

The Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

October 19, 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: _____



A Place at the Table

Verses



1. For ev - 'ry - one born, a place at the ta - ble, for
 2. For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble, re -
 3. For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble, a
 4. For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble, a -
 5. For ev - 'ry - one born, a place at the ta - ble, to



ev - 'ry - one born, clean wa - ter and bread, a
 vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share, with
 voice to be heard, a part in the song, the
 bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give, in
 live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be, to



shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing, for
 wis - dom and grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er, for
 hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled, for
 an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy, for
 work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship, for



ev - 'ry - one born, a star o - ver - head.
 wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's fair.
 young and for old, the right to be - long. And
 just and un - just, a new way to live.
 ev - 'ry - one born, the right to be free.

Refrain



God will de - light when we are cre - a - tors of



jus - tice and joy, yes, God will de - light



when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,



Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b.1931, © 1998, Hope Publishing Co.
Tune: Lori True, b.1961, © 2001, GIA Publications, Inc.

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 & 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).

Worship Leaders October 19, 2025

Presider	The Rev. Nic Mather
Preacher	Mary Lyons
Musician	Riki Davis
Altar Guild	Becky Edmiston
Reader	Mary Hoover, Katherine Beauregard
Greeter	Margaret Lopic
Chalice Bearer	Bev Finlay
Usher	Greg Lopic
Verger	Garry Beauregard
Vestry Presence	Heather Niemi, Katherine Beauregard

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music, #280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
 King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
 give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
 on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Collect of the Day

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; 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 32:22-31**

The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

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

Psalm 121

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?**
- 2 My help comes from the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth.**
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.**
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;**
- 5 The LORD himself watches over you; *
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,**
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.**
- 7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.**
- 8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming
in, *
from this time forth for evermore.**

A Reading from 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

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 18:1-8**
Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus told his disciples a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

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

Homily

Mary Lyons

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: God of Justice, hear us and respond as we lift our prayers to you saying, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Reader: Be with your church and guide us so that our prayers may be the seeds of ministry. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Inspire our nation and its leaders, help us to rise above our divisions and work together for the common good. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Be with those facing perils from natural disaster and climate change, show us how to respond effectively, and lead us to be advocates for the preservation of your creation. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Be present to us in our parish, strengthen us, renew us, and embolden us, that we might eagerly share your good news in our daily lives. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heal the sick, mend the injured, renew the worn down, and lift us the oppressed. Especially we pray for Ron & Harriet Byrnes, Reed Nunnelee, D. Rowley, Marlene Norman, Diane Glase, Lyn Spens, Marg Ofstun, Barbara Swecker, and those we now name either silently or aloud. *pause.* Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Welcome the dying into the comfort of your embrace, comfort those who grieve, and allow us entry into the realms of your glory when our journey through this life ends. Especially those we now name either silently or aloud. *pause.* Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: God of Love who has never turned your back on us, be our loving and gracious God, hear and answer our prayers that we have asked through the merits of our Lord, Christ Jesus, who with You and the Holy Spirit hold all creation in your hands. **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



Offertory

Resound and Rejoice
By Jason W Krug
Bell Choir

Eucharistic Prayer A

(Please stand in body or spirit)

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 our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world. 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

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.

Holy and gracious God: 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 maker of all. Jesus 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 Savior 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 Jesus 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.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's 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 Christ. 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 Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for 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 Breaking of the Bread

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

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

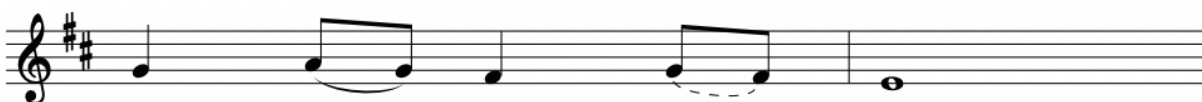
We offer a prayer from our community to those who are unable to join us as we send the sacrament to them carried by a minister of the church

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.

