The Last Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, November 22, 2026, at 8 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.*

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 STSTEPHENSRVA to 73256.

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

Ingathering and Blessing of Pledge Cards and Giving Boxes

On this day we celebrate the progress of our Abound in Hope annual giving campaign and bless the pledges received to date along with the offering in Giving Boxes collected by children. As a sign and symbol of our life together, we invite you to lay a hand on the collected offerings you approach to receive Communion.

Leader O God, we proclaim and share thy Holy Name.

People **Our lives are shaped by thy Word and Sacraments.**

Leader Thou art Creator of all we have and hold.

People **In thanksgiving, we return a portion to You today.**

Leader Thou callest us to support the mission of thy Church.

People **We pledge ourselves and our resources for thy purposes.**

Leader Almighty God, thou breathed in us a spirit of generosity. Mercifully accept these gifts toward the work of thy Church. Help us fulfill what we have promised with grateful hearts, trusting in the knowledge of thy loving care, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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 Collect and Readings *The Last Sunday after Pentecost*

The Collect of the Day The Book of Common Prayer, page 185

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in thy well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 *Please sit.*

Reader A reading from the Book of Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

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

Psalm 100 *Said responsively by whole verse, seated.* The Book of Common Prayer, page 729

1 Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.

2 Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

4 For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age. *Silence is kept.*

The Gospel Matthew 25:31-46 *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.**

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave

you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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 Dr. Robin Mayer and Dr. Walter Mayer by their family.

Participants

CELEBRANT AND PREACHER: The Rev. Judy Webb Davis; LAY ASSISTANT MINISTERS: Andy Luke and Anne Pinion

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.

The Rite Stuff, Copyright©1998 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.