

The Season After the Pentecost June 11, 2023 St. Stephen's Episcopal Church sslv.org



We as people of faith who are called to care for this creation want to respectfully acknowledge the Cowlitz and Chinook People, who have stewarded this land throughout the generations. We begin this effort to acknowledge what has been buried by honoring the truth. We are standing on the ancestral lands of the Cowlitz and Chinook People. We pay

respects to their elders past and present. Please take a moment to consider the many legacies of violence, displacement, migration, and settlement that bring us together here today. And please join us in uncovering such truths.

Worship Leaders June 11, 2023

Presider	The Rev. Nic Mather
Musician	Riki Davis
Acolyte	Juice Quiroz
Altar Guild	Becky Edmiston
Reader	Sharalyne King
Chalice Bearer	Lyn Spens
Usher	John Brugman
Verger	John Edmiston
Vestry Presence	Gary Lindstrom
Coffee Hour	

Tear to Redeem a Free Cup of Coffee at the Cafe of your Choice with Fr. Nic

One Free Cup of Coffee (or beverage of choice) with the Rector

Your Name: _____



Your Phone Number: _____

Morning has broken

The Hymnal 1982, #8



Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965), alt. By permission of David Higham Associates Limited, London. Music: *Bunessan*, Gaelic melody; harm. Alec Wyton (b. 1921). Harmonization Copyright © by The Church Pension Fund.

St. Stephen's is a reconciling, affirming, and inclusive Christian community striving through worship, love and service to welcome all people just as God created you. No matter where you are on your journey of faith, and whether you are single, married, divorced, separated, or partnered, our welcome knows no boundaries of age, race, ethnicity, culture, political affiliation, gender, sexual orientation, economic condition, physical or mental ability. We believe that God delights in the diversity of creation and so do we!



To Make Your Pledge or Leave An Offering Online visit sslv.org/give

(Please stand as able)

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God. **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

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.**

Song of Praise & Children's Procession

Children are invited to follow the procession of the cross from the Church to the Parish Hall for Sunday School. While the program is geared for children 10 & under, ALL children are welcome to attend. Parents are also welcome to attend. Children will return to the church in time for Eucharist (typically returning after the passing of the peace).



God be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

O God, from whom all good proceeds: Grant that by your inspiration we may think those things that are right, and by your merciful guiding may do them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

(Please be seated for readings from Holy Scripture)

A Reading from Hosea 5:15-6:6

Thus says the Lord: "I will return again to my place until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face. In their distress they will beg my favor: 'Come, let us return to the Lord; for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us; he has struck down, and he will bind us up. After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. Let us know, let us press on to know the Lord; his appearing is as sure as the dawn; he will come to us like the showers, like the spring rains that water the earth.' What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes away early. Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets, I have killed them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light. For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 50:7-15

- 7 Hear, O my people, and I will speak:
 "O Israel, I will bear witness against you; * for I am God, your God.
- 8 I do not accuse you because of your sacrifices; * your offerings are always before me.
- 9 I will take no bull-calf from your stalls, * nor he-goats out of your pens;
- 10 For all the beasts of the forest are mine, * the herds in their thousands upon the hills.
- 11 I know every bird in the sky, * and the creatures of the fields are in my sight.
- 12 If I were hungry, I would not tell you, * for the whole world is mine and all that is in it.
- 13 Do you think I eat the flesh of bulls, * or drink the blood of goats?
- 14 Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving * and make good your vows to the Most High.
- 15 Call upon me in the day of trouble; * I will deliver you, and you shall honor me."

A Reading from the Letter to the Romans 4:13-25

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



Gospel Processional (before reading) & Recessional (after reading)

⁽Please stand as able)

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ According to **Matthew 9:9-13**, **18-26 Glory to you, O Christ.**

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me."

And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, for she said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well. When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, "Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. And the report of this spread throughout that district.

The Gospel of our Savior. Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily

The Rev. Nic Mather

Nicene Creed (Please stand as 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, 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

The Canticle of the Sun is a prayer/ hymn attributed to St. Francis of Assisi. Theologically, it identifies the elements of creation as sisters and brothers to humanity, and calls upon the forces of nature to praise God with us, and us with them.

PresiderMost high, all powerful, all good Lord!All praise is yours, all glory, all honor, and all blessing.And, it is to you alone, Most High, that we pray.

Reader: You are praised, O Lord by our Brother, Sun, who brings the day; and you give light through him.
May light be shed on your Church,
That your faithful people may bear your likeness. **O God, hear us.**

You are praised, O Lord, through our Sister, Moon, and the stars; in the heavens you have made them bright, precious and beautiful. May the nations of the earth, whom they look down upon each night Be blessed with your peace.

