

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO
JUNE 13, 2021 ■ 10:30 A.M.



Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church has worshipped on this corner of North James and Mulberry Streets in Goldsboro since 1857 — in the same building! We welcome you to our historic building, but more than that, we are happy to have you worship with us.

ORDER OF SERVICE

VOLUNTARY

Jesus Christ, our Blessed Savior

Jan Bender

The people of God gather to proclaim and respond to the Word of God.

PROCESSIONAL

Love divine, all loves excelling

Hymn 657

Celebrant Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed.

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.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE LESSONS (Please be seated.)

The First Reading: *1 Samuel 15:34-16:13*

Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul. Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the Lord was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel.

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful

eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 20 *Exaudiat te Dominus*

(we read the Psalm responsively by whole verse)

1 May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble, *
the Name of the God of Jacob defend you;

**2 Send you help from his holy place *
and strengthen you out of Zion;**

3 Remember all your offerings *
and accept your burnt sacrifice;

**4 Grant you your heart’s desire *
and prosper all your plans.**

5 We will shout for joy at your victory
and triumph in the Name of our God; *
may the Lord grant all your requests.

**6 Now I know that the Lord gives victory to his anointed; *
he will answer him out of his holy heaven,
with the victorious strength of his right hand.**

7 Some put their trust in chariots and some in horses, *
but we will call upon the Name of the Lord our God.

**8 They collapse and fall down, *
but we will arise and stand upright.**

9 O Lord, give victory to the king *
and answer us when we call.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.

The Second Reading: *2 Corinthians 5:6-10,[11-13],14-17*

We are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord-- for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel: *Mark 4:26-34* (Please stand.)

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Alan Neale, Interim Rector

Breath on me, breath of God

L. R. Peace

Soloist: Chris Garrison

THE NICENE CREED (All stand.)

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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**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 and the Son.**

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He 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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Beloved God, we thank you for giving us power through your Spirit to reveal your life to the world: strengthen, bless, and guide us to make you known by word and example.

We are your Church, O God.

Guide us in your grace.

We thank you for your creation, and pray for the earth you have given us to cherish and protect: nourish in us your love for all you have made.

We are your stewards, O God.

Guide us in your grace.

Guide and bless us in our work and in our play, and shape the patterns of our political and economic life, that all people may share in the fulfillment of your creative work.

We are your servants, O God.

Guide us in your grace.

Awaken our hearts to your presence in all people; in those we love easily and those with whom we struggle, in those different from us and those familiar to us.

We are made in your image, O God.

Guide us in your grace.

We thank you for calling us to a glorious heritage as your holy people. Free us from lack of vision, from inertia of will and spirit. By your life-giving Spirit, lead us out of isolation and oppression, redeem and restore us.

You are the life within us, O God.

Guide us in your grace.

We thank you for the gift of life, with all its blessings and sorrows. Shield the joyous, comfort and strengthen those in any need or trouble. Bless those who will be born today and those who will die, that joining with the company of all your saints we may rejoice in one unending song of praise.

In you alone we have eternal life, O God.

Guide us in your grace.

Celebrant:

We offer these our prayers and thanksgivings to you, O God, the source of all that is true and holy, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

**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 Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer B)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

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 him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. (Here a Proper Preface is added.)

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord

Hosana in the highest.

Celebrant and People:

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues:

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People:

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues:

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

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

**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.

Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation:
The Gifts of God for the People of God

We welcome those viewing online to make their Communion spiritually. Tell the Lord that you open your hearts, minds, and lives to Him. Remember the promise of Scripture, “The Lord says, Behold I stand at the door and knock. If anyone opens the door, I will come in and eat with them.

Rejoice in the Lord Always

Richard Gieseke

Soloist: Chris Garrison

Rector Search Prayer

Amighty God, who knows our hearts and minds. You have blessed our Church with generations of faithful servant leaders. Guide our Search Committee, Vestry and Parish Family as we call for our new Rector. Grace us with patience, trust, and hope through this time of discovery. We pray that we may call a faithful Rector who will guide us in our spiritual journey. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People:

**Eternal God, heavenly father
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

RECESSIONAL

I love thy kingdom, Lord

Hymn 524

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses them with these words

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

Canzona

G. Frescobaldi

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in celebration of Lucy's 18th birthday! Love, your family.

You are invited to choose a Sunday and make a donation to the Flower Fund so that a Memorial or Thanksgiving event can be observed. The required donation for two arrangements is \$120; if the cost is prohibitive, maybe a joint donation can be made? Please contact Vicky Bailey at the Church Office at admin@ststephenschurch.com or 919-734-4263 to send details of the Memorial/Thanksgiving. Dates are available for June 20 and onwards.

SERVING TODAY

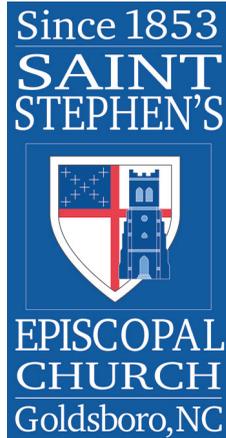
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CLERGY

The Rt. Rev. Robert Skirving, Bishop
The Rev. Alan Neale, Interim Rector

CHOIRMASTER

Marshall Foster
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DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Xena Markine-Morrison
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VESTRY

Senior Warden: Lori Allen; Junior Warden: Mike Saylor;
Will Bland, Tom Brown, Duffy Fleming, Kathy Harris, Mary Susan Heath,
Mary Lee Jeffreys, Katherine MacDonald, Paul Rutter, Leon Stockton and Sallie Wahl