



SING TO THE LORD A NEW SONG!

July 5, 2026
Sixth 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.



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

#404 We Will Extol You, Everblessed Lord

OPENING BLESSING

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

People: **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

"The Cloud of Unknowing" translation by Carmen Acevedo Butchur

God, to you all hearts are open, to you all longings speak, and to you no secret thing is hidden. I beg you—purify the intentions of my heart through the unspeakable gift of grace, so I can love you with all I am and praise you for all you are. **Amen.**

GLORIA



Glo-ry, glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace_____ to his peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, hea-ven-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we



give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry. Glo-ry to God in the high-est!

Organ

Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the

Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, you

take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy up - on us; you are seat-ed at the

right hand of the Fa-ther: re ceive our prayer. For

you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the

Most High, Je - sus Christ with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of God the

Fa - ther. Glo-ry to God in the high - est! A - men. A - men.

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Lord of heaven and earth, whose son came eating and drinking, exposing the rivalry that tears the world apart: may we share his feast and friendship and lay our burdens in his liberating arms; through Jesus Christ, Wisdom's child. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Zechariah 9:9-12

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth. As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 145



You are gracious and full of **compassion**,
slow to anger and of great **kindness**.
You are loving to **everyone**,
and your compassion is over all your **works**.*

All your works praise you, O **God**,
and your faithful servants **bless you**.
They make known the glory of your **realm**
and speak of your **power**.*

That the peoples may know of your **power**
and the glorious splendor of your **dominion**.
Yours, O God, is an everlasting **reign**;
your dominion endures throughout all **ages**.*

You are faithful in all your **words**
and merciful in all your **deeds**.
You uphold all those who **fall**;
you lift up those who are bowed **down**.*

THE SECOND READING

Romans 7:15-25a

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched person that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

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

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Refrain

Sing a new song un - to the Lord; let your song be
sung from moun - tain's high. Sing a new song
un - to the Lord, sing-ing hal - le - lu - jah! *Fine*
Shout with glad - ness! Dance for joy! O come be -
fore the Lord. And play for God on
glad tam - bou-rines, and let your trum - pet sound. *to Refrain*

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

“But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Clergy: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOMILY

NICENE CREED

Enriching Our Worship.

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and
the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand
of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son is
worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and
apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

V. We long for your kingdom O God. R. Put a new song in our hearts.

Those in need of healing and support:

Linda, Kay, Shannon, Darrell, Tiffany, Megan, Colin, Karin, Libby, Terry, Russell, Jessica, Kim, Andrew, Jessica, Jason, Ashley, Brayden, Casey, Vera, Michael, Kadie, Vance, Steve, Tonya, Stephanie, Nathan, Chrystal, Judy, Susan, Greg, Mary, Thea, Jill, Bishop Gretchen

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



Let us build a house where love can dwell and
Let us build a house where all are named, their



all can safe - ly live. A place where saints and
songs and vi - sions heard And loved and treas - ured,



chil - dren tell how hearts learn to for -
taught and claimed as words with - in the



give. Built of hopes and dreams and vi - sions, rock of
Word. Built of tears and cries and laugh - ter, prayers of



faith and vault of grace, Here the love of Christ shall
faith and songs of grace. Let this house pro - claim from



end di - vi - sions: } All are wel - come, all are wel - come,
floor to raft - er:



all are wel - come in this place.

OFFERTORY

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OFFERTORY HYMN



1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I make faith's af-firm-a-tion: thus far by thy help I've come,
3 O 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 com-pas-sion, 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 mea-sure, 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;



O the vast, the bound-less trea-sure of my God's un-chang-ing love.
he, to res-cue me from dan-ger, in-ter-posed his pre-cious blood.
take my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a-bove.



DOXOLOGY



Praise God from whom all ble - ssings flow. Praise God all crea - tures here bel - ow.



Praise God a - bove ye heav'n - ly host. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

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 S-130

Schubert Mass



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, ho - ly, ho - ly,



ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full,



full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na



in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the



Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

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 HYMNS

#692 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

Softly and Tenderly

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
3 O for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me; see, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 6/8 time signature. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics provided for three different verses. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and simple rhythmic patterns.

Refrain

watch-ing for you and for me. Come home, come home,
 mer-cies for you and for me? Come home, come home,
 par-don for you and for me. Come home, come home,

ye who are wea-ry, come home; ear-nest-ly, ten-der-ly,

Je-sus is call-ing, call-ing, O sin-ner, come home!

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

#544 Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

SENDING

The People's Response: Thanks be to God!

Thanks to all those who serve in St. Stephen's liturgical ministries!

SATURDAY

Eucharistic Ministers

Tom Pitzer | Suzy Jefferies

Usher

SUNDAY

Eucharistic Ministers

Brody Knowles | Libby Beck

Ushers

Joy Mewhinney | Tom Pitzer

ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Alayna Biersdorff, Lay Pastor for Formation and Administration:

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St. Martha's Altar Guild

Pam Bernardo | Karen Bushnell | Vanita Davis | Lyla Henderson | The Henry Family

Suzy Jefferies | Lisa Johnston, President | Meg Jones | Laura Lindsey | Paula Oty

Mary Lou Redmond | Lolita Sutton | Pam Strickland | Karen Williams

St. Stephen's Vestry

Sheryll Shepard, Sr. Warden

Tim Farley, Jr. Warden

Greg Stevens, Jr. Warden

Karen Bushnell

Mary Hedrick

Scarlett Hepworth

Charlotte Lamp

Kate Mietus

Karen Williams

Karen Winston

Kathleen Henry, Treasurer

Stuart Hales, Clerk

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