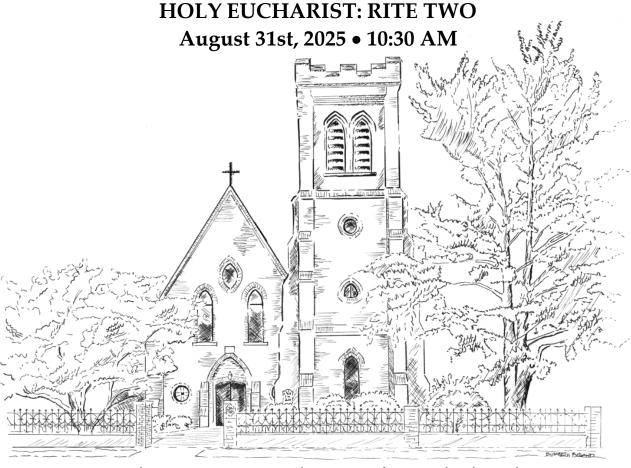
TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



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.

VOLUNTARY St. Denio Rosalie Bonighton

ANNOUNCEMENTS Larry Tingen

HYMN 423 Immortal, invisible, God only wise St. Denio

Please stand as you are able

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

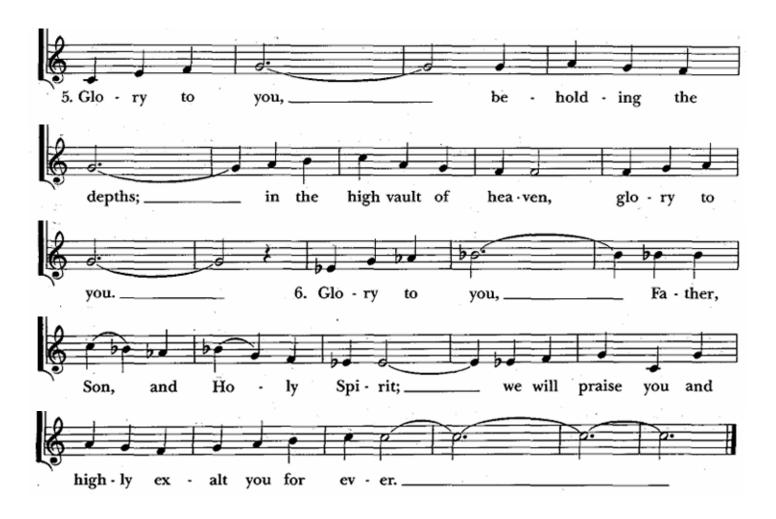
People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

A lmighty 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.**

Elementary aged children are welcomed to join Ms. Laurie for a Bible Lesson in the Godly Play room SONG OF PRAISE S 236

Please remain standing





THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray. *Please kneel or stand as able*

Lour hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen**

THE LESSONS

Please be seated

The First Reading

Jeremiah 2:4-13

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah:

Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. Thus says the Lord:

What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves?

They did not say, "Where is the Lord who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?"

I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things.

But when you entered you defiled my land,

and made my heritage an abomination.

The priests did not say, "Where is the Lord?"

Those who handle the law did not know me;

the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit.

Therefore once more I accuse you, says the Lord,

and I accuse your children's children.

Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look,

send to Kedar and examine with care;

see if there has ever been such a thing.

Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods?

But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit.

Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate,

says the Lord, for my people have committed two evils:

they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water,

and dug out cisterns for themselves,

cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People:** Thanks be to God.

Let us stand and read Psalm 81 responsively by whole verse.

Sing with joy to God our strength and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt and said, "Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it."

And yet my people did not hear my voice, and Israel would not obey me.

So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their hearts, to follow their own devices.

Oh, that my people would listen to me! that Israel would walk in my ways!

I should soon subdue their enemies and turn my hand against their foes.

Those who hate the Lord would cringe before him, and their punishment would last for ever.

But Israel would I feed with the finest wheat and satisfy him with honey from the rock.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Please be seated

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews:

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People:** Thanks be to God.

