

The Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

October 26, 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: _____



Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord

The Hymnal 1982, #437

1 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord!
2 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of his Name!
3 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of his might!
4 Tell out, my soul, the glo - ries of his word!

Un - num - bered bless - ings give my spi - rit voice;
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
Powers and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.
Firm is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure.

ten - der to me the prom - ise of his word;
his mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;
Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,
Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord

in God my Sa - vior shall my heart re - joice.
his ho - ly Name— the Lord, the Might - y One.
the hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.
to chil - dren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926); based on *The Song of Mary*. Copyright © 1962 by Hope Publishing Company Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Birmingham*, from *Repository of Sacred Music, Part II*, 1813; harm. *Songs of Praise*, 1925.

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 26, 2025

Presider	The Rev. Nic Mather
Musician	Riki Davis
Altar Guild	Becky Edmiston, Lisa Harrington
Reader	Robert Sudar, John Edmiston
Greeter	Wes and Lauren Henricksen
Chalice Bearer	John Edmiston
Usher	Mike Claxton
Verger	John Edmiston
Vestry Presence	Robin Swecker, Lisa Sudar

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, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; 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 **Sirach 35:12-17**

Give to the Most High as he has given to you,
and as generously as you can afford.

For the Lord is the one who repays,
and he will repay you sevenfold.

Do not offer him a bribe, for he will not accept it
and do not rely on a dishonest sacrifice;

for the Lord is the judge,
and with him there is no partiality.

He will not show partiality to the poor;
but he will listen to the prayer of one who is wronged.

He will not ignore the supplication of the orphan,
or the widow when she pours out her complaint.

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

Psalm 84:1-6

1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *

**My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.**

- 2 The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.**
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.**
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.**
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place
of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.**
- 6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.**

A Reading from 2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18

I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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 18:9-14**
Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

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.**

Recognition of Ministries in the Church and the World

Friends in Christ, we are all baptized by the one Spirit into one Body, and given gifts for a variety of ministries for the common good.

A representative of the congregation

[N.] has been called to the ministry of _____ .

***People:* Praise be to God, who has called you to this service.**

Let us pray.

Silence

Look with favor upon those whom you have called, O God, and grant that they may be so filled with your Holy Spirit that they may minister in their chosen task with joy and steadfast devotion; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

In the Name of God, we recognize you, [N.], as a _____ and give you this pin as a token of your ministry.

Prayers of the People

Celebrant: God of Justice, hear us, make your presence known to us, and respond to us as we say, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Reader: Show us how to be the body of Christ today, that your Good News might enter every human heart. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Be in the eyes and ears and on the lips of our civil leaders, that they might lead through serving the welfare of all and help us to hold our leaders accountable to the needs of the whole nation. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Open our hearts and our hands to our neighbor's needs, that they might encounter Christ through us. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bring peace and justice where there is conflict, bring freedom where there is oppression, and bring restoration to lands ravaged by greed, that your creation might be renewed and your purpose for us fulfilled. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Be with those who suffer. Be their strength and their firm foundation. Especially we pray for Ron & Harriet Byrnes, Reed Nunnelee, D. Rowley, Marlene Norman, Diane Glase, Lyn Spens, Marg Ofstun, Barbara Swecker, Jean Watson, Maren Lin, and those we now name either silently or aloud. *pause.* Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Welcome all who have died, that they might continue towards the bright future of your heavenly kingdom. Especially those we now name either silently or aloud. *pause.* Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: God, you have showed us how to love you by loving others more than we love ourselves. Hear our prayers and answer us as may be best for us and to your glory. All this we ask through Christ, our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God. **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

What Shall I Bring to the Lord?

By Robert Lau

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.

We Are Many Parts / Muchos Miembros Hay

Refrain



We are man - y parts, we are all one bod - y,
Mu-chos miem-bros hay, en un so - lo cuer-po;

