

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO
JULY 16, 2023 ■ 10:30 A.M.



Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

St. Stephen's is a community of people made more complete by the grace of a perfect God, who proclaim the Gospel by sharing the reconciling love of Christ with others through redeeming acts of hospitality, forgiveness, justice, and peace.

ORDER OF SERVICE

VOLUNTARY

HYMN 440

Blessed Jesus, at thy word

Liebster Jesu

Officiant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be His kingdom, now and forever. Amen**

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.

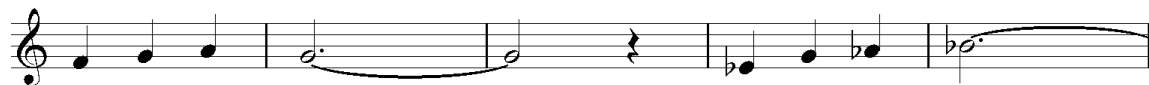
GLORIA S236



1. Glo - ry to you, _____ Lord



God of our fa - thers; _____ you are wor - thy of praise;



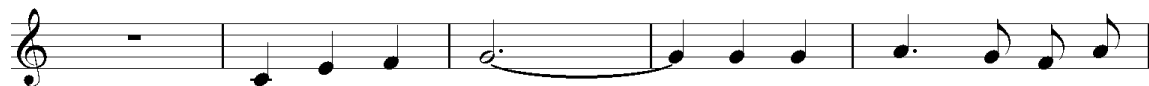
glo - ry to you. _____ 2. Glo - ry to you _____



_____ for the ra - di - ance of your ho - ly Name; _____ we will



praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____



3. Glo - ry to you _____ in the splen - dor of your



tem - ple; _____ on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to



you. _____ 4. Glo - ry to you, _____ seat - ed bet -



ween the Cher - u - bim; _____ we will praise you and

high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

Descant

5. Glo - ry to you, be - hold - ing the

hold - ing the depths; in the high vault of

heaven, 6. Glo - ry to you,
you. 6. Glo - ry to you, Fa - ther,

Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will
Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will praise you and

high-ly ex - alt you Glo - ry to you!

high-ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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: *Genesis 25:19-34*

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham’s son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, “If it is to be this way, why do I live?” So she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her,

“Two nations are in your womb,
and two peoples born of you shall be divided;
the one shall be stronger than the other,
the elder shall serve the younger.”

When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau’s heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119:105-112 *Lucerna pedibus meis*

105 Your word is a lantern to my feet *
and a light upon my path.

**106 I have sworn and am determined *
to keep your righteous judgments.**

107 I am deeply troubled; *
preserve my life, O Lord, according to your word.

**108 Accept, O Lord, the willing tribute of my lips, *
and teach me your judgments.**

109 My life is always in my hand, *
yet I do not forget your law.

**110 The wicked have set a trap for me, *
but I have not strayed from your commandments.**

111 Your decrees are my inheritance for ever; *
truly, they are the joy of my heart.

**112 I have applied my heart to fulfill your statutes *
for ever and to the end.**

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: *Romans 8:1-11*

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law — indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN 679

Surely it is God who saves me

Thomas Merton

The Gospel: *Matthew 13:1-9,18-23* (Please stand.)

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

“Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Rebecca Bean

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.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

**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

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

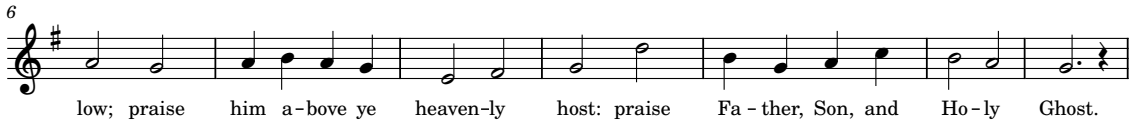
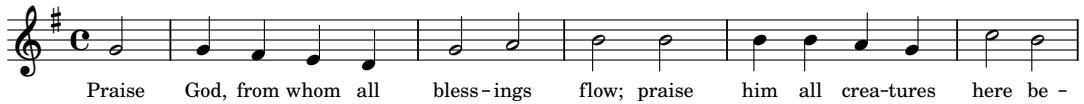
People: And also with you.

OFFERTORY

Father, We Thank Thee

William Albright

AT THE PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS



THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer D)

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.