HYMN 545

Lo! What a cloud of witnesses

St. Fulbert

Please stand as able

The Gospel Luke 14:1, 7-14

Please remain standing

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

People: Glory to you Lord Christ.

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Yon jou, pandan Jezi t apral lakay youn nan chèf Farizyen yo pou l manje yon jou repo, moun yo t ap veye l byen.

Lè Jezi wè kijan envite yo chwazi plas ki pi enpòtan yo, li rakonte yo yon parabòl. "Lè yon moun envite w nan yon resepsyon maryaj, pa chita nan plas ki pi enpòtan an. Pa kite moun ki envite w la envite w la gen plis enpòtans pase w. Moun ki envite nou toulede a vin di w: Bay moun sa a plas ou. Lè sa a, ou menm, ou wont, ou kòmanse pran plas ki pi dènye a. Men, lè yo envite w la, ale chita nan plas ki pi dènye a. Konsa, lè moun ki envite w la vini, la ka di w: Zanmi, monte pi wo. Lè sa a, tout moun ki chita bò tab avè w la va jwenn lwanj. Paske, moun ki vle leve tèt li, y ap rabese l. Moun ki rabese tèt li, y ap leve l."

Li di moun ki te envite l' la tou: -Lè w'ap fè yon dejene, ni yon dine, pa envite ni zanmi ou, ni frè ou, ni fanmi ou, ni vwazen ou ki rich. Pa envite yo menm tou. Konsa, yo ka resevwa rekonpans ou. Men, lè w'ap fè yon fèt, envite pòv yo, moun ki enfim yo, moun ki bwete yo, moun ki avèg yo. Benediksyon pou ou, paske yo p'ap ka peye ou anyen. Paske, se lè moun ki mache dwat devan Bondye yo va resevwa rekonpans ou.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. David Wyly

THE NICENE CREED

Please stand as you are able

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 of 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 worshipped 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM III

Please kneel or stand as able

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake; **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble, especially those on our Parish Prayer list: Peggy Musser, Linda Edsall-Huard, Ray Harris, Randy Anderson, Debby Hickey, Geoff Hulse, Marguerite Pennington, Marjorie Snyder, Betsy Toomey, and John Wolfe.

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest; Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Gracious and loving God, guide the hearts and minds of those among us who will search for a new bishop to lead the Diocese of East Carolina, that we may listen carefully to discern your will and call a bishop who will love and serve your people in all the communities of this diocese and lead us forward in new ways in our ministries and service to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

THE CONFESSION

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

Please stand as you are able

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

People: And also with you.

OFFERTORY

Servant Song

Richard Gillard

Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey; we're together on the road. We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you in the nighttime of your fear. I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I'll laugh with you. I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony, Born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.

Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?

Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

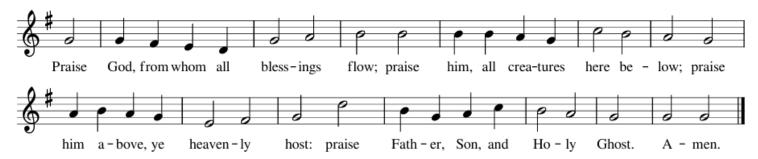
-Richard Gillard

If you wish to make your offering electronically using Venmo, please scan the QR code using your smartphone camera. This will direct you to our Venmo online giving option.



DOXOLOGY

Please stand as able



THE HOLY COMMUNION

The People remain standing

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A

The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

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.

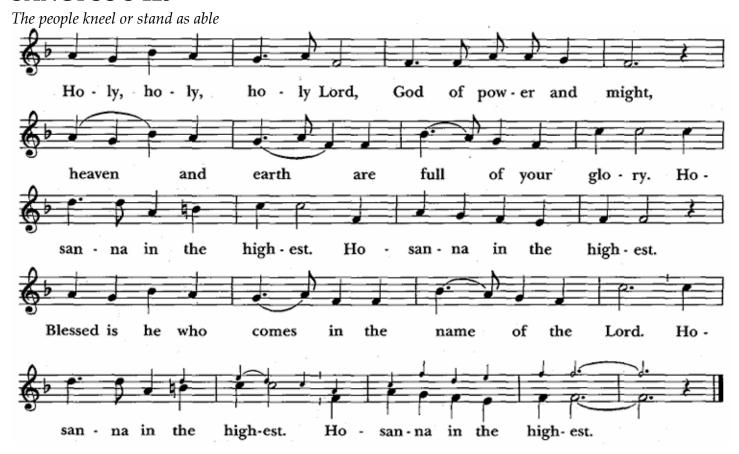
Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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 sung or said.