O God, hear us.

You are praised, O Lord, through our Brothers, Wind and Air, and clouds and storms, and all the weather; May you rain down your grace upon our nation, and its leaders and people. **O God, hear us.**

You are praised, O Lord, through our Sister, Water;

Quench the thirst of the poor, the downtrodden, and those who are ill, or in trouble of any kind, especially David Hughey, Steve Larson, Christopher King, Jerry, Robert Fisher, Ari King, and those who you now name either silently or aloud.

O God, hear us.

You are praised, O Lord, through our Brother, Fire, through whom you brighten the night; We pray you to brighten your Kingdom, where the souls of the faithful departed rest, especially Rick Nelson, Anne Willyard, Beverly Lee, and for those you now name either silently or aloud. For them, as you, may there be no night.

O God, hear us.

You are praised, O Lord, through our sister, and Mother, Earth, who feeds us and rules us,

and produces various fruits with colored flowers and herbs;

Give us the will to care for her, as you created her.

O God, hear us.

Be praised, my Lord, through those who forgive for love of you; through those who endure sickness and trial. Happy those who endure in peace, for by you, Most High, they will be crowned. **O God, hear us.**

Presider 0 Lord, we praise and bless you, and we give you thanks, and with all of creation, we serve you and pray to you with great humility.

Confession of Sins (Please kneel as able)

Let us confess our sins to God.

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Absolution

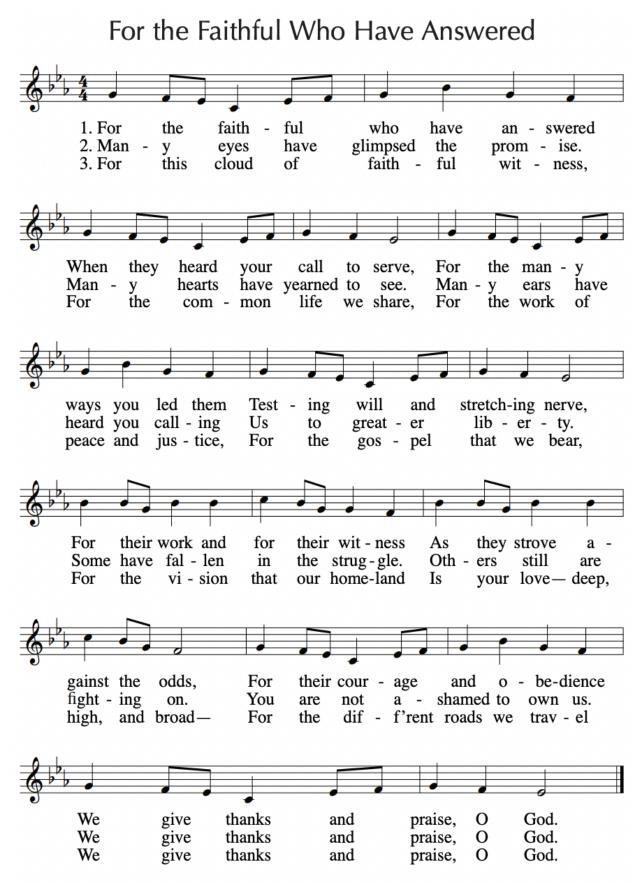
Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen**.

The Peace (*Please stand as able*)

The peace of Christ be always with you. And also with you.

The Offertory

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his name, bring offerings and come into his courts.



Text: Sylvia Dunstan, 1955–1993, © 1991, GIA Publications, Inc. Tune: PLEADING SAVIOR, 8 7 8 7 D; Christian Lyre, 1830; harm. by Richard Proulx, 1937–2010

Eucharistic Prayer C (Please stand as able)

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 God thanks and praise.**

God of all power, you are worthy of glory and praise. **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with reason, skill, and the diversity of your gifts. You made us the caretakers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full, 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.

The Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Ancestors: God of Abraham & Sarah, Isaac & Rebekah, Jacob & Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name. **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Accept these prayers and praises, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN**.

