

The Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost

November 16, 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: _____

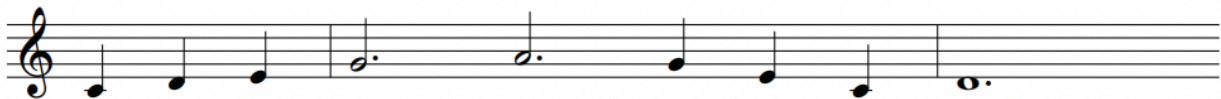
Your Email: _____



Praise and Thanksgiving



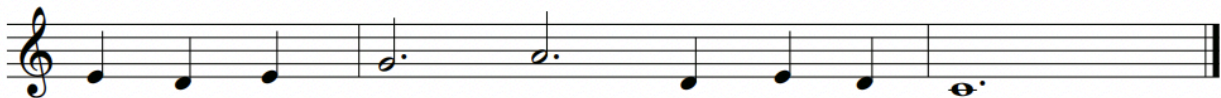
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Praise and thanks - giv - ing, | Fa - ther, we of - fer, |
| 2. Lord, bless the la - bor | We bring to serve you, |
| 3. Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing | Food for your chil - dren, |
| 4. Then will your bless - ing | Reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, |



For all things liv - ing	You have made good:
That with our neigh - bor	We may be fed.
By your wise guid - ing	Teach us to share
Free - ly con - fess - ing	Your gra - cious hand.



Har - vest of sown fields,	Fruits of the or - chard,
Sow - ing or till - ing,	We would work with you,
One with an - oth - er,	So that, re - joic - ing
Where you are reign - ing	No one will hun - ger,



Hay from the mown fields,	Blos - som and wood.
Har - vest - ing, mill - ing,	For dai - ly bread.
With us, all oth - ers	May know your care.
Your love sus - tain - ing,	Fruit - ful the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, © 1988, Oxford University Press
Tune: BUNESSAN, 5 5 5 4 D; Gaelic; harm. by Robert J. Batastini, b.1942

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 November 16, 2025

Presider	The Rev. Nic Mather
Musician	Riki Davis
Acolyte	
Altar Guild	Becky Edmiston, Brittany Forbes
Reader	David Piper, Christopher Ortiz
Greeter	Karen Miller
Chalice Bearer	Bev Finlay
Usher	Lloyd Solon
Verger	John Edmiston
Vestry Presence	Heather Niemi, 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.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; 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 **Malachi 4:1-2a**

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

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

Psalm 98

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.**
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.**
- 3 The LORD has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the
nations.**
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of
Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our
God.**
- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**
- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.**
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.**
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.**
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.**
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.**

A Reading from **2 Thessalonians 3:6-13**

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

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 21:5-19**
Glory to you, O Christ.

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls."

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: Holy Lord, be among us, hear us, and fulfill the hope of our prayers as we say, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Reader: Bestow your grace upon your church and lend us your strength so that we might boldly proclaim and live out the good news of Jesus Christ. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Shower wisdom on those who hold authority in our lives, that they might seek to lead through service to the greatest good. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Embolden us to be the body of Christ in our local community, that our presence might be a pledge of our commitment to love our neighbors. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Arouse in us the desire to protect and sustain your abundant creation, that our world may remain a place of wonder and sustenance for future generations. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bring your healing power to bear in the lives of all who endure illness or injury, that they may know peace, and arouse us to be people of care and reconciliation. Especially we pray for Ron & Harriet Byrnes, Reed Nunnelee, D. Rowley, Jean Watson, Maren Lin, Jake Miller, and those we now name either silently or aloud. *pause.* Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Take into your loving arms all those who have died that they might grow in love and devotion to you and bring us once again into the presence of those we have loved in your eternal kingdom. Especially Zane Matzen and those we now name either silently or aloud. *pause.* Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Blessed Lord, you have longed for the turning of every human heart and have showered us in word and deed the path of promise that leads to you. Hear and answer our prayers, that we might see more fully, your kingdom and so that your glory might be reflected and magnified throughout the world. **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

Thine is the Glory
By Susan E. Geshke
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.

Music: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen, © 1984, GIA Publications, Inc.

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.

Please stand in body or spirit during the singing of the final verse

Let us break bread together on our knees

The Hymnal 1982, #325

1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; _____
2 Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; _____

let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; _____
let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; _____

Refrain
when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris-ing sun,

O Lord, have mer-cy on me. _____

3 Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees; _____

let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees; _____

Refrain
when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris-ing sun,

O Lord, have mer-cy on me. _____

Words: African-American spiritual. Music: *Let Us Break Bread*, Afro-American spiritual; arr. and harm. David Hurd (b. 1950).

Please stand in body or spirit during the singing of the final verse

Postcommunion Prayer

**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.**

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)!

There are a number of coats on the hooks in the hallway. Please check and see if one is yours. They will be donated after November 23rd.

The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns



1. The King shall come when morn - ing dawns And
2. Not, as of old, a lit - tle child, To
3. The King shall come when morn - ing dawns And
4. And let the end - less bliss be - gin, By
5. The King shall come when morn - ing dawns And



light tri - um - phant breaks, When beau - ty gilds the
 suf - fer and to die, But crowned with glo - ry
 earth's dark night is past; O haste the ris - ing
 wea - ry saints fore - told, When right shall tri - umph
 light and beau - ty brings. Hail, Christ, the Lord! Your



east - ern hills And life to joy a - wakes.
 like the sun That lights the morn - ing sky.
 of that morn Whose day shall ev - er last.
 o - ver wrong, And truth shall be ex - tolled.
 peo - ple pray: Come quick - ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1857–1925, alt.

Tune: MORNING SONG, CM; John Wyeth, 1770–1858; arr. by Robert J. Batastini, b.1942

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, at Hop-N-Grape.
- **First Sunday of Advent, Sunday November 30:**
 - Advent Wreath Making @ Coffee Hour
 - Advent Potluck @ Coffee Hour
 - Last Name A-H: Main Dish
 - Last Name I-O: Side Dish
 - Last Name P-W: Dessert
- **Feast of St. Nicholas, Thursday December 4, 5-7:30pm:**
 - Crafts & Food!
 - Joyful Noise Eucharist & Special Visitor at 6pm
 - ALL are welcome and invited!
- **Cocoa, Cookies, & Carols, Sunday December 14, 6-8pm**
 - ALL are welcome and invited!
 - YOU bring the cookies, WE provide the Cocoa & Carols!
- **Children's Christmas Pageant, Sunday December 21, 10:30am**
 - All children welcome and encouraged to participate
 - Pageant Rehearsal and Festive Family Breakfast @ 9am
- **Christmas Eve, Lessons & Carols with Holy Eucharist, 12/24, 4pm**
- **Christmas Day, Family-Friendly Eucharist, 12/25, 10:30am**