

**THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, PROPER 20**

September 19, 2021

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion

**Please wear a mask throughout the service and in any building on campus.**

**Receiving Holy Communion**

Please sanitize your hands before approaching the table when picking up your communion wafer. Once everyone has returned to their pew, the priest will bless the bread and everyone will consume it together. Please deposit the wafer cup in the labeled bin as you leave church.

**HARP PRELUDES** - “What Wondrous Love Is This?”  
“Inis Siar”

*American Folk Hymn  
Thomas Walsh, Ireland*

**ENTRANCE HYMN** - “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

*423, Hymnal 1982*

**WELCOME**

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

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

*People:* ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

*Celebrant:*

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 GLORIA**

*S - 280, Hymnal 1982*

*Celebrant and People:*

***Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.***

***Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.***

***Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.***

***For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.***

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

### **THE COLLECT**

*Celebrant:*

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

### **FIRST LESSON** - Proverbs 31:10-31

*Reader:* A Reading from the Book of Proverbs.

A capable wife who can find?  
She is far more precious than jewels.  
The heart of her husband trusts in her,  
and he will have no lack of gain.  
She does him good, and not harm,  
all the days of her life.  
She seeks wool and flax,  
and works with willing hands.  
She is like the ships of the merchant,  
she brings her food from far away.  
She rises while it is still night  
and provides food for her household  
and tasks for her servant-girls.  
She considers a field and buys it;  
with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.  
She girds herself with strength,  
and makes her arms strong.  
She perceives that her merchandise is profitable.  
Her lamp does not go out at night.  
She puts her hands to the distaff,  
and her hands hold the spindle.  
She opens her hand to the poor,  
and reaches out her hands to the needy.  
She is not afraid for her household when it snows,  
for all her household are clothed in crimson.  
She makes herself coverings;  
her clothing is fine linen and purple.  
Her husband is known in the city gates,  
taking his seat among the elders of the land.  
She makes linen garments and sells them;  
she supplies the merchant with sashes.  
Strength and dignity are her clothing,  
and she laughs at the time to come.  
She opens her mouth with wisdom,  
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.

She looks well to the ways of her household,  
and does not eat the bread of idleness.  
Her children rise up and call her happy;  
her husband too, and he praises her:  
“Many women have done excellently,  
but you surpass them all.”  
Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain,  
but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.  
Give her a share in the fruit of her hands,  
and let her works praise her in the city gates.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People: Thanks be to God.*

### **PSALM 1**

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, \*  
***nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!***
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord, \*  
***and they meditate on his law day and night.***
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; \*  
***everything they do shall prosper.***
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; \*  
***they are like chaff which the wind blows away.***
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, \*  
***nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.***
- 6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, \*  
***but the way of the wicked is doomed.***

### **SECOND LESSON** - James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

*Reader:* A Reading from the Letter of James.

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* ***Thanks be to God.***

**GRADUAL HYMN** - "What Wondrous Love Is This?"

439, Hymnal 1982

**THE GOSPEL** - Mark 9:30-37

*The Rev. Deacon Emmetri Beane*

*Gospeler:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.

*People:* ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

Jesus and his disciples passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

*Gospeler:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

**THE SERMON**

*The Rev. Bill Sachs*

**THE NICENE CREED**

*Celebrant and People:*

***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.*

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - Form III**

*Deacon:* Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

*People:* ***That we all may be one.***

*Deacon:* Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

*People:* ***That your Name may be glorified by all people.***

*Deacon:* We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Susan, Jennifer, and Porter our own bishops, Bill, our Interim Rector, and Emmetri, our Deacon.

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

*Deacon:* We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

*People:* ***That there may be justice and peace on the earth.***

*Deacon:* Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

*People:* ***That our works may find favor in your sight.***

*Deacon:* Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

*People:* ***That they may be delivered from their distress.***

*Deacon:* Give to the departed eternal rest.