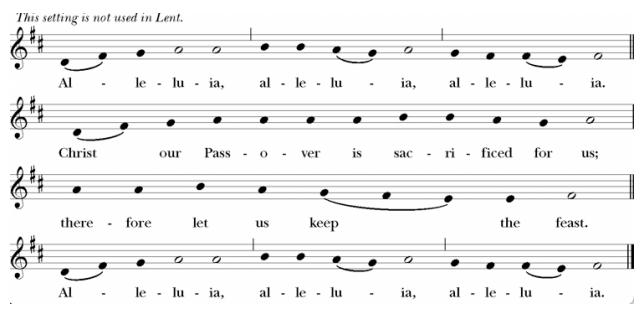
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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 Breaking of the Bread

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

Fraction

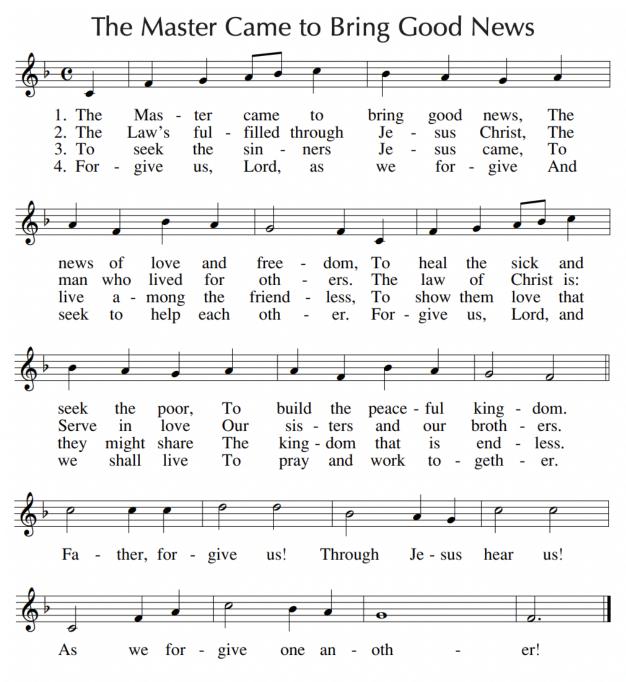


The Gifts of God for the People of God.

You are invited to come forward and receive Eucharist at this time. We will be sharing wine from a common chalice, so if you would prefer intinction please let the priest know so that they may intinct in a separate chalice reserved for this practice. Gluten free communion is available and a non-alcoholic option in place of the wine is also available upon request.

For those joining via Live-Stream: A Prayer for a Person Unable to Take the Eucharist (St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.



Text: Ralph Finn, b.1941, © 1965, GIA Publications, Inc. Tune: ICH GLAUB AN GOTT, 8 7 8 7 with refrain; *Mainz Gesangbuch*, 1870; harm. by Richard Proulx, 1937–2010

Postcommunion Prayer (Please kneel as able)

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 proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The blessing of God: Father, Son, & Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

(Please stand as able.)

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Saints that have come before and the Spirit that is with us now.

Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn

Community Invitations

Following the closing hymn you are invited to join us in the Parish Hall for Coffee Hour! If you are new today, please take a welcome packet (found in the pew or at the front door) and if you feel comfortable, introduce yourself to Fr. Nic!

Come, thou fount of every blessing



The Hymnal 1982, #686

Words: Robert Robinson (1735-1790), alt. Music: Nettleton, melody from A Repository of Sacred Music, Part II, 1813; harm. Gerre Hancock (b. 1934).

THURSDAY STROLLS WITH THE RECTOR

Come walk the neighborhood with the Rector Thursdays @ 10:30am June 8, 15, 22 - July 6, 13, 20 - August 10 & 31





Join us next Sunday, June 18, as we celebrate two important people in our community!

Leo Askeland has graduated from RA Long and LCC this year. Help us congratulate his achievements as he prepares to head off to UW this fall.

Jamie Nelson is departing from our community to enter the monastery,

joining the Society of St. John the Evangelist in Cambridge, MA. SSJE is a residential Episcopal monastic community of men giving their whole selves over to living the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Rooted in the ancient monastic traditions of prayer and community life, and critically engaged with contemporary culture, they seek to know and share an authentic experience of God's love and mercy. They live a common life shaped by worship, prayer, and their Rule of Life. To learn more about the Society, visit their website at ssje.org



SQUIRREL FEST 2023

Save the Date:

August 19, 2023

Volunteer & Donation Opportunities to Support this VITAL work of community engagement and evangelism about the Episcopal Church & St. Stephen's

Contact Rob Painter-Johnson for Details!

Volunteers are needed for our SquirrelFest Booth (2 hour shifts, 9am-5pm) and to help us prepare our materials for visitors to the festival!

Rob Painter-Johnson, People's Warden, is compiling lists of volunteers now so we are ready for the festival, contact him today!