

# The Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

August 10, 2025

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Longview, WA

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 St. Stephen's!**

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

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Email:** \_\_\_\_\_



# Rejoice! rejoice, believers

*The Hymnal 1982, #68*

1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!  
2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;  
3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.  
look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.  
a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark - ened sphere!

The Bride-groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;  
The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;  
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.  
rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride-groom is at hand!  
the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal staff (treble and bass clef) and a piano accompaniment staff (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves.

Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt. Music: *Llangloffan*, melody from *Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru*, 1865.

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

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** (*see next page*)

*Children's worship is on summer break and will resume on August 17th.*

## **Worship Leaders August 10, 2025**

<b>Presider</b>	The Rev. Nic Mather
<b>Musician</b>	Philip Portwood, Grant Mack
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Robin Swecker, Michele Waite
<b>Reader</b>	Michele Waite, Alison Askeland
<b>Greeter</b>	Karen Miller
<b>Chalice Bearer</b>	Mary Lyons
<b>Usher</b>	John Brugman
<b>Verger</b>	Mary Hoover
<b>Vestry Presence</b>	Mary Lyons, Lisa Sudar

# Gloria! Gloria! In excelsis Deo!

$\text{♩} = 145$  Joyfully!

Mike Anderson

D G A D G A D *Last time to*

(clap, clap) (clap, clap)

Glo - ri - al! Glo - ri - al! In ex - cel - sis De - o!

5 A D A F#7

v.1 Lord - God hea - ven - ly - King, peace you bring to  
v.2 Je - sus, Sa - viour - of all, Lord - God, Lamb - of  
v.3 At the Fa - ther's right hand, Lord, re - ceive our  
v.4 Glo - ry Fa - ther and Son, glo - ry Ho - ly

8 Bm Em Em7

us! We wor - ship - you, we give you thanks, we  
God, you take a - way our sins, oh Lord, have  
prayer. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly - One and  
Spi - rit! To you we raise our hands up high! We

11 Em A sus4 A D.C. G A

sing our song - of praise! In ex - cel - sis  
mer - cy on - us all!  
you - a - lone are Lord!  
glo - ri - fy your name!

15 D G A D

De - o! In ex - cel - sis De - - -

19

o!

## **The Collect of the Day**

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; 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 **Genesis 15:1-6**

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 33:12-22**

- 12 Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD! \*  
happy the people he has chosen to be his own!**
- 13 The LORD looks down from heaven, \*  
and beholds all the people in the world.**
- 14 From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze \*  
on all who dwell on the earth.**
- 15 He fashions all the hearts of them \*  
and understands all their works.**
- 16 There is no king that can be saved by a mighty army; \*  
a strong man is not delivered by his great strength.**
- 17 The horse is a vain hope for deliverance; \*  
for all its strength it cannot save.**
- 18 Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon those who fear him, \*  
on those who wait upon his love,**
- 19 To pluck their lives from death, \*  
and to feed them in time of famine.**
- 20 Our soul waits for the LORD; \*  
he is our help and our shield.**
- 21 Indeed, our heart rejoices in him, \*  
for in his holy Name we put our trust.**
- 22 Let your loving-kindness, O LORD, be upon us, \*  
as we have put our trust in you.**

### A Reading from **Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16**

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old-- and Sarah herself was barren-- because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Processional (before reading) & Recessional (after reading)**  
*(Please stand in body or spirit)*



The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ According to **Luke 12:32-40**  
**Glory to you, O Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

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

**Homily**

**The Rev. Nic Mather**



**Nicene Creed** *(Please stand in body or spirit)*

**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

*Celebrant:* O God, your Word comes to us, and our hearts are uplifted. Listen now, we beseech you, to the needs and thanksgivings of your people as we say, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