*People:* ***Let light perpetual shine upon them.***

*Deacon:* We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

*People:* ***May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.***

*Deacon:* Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, especially:

Barbara Cook

Benjamin Ryan

Bill Browning

Buddy Clark

Carol Galloway

Catherine

Edie Clark

Haley Clark

Jeanette Goss

Joe Leary

Kirsten Brannon

Martha Turner

Melanie Chambers

Nadine

Patrick Edrington

Ray Johns

Robert Dodd

Sally Jebson

Sonja Johns

Stephen Brown

Ed Bell

Allahvel Fitzpatrick, Sr.

Steve Carroll

Phyllis Byrne

Evelyn Rogers

Cheryl Moore

Priscilla Cook

Wayne Gallimore

Andrew Pickett

Jean Isaacson

Ed & Jane Curry

Jenkins & Family

Christopher Gaines

*The congregation may add their own petitions, followed by silence.*

*Deacon:* Lord, in your mercy.

*People:* ***Hear our prayer***

*Deacon:* Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom: Enlighten by your Holy Spirit all staff members of our schools and the students entrusted to them, that they may all grow in the knowledge of your truth, and with us, they may show forth knowledge of your truth not only with their lips but in their lives, through, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*Deacon:* Lord, in your mercy.

*People:* **Hear our prayer**

*Deacon:* We pray for healthcare workers, first responders, law enforcement, essential workers, and for all others who minister to the suffering. We ask you to grant them wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience.

*Deacon:* Lord, in your mercy.

*People:* **Hear our prayer**

*Deacon:* We pray for those in the military and for those serving our country at home and abroad, especially:

Abigail Brannon  
Allahvel Fitzpatrick, Jr.  
Braeden Woodside  
Carrington Travers

David A. Hoffman  
Jessica Helsel  
Michael Sprinkel  
Matthew Stevens

Nate Cotter  
Samuel McCabe  
Taylor Craddock

*Deacon:* Lord, in your mercy.

*People:* **Hear our prayer**

*Deacon:* We remember before you those who suffer want and anxiety from lack of work. Guide the people of this land so to use our public and private wealth that all may find suitable and fulfilling employment, and receive just payment for their labor.

*Deacon:* Lord, in your mercy

*People:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Deacon:* We remember before you all poor and neglected persons whom it would be easy for us to forget: the homeless and the destitute, the old and the sick, and all who have none to care for them. Help us to heal those who are broken in body or spirit, and to turn their sorrow into joy.

*Deacon:* Lord, in your mercy

*People:* **Hear our prayer**

*Deacon:* Lord, in your mercy

*People:* **Hear our prayer**

*Deacon:* Let us pray with thanksgiving for all the blessings of this life. We pray for those celebrating birthdays this week, especially:

Sept. 19: Chris Geest  
Sept. 19: Ray Walker

Sept. 25: Billy Green  
Sept. 25: Ellyn Vaught

*Silence.*

*Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

*Deacon:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*Deacon 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.  
Celebrant:***

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from 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.*

*Celebrant:* Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. ~ *Ephesians 5:2*

## **OFFERTORY** - "Be Still"

*David Kauffman/arr. William Gokelman*

### **At 8:00 AM**

*Celebrant:* All things come of Thee, O Lord,

***People:*** *and of Thine own have we given Thee.*

### **At 10:30 AM** (*At the Presentation of the gifts*)

## **THE DOXOLOGY**

*380 (v. 3), Hymnal 1982*

*Celebrant and People:*

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.***

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING - Eucharistic Prayer A

*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 right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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, Hymnal 1982*

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

***Hosanna in the highest.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

*Celebrant:*

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.