Celebrant: It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing (say),

Celebrant and People:

SANCTUS S-130

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

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff in B-flat major. The treble staff contains a vocal line with lyrics, and the bass staff contains a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and".

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

The second system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are "might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,". The piano accompaniment includes a long note in the bass staff.

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

The third system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are "God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are". The piano accompaniment includes a long note in the bass staff.

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

The fourth system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are "full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -". The piano accompaniment includes a long note in the bass staff.

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

The fifth system concludes the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are "san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na". The piano accompaniment includes a long note in the bass staff.

in the high - est. Bless - ed 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 people stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People

**We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our Presiding Bishop, Rob our Bishop and all who minister in your Church.

Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.

Remember this parish and all its ministries. May we, as a community, hear your call in our lives and grant us your grace to be the light of Christ in a dark and dangerous world.

Remember those on our Parish Prayer List: Betty Anderson, Margie Clarke, Glenda Futch, Ed Futch, Debby Hickey, Sue McDonald, John Peacock, Marguerite Pennington, Jane Rustin, Marjorie Snyder, Dorisenia Thompson, Betsy Toomey and John Wolfe.

Remember those suffering from violence of any kind.

Remember the women and men of our armed forces at home and abroad.

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with [the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with St. Stephen and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and 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.**

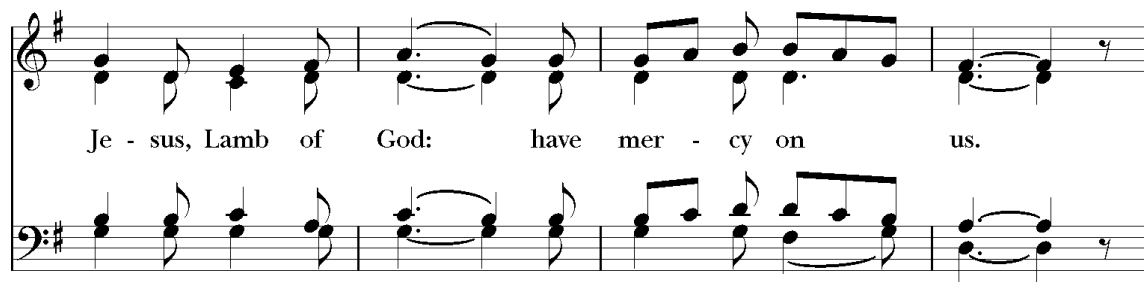
**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

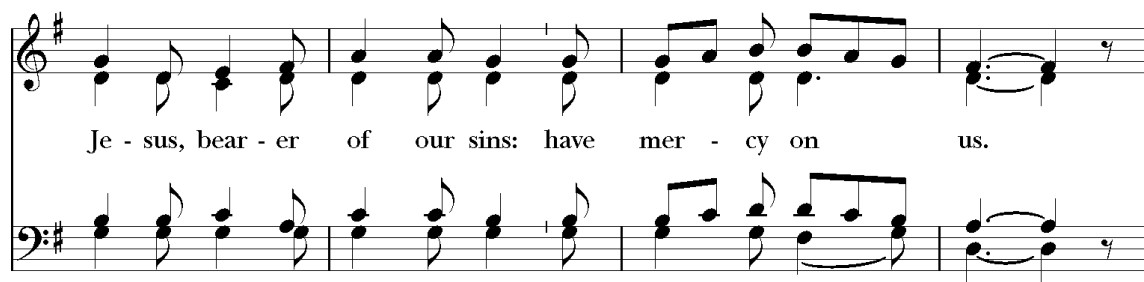
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.

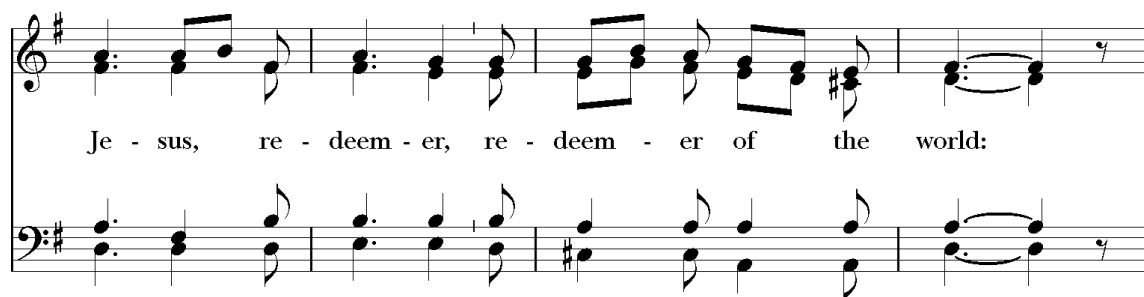
FRACTION ANTHEM S164



Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:



give us your peace, give us your peace.

