



WELCOME TO ST. STEPHEN'S LONGVIEW 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.



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!

Connect with Fr. Nic: Please leave your name and email/phone ni	number and Fr. Nic will connect with
you this week with an invitation to enjoy a cup of coffee on him!	

Name:	
Email/Phone:	

All creatures of our God and King



Words: St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226); tr. William H. Draper (1855-1933), alt. Music: *Lasst uns erfreuen*, melody from *Auserlesene Catholische Geistiche Kirchengeseng*, 123; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). By permission of Oxford University Press.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

(Please be stand as able)

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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.**

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).



The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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 Acts 16:9-15

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 67

- 1 May God be merciful to us and bless us, * show us the light of his countenance and come to us.
- 2 Let your ways be known upon earth, * your saving health among all nations.
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; * let all the peoples praise you.
- 4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, * for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.
- 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; * let all the peoples praise you.
- 6 The earth has brought forth her increase; * may God, our own God, give us his blessing.
- 7 May God give us his blessing, * and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.

A Reading from the Book of Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

In the spirit the angel carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day-- and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Procession (before reading) & Recession (after reading) (Please stand as able)



The Holy Gospel of Our Savior Jesus Christ According to John 14:23-29 Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus said to Judas (not Iscariot), "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, `I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

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

Homily--The Rev. Nic Mather

THE 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Celebrant: Holy God send your spirit to comfort, inform, direct, and guide us to your truth in this life and in the life to come. Hear and respond to us as we say, Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

Reader: Gift all those who love you with the will and discipline to follow your commands.

Lord, in your mercy: Hear our prayer.

Inspire those who fear that you are far from them. Guide us to be in their lives so that they may know with certainty that your love is always present. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**.

Give our national and international leaders and all who hold authority over your people strong hearts filled with compassion, mercy, and justice. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**.

Comfort those who are sick in body, mind, or spirit. Grant them an awareness of your faithful care and your deep desire for the restoration of all things. Especially we pray for David Hughey, Ron & Harriet Byrnes, Sami Peterson, Shirley Johnson, Lyn Spens, Reed Nunnelee, D Rowley, and those you now name either silently or aloud.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**.

Guide us into vocations, relationships, study, and actions that delight and sustain us as we seek to follow your way of life and love.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**.

Welcome the dying who come home to dwell at last in your heavenly kingdom, comfort those who weep or mourn with the knowledge of salvation. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Heavenly Father, overturn the empty doubts and fears we keep stored in the secret places of our thoughts and fill us instead with the peace that only you can give. Grant us a life lived in the joy of serving your Son, Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit dwells in love eternal. **Amen**

THE PEACE & OFFERTORY

The Peace of the Risen Lord be with you and remain with you always.

Thanks be to God!

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

Offertory Offering

Peace I Leave With You Choir

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

(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 him thanks and praise.

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:

Holy, holy, holy Lord [Sanctus]

Wonder Love and Praise, #858



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.

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

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 Phil, Nic, Michael, and all who minister in your Church.
Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.
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, matriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with 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**.

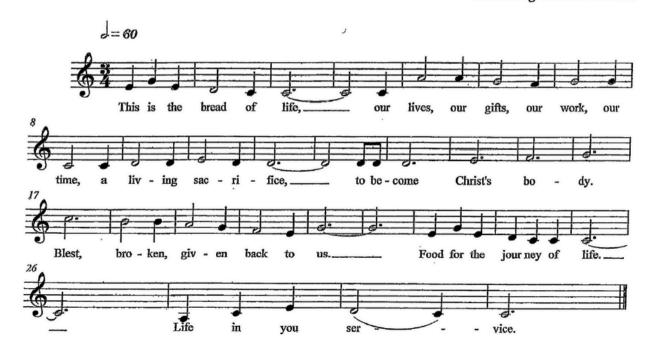
As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

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 Fraction

Food Song

Ann Long/Kathleen Patton



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.

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.

Prayer for Eucharistic Visitor

We offer a prayer from our community to those who are unable to join us as we send the sacrament to them carried by a minister of the church

As you go to the sick and homebound, take with you not only the sacrament that we have celebrated, but also the Word of God which we have heard, as well as the affection of this parish community. Ask for the prayers of those whom you visit in return. Go, now, with God's peace and blessing. **AMEN.**

Peace before us

My Heart Sings Out, #152



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POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

(Kneeling 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 Wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God strengthen you to be Christ's hands and heart in this world, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

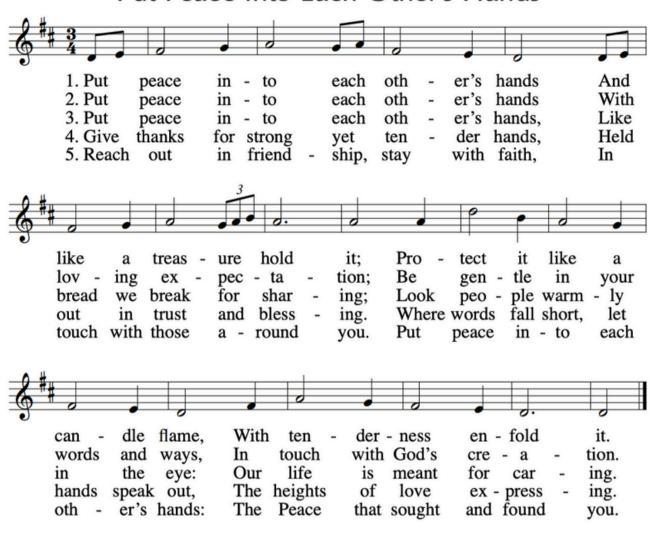
(You are invited to stand as able.)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia! Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Closing Hymn

Community Invitations

Put Peace into Each Other's Hands



Text: Fred Kaan, 1929–2009, © 1989, Hope Publishing Company Tune: ST. COLUMBA, 8 7 8 7; Gaelic; harm. by A. Gregory Murray, OSB, 1905–1992

Wednesday Centering Prayer May 28, June 4 @ 9:30am, All Saints Chapel

Join us on Wednesdays for a special offering of centering prayer, with intentional space for silence and reflection.

The Feast of the Ascension, Thursday May 29

Join us for a Quiet Day of prayer and reflection on the Feast of Ascension. Morning Prayer @ 9am with a reflection on the feast day.

The Feast of Pentecost, Sunday June 8

Join us for the Feast of Pentecost on Sunday June 8. We will celebrate the birth of the church and the birthdays of our parishioners with a special potluck gathering. If able please bring a dish to share according to the following: Last Name A-H: Side Dish; Last Name I-O: Dessert; Last Name P-W: Main Dish

Worship Leaders

Celebrant--Fr. Nic Mather
Musician--Riki Davis
Altar Guild--Gretchen Niemi, Heather Niemi
Reader--David Piper, Christopher Ortiz
Greeter--Janice Stixrud
Chalice Bearer--Mary Hoover
Usher--John Brugman
Verger--Mary Hoover
Vestry Presence--Greg Moore, Lisa Sudar
Coffee Hour--Michele Waite