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:

*Celebrant and People:*

***Christ has died.***

***Christ is risen.***

***Christ will come again.***

*Celebrant:*

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.**

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

*Celebrant and People:*

***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**

*Celebrant:* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

***People:* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*Celebrant:* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

### **COMMUNION HYMNS**

“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”

“How Great Thou Art”

660, *Hymnal 1982*

60, *LEVAS Hymnal*

## **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People:*

*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.*

## **THE BLESSING**

*Celebrant:*

The peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CLOSING HYMN** - "Rise Up, Ye Saints of God"

551, Hymnal 1982

## **THE DISMISSAL**

*Deacon:* Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

*People:* ***Thanks be to God.***

**ORGAN POSTLUDE** - "Now Let All the Heavens Adore Thee "

*Philipp Nicolai / arr. J. S. Bach*

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **WE WANT TO KNOW YOUR VIEWS!**

As you know from our email last week, we are moving forward towards finding a new, permanent rector for the church. Many were selected to participate in the next major step, which is to conduct a congregational assessment using the "CAT." This provides key indicators of the health of St. Stephen's, along with areas of challenge and potential growth. Last week's email contained the link to complete the CAT, and if you are one of the 25+ people who have already submitted their response, please accept a huge "Thank You" from the Discernment Committee! There's no need to read further.

If you have NOT YET COMPLETED the CAT, please do so as soon as possible, but no later than midnight, Tuesday, October 5, as the link will stop working then, and the data will be harvested and analyzed. We need everyone to participate to get the best result.

NOTE: If St. Stephen's only has one email address for all members of your household, it may be tempting to have one person take the survey on behalf of the family. However, if applicable, please be sure your spouse and all young adults (16 or older) living in your home, have an opportunity to complete the survey. INDIVIDUAL INPUT is key to our gaining insight into our church family!

If you can't complete the CAT online, please stop by the office to obtain a paper copy, along with an addressed, stamped envelope.

Thank you for your willingness to be a part of this congregational assessment and for helping to build St. Stephen's future as part of Christ's Kingdom. - Discernment Committee

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### **Children's Praise Choir**

Praise Choir rehearses begin this Wednesday, September 15, at 5 PM in the choir room. All children, grades 1-8, are invited. We will sing, play bells, and have fun!

### **St. Dunstan's Bell Choir**

St. Dunstan's Bell Choir begins rehearsals this Thursday, September 16, at 7 PM in the choir room. All teens and adults are invited.

If you're curious or interested in either choir, or simply have questions, just ask Janet Adams at 571-225-4178 or [jmadamspotter@gmail.com](mailto:jmadamspotter@gmail.com). We will follow recommended COVID-19 protocols.

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### **Stephen's Friends Bible Study**

Beginning this week, Stephen's Friends will resume. The group follows the Forward Day-by-Day publication, and goes into detail on the daily reading. It is informative and reflective, and we invite everyone to come and learn more with us! Lina Frank leads this in the Gathering Room. Please contact her for more details at: [lfrank\\_lina@msn.com](mailto:lfrank_lina@msn.com) or 540-497-4180.

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### **Food Closet Buy-A -Bird Campaign**

The annual Thanksgiving Buy-A-Bird Campaign for the Food Closet Thanksgiving Program is now being coordinated!

Beginning October 25 through Thanksgiving, applicants will apply for a Thanksgiving meal at Sam's' Place. If approved, they will receive a bag of fixings/side dishes that day, along with a Safeway turkey voucher. At their convenience, they will then pick up their turkey directly from Safeway.

Monetary donations are needed to cover the cost of \$20 per turkey. Please do not donate turkeys. SWIFT is contributing again by filling 700 bags with "the fixings."

Please make a donation to this very worthy mission of St. Stephen's. Checks can be made out to: The Culpeper Food Closet with "Thanksgiving" on the memo line.

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### **Food Closet Need of the Week**

- Drinks such as bottled water, soda, Gatorade, Little Hugs, Juice Boxes
- Snack Crackers
- Vienna Sausage

Drop donations at the Food Closet  
Monday - Friday | 9 AM - 11:30 AM

### **Send monetary donations to:**

The Culpeper Food Closet  
P.O. Box 343  
Culpeper, VA 22701

### **Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries**

Sept. 19: Chris Geest  
Sept. 19: Ray Walker  
Sept. 25: Billy Green  
Sept. 25: Ellyn Vaught

No anniversaries next week