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

HYMN 339

Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness

Schmücke dich

All baptized Christians, regardless of denomination or age, are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please come forward at the appropriate time. You may receive both the bread and wine, one or the other, come forward for a blessing, or remain seated.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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.**

SENDING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

THE BLESSING

HYMN 302

Father, we thank thee who has planted

Rendez á Dieu

THE DISMISSAL

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

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

SERVING TODAY

Celebrant: The Rev. Rebecca Bean

Organist: Patrick Ritsch

Ushers: Todd Brantley and Betty Duncan

Eucharistic Visitors: Bob and Jan Cagle

Live Stream Technician: James Ruggles

Flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for the birth of their great grandson, Mason Jeffery Wilcox, by Ed and Glenda Futch.

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St. Stephen's Parish Prayer List

We pray for our parishioners:

Betty Anderson, Gina Christophe and family, Margie Clarke, Glenda Futch, Ed Futch, Debby Hickey, Sue McDonald, John Peacock, Marguerite Pennington, Marjorie Snyder, Dorisenia Thompson, Betsy Toomey and John Wolfe

And for our family and friends:

Dennis Blake, Ruth Ann Brame, Charlotte Bridgers, Nancy Brookes, Howard Churchill, Lee Clayton, Robin R Coates, Will Cox, Donna Crumpler, Josh Davenport, David Jones, Gordon Deal and Diana Myhre, Viola Figueroa, Leah Fulkerson, Rachel Golden and family, Elaine Gregory, Bonnie Hale, David Hesmer, Nolan Hill, Annice Davis Hodges, Jinny (friend of Leigh Broadfoot), Tisha Johnson, Cailee Ladd, Chrissie Lewis, Alicia Kennedy Mathis, Greg Morris, Mary Beth Parker, Alex Peacock, Julia Peacock, Jodi Power, Gene Pryor, Edith Pulliam, Adylene Rohrer, Drue Seefeld, Donna Shibley, Chris Smith, Jackson Smith, Yvonne Stovall, Steve Synder, Bob Williams, Jennifer WinterRose, Patricia Worley, Natalie Young

In the Armed Forces:

John Keena, Logan McDevitt, Taylor McDevitt, Wes Morrison, Steven S. and Jay Womble

Partner in Education:

Dillard Middle School, its students, faculty, and staff.

Happy Birthday!

July 15 — Paula Hastings Brown

July 17 — Glena Lewis

July 18 — Sarah Stockton

July 19 — Jackson Harris

WELCOME TO ST. STEPHEN'S!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____

Phone Numbers: Home _____ Cell _____

I am new to the parish, I would like the Clergy to call.

I am interested in _____ ministry.

Marital Status: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Anniversary Date: _____

Baptism Date and Location: _____

Confirmation Date and Location: _____

Please list the people who reside with you and their ages:

Any additional information you wish to include?

Please tear off this sheet with your information entered and place in the offering plate or give to an usher or greeter. Thank you! We look forward to meeting you!



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

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www.ststephenschurch.com

email: admin@ststephenschurch.com

CLERGY

The Rt. Rev. Robert Skirving, Bishop

The Rev. David Wylly

Rector@ststephenschurch.com

CHURCH STAFF

Organist and Choirmaster: Patrick Ritsch

organist@ststephenschurch.com

Church Administrative Assistant: Vicky Bailey

admin@ststephenschurch.com

Director of Christian Formation: Xena Markine-Morrison

xmorrison@ststephenschurch.com

Communications Coordinator: Jane Cunningham

communications@ststephenschurch.com

Church Sexton: Alfie Barnes

VESTRY

Senior Warden: Katherine MacDonald, Junior Warden: Betty Duncan,

Treasurer: Bob Cagle, Clerk: Nancy Headen

Other Vestry Members Include: Meredith Adams, Don Barnes, Will Bland, Todd Brantley
Susan Brown, Betty Duncan, David Huard, Gwyn LaFave, Larry Tingen, Sallie Wahl