Seek Ye First



1. Seek ye first the king - dom of God
 2. Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you,
 3. You do not live by bread a - lone,
 4. Where two or three are gath - ered in my name,



and seek, his and right - eous - ness,
 but and you shall find,
 there by ev - 'ry word
 am I in their midst;

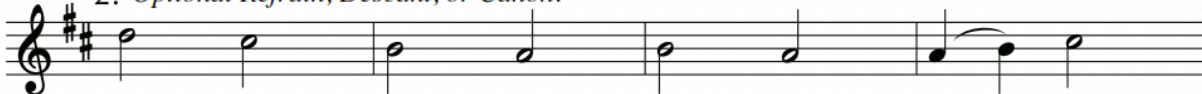


and all these things shall be add - ed un - to you;
 knock, and the door shall be o - pened un - to you;
 that comes forth from the mouth of God;
 and what - so - ev - er you ask I will do;



Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

2. Optional Refrain, Descant, or Canon:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

**May be sung as a two-voice canon.*

Postcommunion Prayer

(Please kneel in body or spirit)

**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 Christ,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. 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 Spirit.
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)!

Praise to the living God

The Hymnal 1982, #372

1 Praise to the liv - ing God! All prais - ed be his Name
2 Form - less, all love - ly forms de - clare his love - li - ness;
3 His Spi - rit flow - eth free, high surg - ing where it will:
4 E - ter - nal life hath he im - plant - ed in the soul;

who was, and is, and is to be for ay the same.
ho - ly, no ho - li - ness of earth can his ex - press.
in pro - phet's word he spoke of old; he speak - eth still.
his love shall be our strength and stay while a - ges roll.

The one e - ter - nal God ere aught that now ap - pears:
Lo, he is Lord of all. Cre - a - tion speaks his praise,
Es - tab - lished is his law, and change - less it shall stand,
Praise to the liv - ing God! All prais - ed be his Name

the first, the last, be - yond all thought his time - less years!
and ev - ery - where a - bove, be - low, his will o - beys.
deep writ up - on the hu - man heart, on sea, on land.
who was, and is, and is to be, for ay the same.

Words: Medieval Jewish liturgy; tr. Max Landsberg (1845-1928) and Newton M. Mann (1836-1926). Music: *Leoni*, Hebrew melody; harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1985, alt.

HALLOWEEN HOSPITALITY

For the 16th year we will be hosting Halloween Hospitality at St. Stephen's for the hundreds of trick-or-treaters who descend on the Old West Side and we need donations of candy to offer! Please bring it by the office Monday-Thursday 9:30 am-4pm. Volunteers are also needed. Contact Mary Lyons at 360-560-5272.



Save the Dates:

- **Wednesday Centering Prayer:**
 - Weekly on Wednesdays in All Saints Chapel, 9:30am
- **Fall Book Study:**
 - *How We Learn To Be Brave* by Bishop Mariann Budde, Wednesdays October 22-November 19 @ 6pm, please let Fr. Nic know if you plan to participate and/or need help ordering a book. Location TBD based on number of participants.
- **St. Stephen's Regional Host for 2025 Diocesan Convention, October 25:** Volunteers Needed! See Fr. Nic after worship!
- **Newcomer Sunday @ Coffee Hour October 26**
- **3rd Annual Chili Cook Off Contest, Sunday October 26 @ Coffee Hour:** Sign Up Today to bring a pot of chili or a cornbread or a dessert!
- **All Saints Sunday, November 2 @ 10:30am, Special Baptism Service:**
 - Help us welcome Jossalyn and Niko into Christ's family! Special Coffee Hour to follow!
- **Sunday, November 2 @ 7pm, Service of Remembrance:**
 - Join us for our annual Service of Remembrance featuring music from local choirs and prayers for all those who have gone before us. All are invited and welcome to attend this community worship offering.
- **First Sunday of Advent, Sunday November 30:**
 - Advent Wreath Making @ Coffee Hour