*Reader:* Fill your church with faith, that our hope might embolden us to be your agents of love in all the corners of our lives. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant wisdom, compassion, and a love of justice to all the leaders of our nation that they might work for the good of all. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Open our eyes to the possibilities of tomorrow; lead us to focus not just on problems but to search for solutions that we might build a sustainable way of life that honors your abundant creation. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We are committed to being your people in this community at this time. Grant us discerning hearts and burning desire to share your Good News that our community might be a place where all people may thrive. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let your healing love be present in the lives of all who suffer. Especially we pray for Ron & Harriet Byrnes, Reed Nunnelee, D. Rowley, Marlene Norman, Mary Russell, Duane Jones, and those we now name either silently or aloud. *pause.* Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Welcome the dead into your loving embrace, tend to the souls of those who grieve, and let us hold close the love of those whom we wait to see in your new age. Especially we pray for Bruce Norquist, John Ostrand, and those we now name either silently or aloud. *pause.* Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant:* O Generous God, you desire that we should live in love and not fear; hear our prayers, be known in our lives, and respond to the needs and hopes of your people; all this we ask through Jesus, our Lord and Savior who with you and the Holy spirit lives and reigns, now and always. **Amen.**

**Confession of Sins** *(Please kneel in body or spirit)*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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 in body or spirit)*

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

**Offertory Sentence**

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

*Give to the virtual offering plate by scanning or online @ [sslv.org](https://sslv.org)*

Virtual Offering Plate



# Where Your Treasure Is

## Refrain

Where your treas-ure is, there your heart shall be. All that

you pos-sess will nev - er set you free. Seek the

things that last; come and learn from me. Where your

*Fourth time to Vs. 4* *To verses 1-3* *Last time*

treas-ure is, your heart shall be. be.

## Verses 1-3

1. What do you gain from all your wor - ry,  
2. Look at the ra - vens high a - bove you.  
3. Be - hold the lil - ies in their splen - dor.

What you should eat or what to wear?  
They do not work their whole life through,  
In grace and beau - ty are they dressed,

There is no peace in stress or hur - ry. Do you not  
And yet God feeds them and pro - tects them. So how much  
And yet so soon their bloom is fad - ed. So how much

**D.C.**

know that you are held with - in God's care?  
more will God pro - tect and care for you?  
more will those who look to God be blessed?

Verse 4

(be.) 4. Do not fear, lit-tle flock, for God de-lights to  
give you the bless-ed reign of God.  
Give your pos-ses-sions to the need-y; gain a  
treas-ure that will not fade. D.C.

Text: Luke 12:22-34; Marty Haugen, b.1950  
Tune: Marty Haugen, b.1950  
© 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.

## **Eucharistic Prayer C**

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, Ruler of the Universe, 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 a great diversity of gifts and abilities. You made us the rulers 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.**

And 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:

### SANCTUS

*The Sanctus acclamation is sung to conclude the introduction to the eucharistic prayer.*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
 God of pow - er, God of might, heav - en and  
 earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na 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 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 Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; 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, Father, 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.**



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 Breaking of the Bread**

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

### **Fraction Anthem**

Fraction Ann Marie Long

Al - le lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu \_\_\_\_\_

4 ia. Christ our Pass-o-ver is sac-ri-ficed for us, There-fore let us keep the

8 feast. Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le-lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia.



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 leave the bread in your hands and the chalice bearer will intinct for you. 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.

**Postcommunion Prayer**  
*(Please kneel in body or spirit)*

**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 in body or spirit)*

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**

*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 and coffee mug (found at the front door)!*

**Community Invitations:**

- ❖ **Chamber Music Sunday Matinee, TODAY Sunday August 10 @ 3pm**
- ❖ **Join us @ SquirrelFest-Saturday August 16**
- ❖ **Join us in reading *The Lemon Tree* by Sandy Tolan this summer. Join us on Wednesday August 20 @ 6pm at Hop-n-Grape to discuss your reflections and learnings from the book (please come even if you haven't yet completed the book).**

# Joyful, joyful, we adore thee

*The Hymnal 1982, #376*

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;  
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,  
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.  
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;  
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,  
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.  
chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.  
teach us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

Words: Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933). Music: *Hymn to Joy*, Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827); adapt. Edward Hodges (1796-1867), alt.