

Hospitality of Stewardship

November 8, 2026
Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St Stephen's is called, with God's help, to follow Jesus, and to be a source of transformation and Christian hope and inspiration to those within our community and those in our respective neighborhoods.

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THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR HOLY EUCHARIST

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Preceding the service, a singing bowl will be rung as we prepare ourselves interiorly for worship.

GATHERING HYMN #53 Once He Came in Blessing

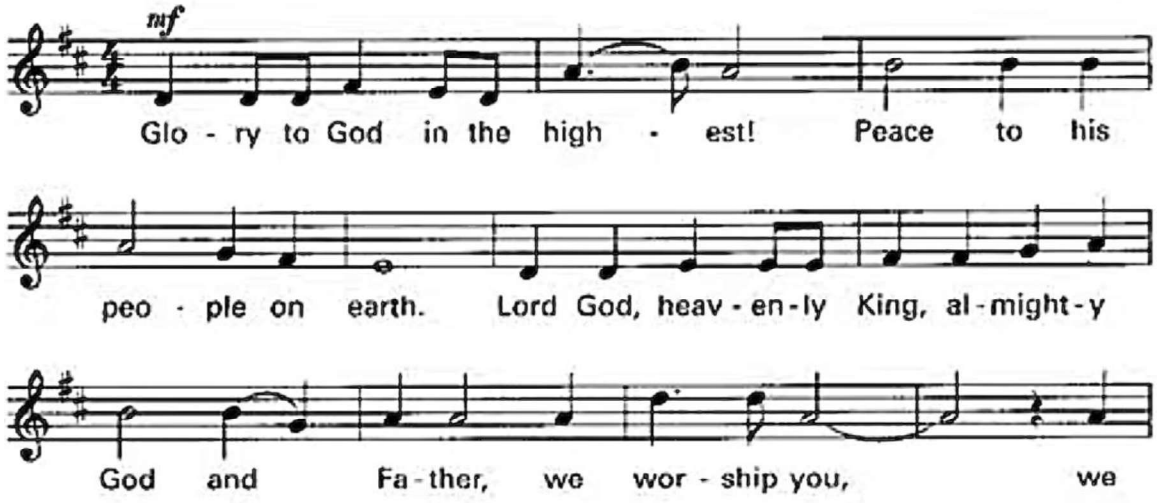
OPENING BLESSING

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.
People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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





COLLECT FOR THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

Holy God, whose fire of love never goes out: free us from the fear of scarcity that keeps us out of love's own feast; renew our trust in your abundance which knows no death and keeps no count; through Jesus Christ, the oil of gladness. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING Amos 5:18-24

Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light, as if someone fled from a lion and was met by a bear or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall and was bitten by a snake. Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them, and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. But let justice roll down like water and righteousness like an everflowing stream.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM Psalm 70



Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O Lord, make haste to help me. Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded; let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced. Let those who say to me, "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back because of their shame. **R.**

Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the Lord!" But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God. You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, do not tarry. **R.**

THE SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Clergy: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 25:1-13

"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Clergy: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOMILY

NICENE CREED



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

R. Save us and help us, O God.

Those in need of healing and support:

Jace, Ashley, Jessica, Peyton, Casey, Kathie Burch, John Elias, Steve Ferrell, Scott Luce, Lisa Parker, Troy Cunningham, Russell Hill, Martha, Kadie, Fred, John Jewitt, Diane Dowling

CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

THE PEACE

WELCOME SONG All Are Welcome

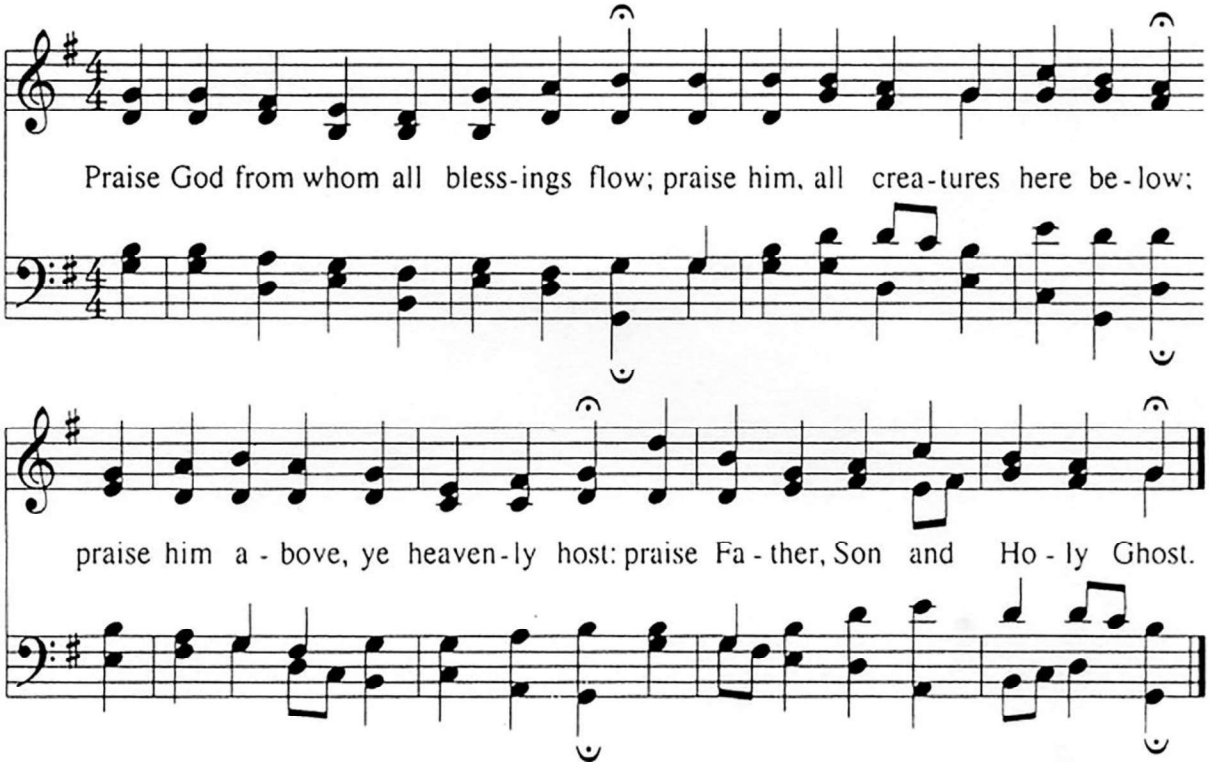


OFFERTORY *To give online, please see the QR code in the back of the bulletin*

OFFERTORY HYMN Command Your Blessing From Above



DOXOLOGY

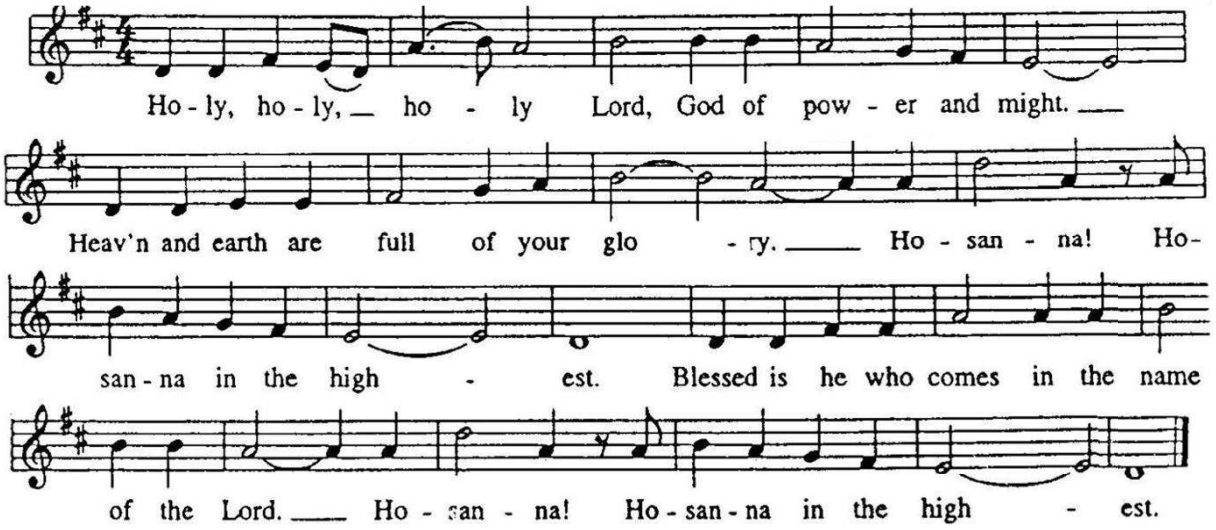


THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE PREFACE

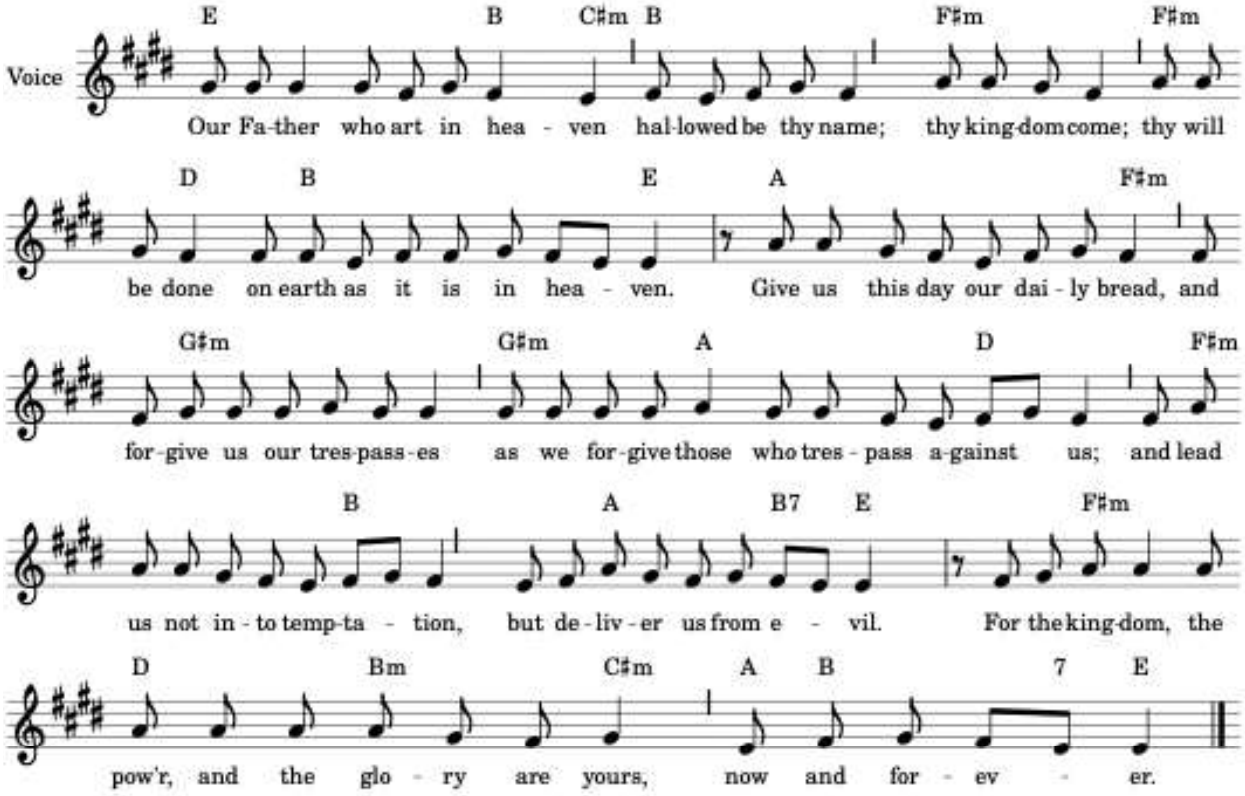
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

SANCTUS



Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

THE LORD'S PRAYER



THE FRACTION

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.
We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

HOLY COMMUNION

Christ is the Host of this Holy Feast: All are welcome to receive God's blessing. You may choose to receive wine from the little cups or from the common chalice. To receive from the chalice, please help guide the cup by grasping the bottom of the cup. Please do not dip your wafer (intinct) into the cup. Gluten-free hosts are available—please mention your need for a gluten-free host to the clergy distributing the Body of Christ when you approach to receive Holy Communion.

COMMUNION ANTHEM Dearest Savior, Watch Thou O'er Us

COMMUNION HYMN #61 Sleepers, Wake! A Voice Astounds Us

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may sing your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

PARISH PRAYER CENTER

BLESSING



SENDING HYMN Let Streams of Living Justice Flow





SENDING

The People's Response: Thanks be to God!