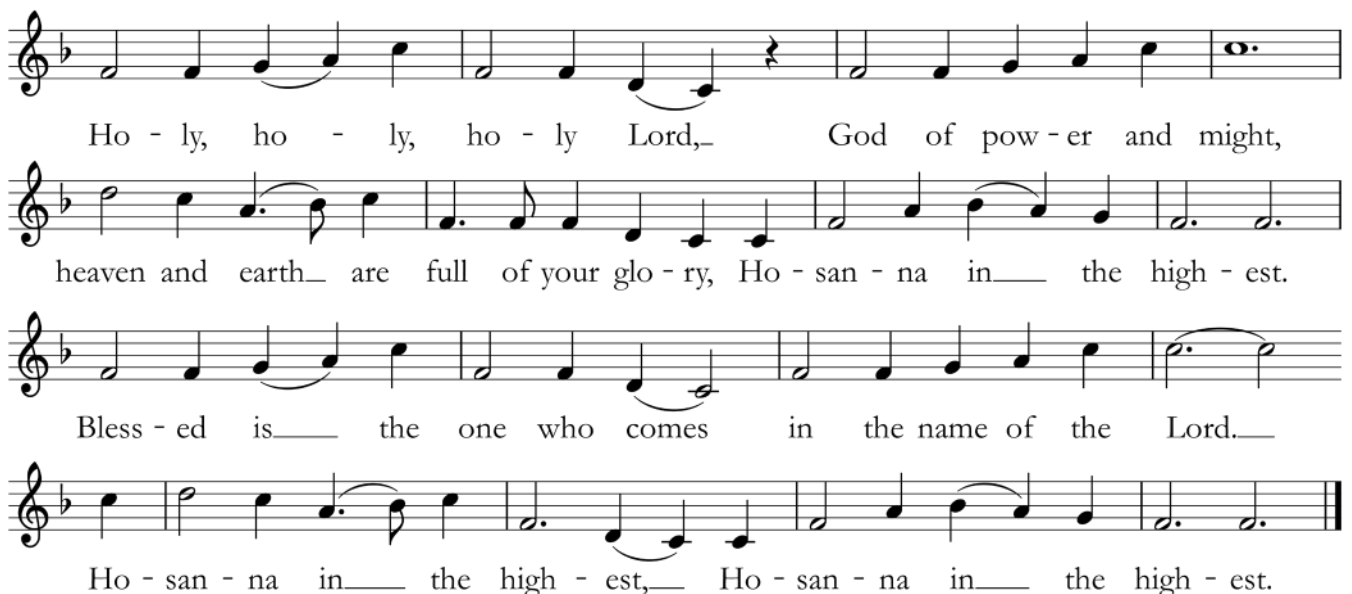
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant God, you made us, and the world and everything in it. All the good we see comes from you. You have always loved us but people have not always loved you. You sent Jesus to show us how to live and to bring us back to you again. He died for us on the cross so that through your Spirit we can all be your people. And so with thanks we praise you, singing:

Sanctus

Sung by all.

Land of Rest



Celebrant

We are here because on the night before he died Jesus shared a meal with his friends. There he took some bread and gave thanks to you, God. He broke it into pieces, and gave it to them. ‘This is my body,’ he said, ‘Do this, and know that I am with you.’ Later, he took a cup of wine and gave thanks to you. He shared it with them, and said ‘This is my blood, which brings new life. Do this, and know that I am with you.’ And so, remembering Jesus, who died, was raised to new life by you, and is alive forever, we are glad to share that life and live in him and proclaim the mystery of our faith:

All **Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Celebrant

Send your Holy Spirit so that this bread and wine can be for us the body and blood of Jesus, and through this food give us strength to live as your people. Help us to care for your world and for each other in the way that Jesus showed us. Until he comes again, with all your people in every time and every land, we worship you in songs of everlasting praise.

People **Blessing, honor and glory be yours, here and everywhere, now and forever. AMEN.**

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

Celebrant and People

The Book of Common Prayer, page 364

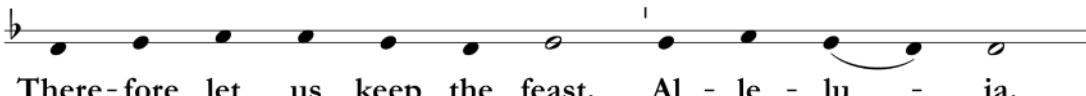
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is 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.

Mason Martens, S-152

Cantor 
Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

All 
There - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Invitation

Celebrant

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

At the Communion of the People

Communion will be served at two stations, standing. All are welcome to come forward. To receive Communion, place your hands together, palms up. If you would like a gluten-free wafer, please tell the minister. If you prefer a blessing, please cross your arms on the front of your chest.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray. *Please stand.*

All

Lord God,
you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;
by it you nourish our faith,
increase our hope,
and strengthen our love:
teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread,
and enable us to live by every word
that proceeds from out of your mouth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing Song Go now in peace

Sung by all, standing.

Natalie Sleeth

Go now in peace, go now in peace.

**May the love of God surround you,
everywhere, everywhere you may go.**

Hymn 686 Come, thou fount of every blessing

Sung by all.

Nettleton



1. Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace!
2. Here I find my great - est trea - sure; hith - er, by thy help, I've come;
3. Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be!



Streams of mer - cy nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
Let thy good - ness, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee:



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove.
Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger wan - dering from the fold of God;
prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;



Praise the mount! Oh, fix me on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
here's my heart, oh, take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Dismissal

The Book of Common Prayer, page 366

Leader

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Participants

CELEBRANT: The Rev. Cate Anthony

ASSISTING: Mary Via

MUSICIAN: Karen Harris, *piano*



Reflection Questions

Jesus talks with the religious leaders in our Gospel story today. People were excited to see and listen to Jesus, which made the religious leaders nervous. They went to Jesus to try to trick him with questions into saying something they could use to get him in trouble. They asked Jesus, “Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar?” Jesus answered, “Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s and give to God what belongs to God.”

Here are some questions for further discussion with your family:

- If you could ask anything, what question would you ask Jesus?
- What belongs to God? What could “giving God what belongs to God” look like in your life at school, home, or with friends?
- Who do you belong to?

The Parish Prayer List for Sunday October 18, 2026: The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

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, *Caroline Brandt*, Kathy Brock, Leslie Brockman, Pat Brown, Sarah Jo Bryce, Turner Bruneau, Matt Boyd, Patti Bullen, Frances Caldwell, John Caperton, 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, Debbie Cuseo, Chris Davis, Rhonda Davis, Patricia Delany, Ham DeRosa, Davis Dunn Dillard, Stephen Drake Sr., Reid Ebert, Kristen Estes, William Everett, 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, David Kean, *Liz Woolford Keany*, Jane Kelly, 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, 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, Sallie, Bette Shiflett, Chrys Sills, Aiden Thomas Smith, 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 Wootten, Sue Wootton, Bill Wright, J. Morgan Wright, Margaret P. Young. **For the blessings of this life**, especially for *the baptism of Miller Childs Peak*. **For those expecting a child**, especially Kristen and Hayden Glasstetter, Mason and Claire Mairead, Carlee and Robert Rhoton. **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 Canada*. **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. 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.

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