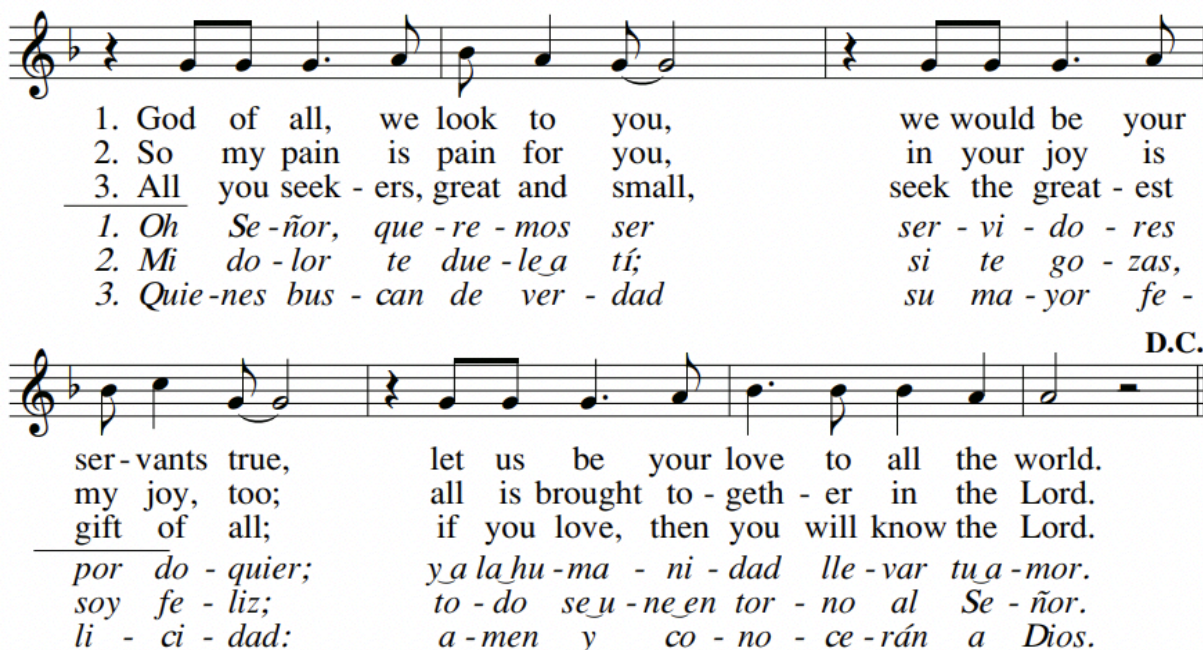
and the gifts we have we are giv-en to share.
nues-tros do - nes son pa - ra dar y ser - vir.

May the Spir-it of love make us one in - deed;
Que el Es - pí-ri-tu de Dios nos u - na en su a - mor;

one, the love that we share, one, our hope in de -
com-par-tien-do el do - lor, com-ba - tien-do el te -

Last time
 spair, one, the cross that we bear.
mor, com-pla-cien - do al Se - ñor.

Verses



1. God of all, we look to you, we would be your
 2. So my pain is pain for you, in your joy is
 3. All you seek - ers, great and small, seek the great - est

1. *Oh Se - ñor, que - re - mos ser ser - vi - do - res*
 2. *Mi do - lor te due - le a tí; si te go - zas,*
 3. *Quié - nes bus - can de ver - dad su ma - yor fe -*

D.C.
 ser - vants true, let us be your love to all the world.
 my joy, too; all is brought to - geth - er in the Lord.
 gift of all; if you love, then you will know the Lord.
por do - quier; y a la hu - ma - ni - dad lle - var tu a - mor.
soy fe - liz; to - do se u - ne en tor - no al Se - ñor.
li - ci - dad: a - men y co - no - ce - rán a Dios.

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)!

Blest be the King whose coming

The Hymnal 1982, #74

Descant

3 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of

1 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
2 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
3 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
4 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of

God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of

God! For him let doors be o - pened, no hearts a - gainst him
God! By those who tru - ly lis - ten his voice is tru - ly
God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of
God! He of - fers to the bur - dened the rest and grace they

God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All

barred! Not robed in roy - al splen - dor, in
heard; pi - ty the proud and haugh - ty, who
God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All
need. Gen - tle is he and hum - ble! And

things are in his hand, all a - ges and all

power and pomp, comes he; but clad as are the
 have not learned to heed the Christ who is the
 things are in his hand, all a - ges and all
 light his yoke shall be, for he would have us

peo - ples, till time it - self shall end!

poor - est, such his hu - mil - i - ty!
 Prom - ise, who has a - tone - ment made.
 peo - ples, till time it - self shall end!
 bear it so he can make us free!

Words: Federico J. Pagura (b. 1923); tr. Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000), alt. Copyright © 1974, by Hope Publishing company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Harmonization Copyright © 1984, Ronald Arnatt. Music: *Valet will ich dir geben*, melody Melchior Teschner (1584-1635) alt.; harm. and desc. Ronald Arnatt (b. 1930).

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.
- **Newcomer Sunday @ Coffee Hour October 26**
- **3rd Annual Chili Cook Off Contest, Sunday October 26 @ Coffee Hour**
- **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. If you would like names of loved ones included in the necrology please send those to Becky in the office.
- **First Sunday of Advent, Sunday November 30:**
 - Advent Wreath Making @ Coffee Hour