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:

SANCTUS S 125



Then the Celebrant continues:

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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**.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray

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.

Papa nou ki nan syèl la, se pou non ou sen wayòm ou an vini, volonte ou fèt sou tè a menm jan li ye nan syèl la.
Ban nou jòdi a pen nou chak jou Epi padonnen fot nou yo, menm jan nou padonnen moun k'ap fè sa nou yo.

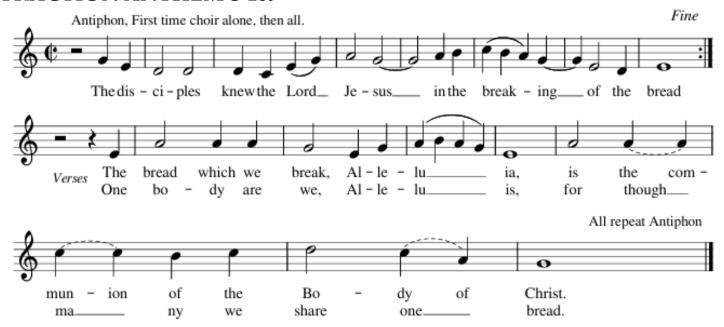
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

E pa lage nou nan tantasyon, men deliver nou anba sa ki mal. Pou ou se wayòm nan, ak pouvwa a, ak tout bel pouvwa a pou tout tan ak pou tout tan. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. Then a period of silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM S 169



Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following invitation:

The Gifts of God for the People of God

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.

Tout kretyen ki batize yo, kèlkeswa denominasyon oswa laj yo, yo akeyi yo resevwa Sentespri Kominyon. Tanpri vini pi devan nan moman apwopriye a. Ou ka resevwa ni pen an ni diven, youn oubyen lòt, vin devan pou yon benediksyon, oswa rete chita.

HYMN 321

My God, thy table now is spread

Rockingham

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

SENDING OF THE EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

BLESSING

HYMN 477

All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine

Engleberg

Please stand as able

THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon, or the celebrant, dismisses them with these words:

Let us go forth in the name of the risen Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY Gavotte William Boyce

SERVING TODAY

Celebrant: The Rev. David Wyly
Ushers: Atha & Todd Brantley
Eucharistic Visitors: Bob & Jan Cagle

Organist: Sean Dye

Livestream Technician: James Ruggles

Flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for Betty & Randy Anderson's grandson, Thomas' 8th birthday.



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CLERGY

The Right Reverend Robert Skirving, Bishop

The Reverend David Wyly, Rector

rector@ststephenschurch.com

CHURCH STAFF

Administrative Assistant & Bookkeeper: Sasha Flowers admin@ststephenschurch.com

Children's Minister: Laurie Juarez children@ststephenschurch.com

Communications Coordinator: Sean Dye communications@ststephenschurch.com

Nursery Attendants: Lorelei Sexton & Myranda Hasenauer

Organist and Choirmaster: Sean Dye organist@ststephenschurch.com

Sexton: Alfie Barnes

Youth Minister: Liz Hengst youth@ststephenschurch.com

VESTRY

Senior Warden: Bob Cagle (Class of 2027) **Junior Warden:** Ashley Fleming (Class of 2026)

Treasurer: Kyle Saylors **Clerk:** Nancy Headen

Vestry Members:

Class of 2025: Todd Brantley, Susan Brown, Gwyn LaFave, Geoff Hulse Class of 2026: Don Barnes, Beth Saylors, Larry Tingen Class of 2027: Drew Grice, Michael Headen, Dave Tayloe