

The Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 14, 2026

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 to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation

The Hymnal 1982, #390

Descant

4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise to the Lord; o - ver all things he glo - rious - ly
 3 Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy way and de -
 4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with
 a - tion; O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
 reign - eth; borne as on ea - gle - wings, safe - ly his
 fend thee; sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall
 dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with

prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound — from his
 health and sal - va - tion: join the great throng, psal - ter - y,
 saints he sus - tain - eth. Hast thou not seen how all thou
 ev - er at - tend thee; pon - der a - new what the Al -
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for ev - er a - dore him.

or - gan, and song, sound - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion.
 need - est hath been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?
 might - y can do, who with his love doth be - friend thee.
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for ev - er a - dore him.

Words: Joachim Neander (1650-1680); tr. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Lobe den Herren*, melody from *Erneuerten Gesangbuch*, 1665; harm. *The Chorale Book for England*, 1863; desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971). Descant, Copyright © 1953, Novello and Company Limited. Used by permission.

The Liturgy of the Word

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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).

Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es! All our
 Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa ro - na, di tha -

hearts are filled with glad - ness! Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your
 bi - le ka - o - fe - la. Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa

prais - es! All our hearts are filled with glad - ness!
 ro - na, di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la. Fine

Christ the Lord to us said: "I am wine, I am bread, I am
 Je - sus says to us still: "All who do the Lord's will, all who

wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hun - ger!"
 do the Lord's will are my sis - ters and my bro - thers." *D.C.*

The Collect of the Day

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for readings from Holy Scripture.

Worship Leaders June 14, 2026

Presider	The Rev. Nic Mather
Musician	Riki Davis
Acolyte	
Altar Guild	Robin Swecker, Lisa Harrington
Reader	Mary Hoover,
Greeter	Janice Stixrud
Chalice Bearer	Lucy Claxton, Garry Beauregard
Usher	Mike Claxton
Vergers	Mary Hoover
Vestry Presence	Greg Moore, Mike Claxton
Coffee Hour	Fish Ladies

A Reading from **Genesis 18:1-15**

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes."

Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?" The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too wonderful for the LORD? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son." But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. He said, "Oh yes, you did laugh."

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

Psalm 116:1, 10-17

- 1 I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my
supplication, *
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called
upon him.**
- 10 How shall I repay the LORD *
for all the good things he has done for me?**
- 11 I will lift up the cup of salvation *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.**
- 12 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
in the presence of all his people.**
- 13 Precious in the sight of the LORD *
is the death of his servants.**
- 14 O LORD, I am your servant; *
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.**
- 15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.**
- 16 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
in the presence of all his people,**
- 17 In the courts of the LORD's house, *
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.
Hallelujah!**

A Reading from **Romans 5:1-8**

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person-- though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

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

Gospel Processional (before reading) & Recessional (after reading)

You are invited to stand in body or spirit.



The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ According to **Matthew 9:35-10:8**
Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

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

Homily

The Rev. Nic Mather

Nicene Creed *You are invited to 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 God, you send us into the world as bearers of your word of peace. Open the hearts of those who receive us, that we might enter into relationship, friendship, and joy with all whom we encounter. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for this nation and our government, that each person in authority will search for the words of wisdom and guidance that will lead this nation and all people into safety, health and justice. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the condition of all people and nations, that the Word, revealed to the world, will bring abundant life to all people. We pray for relief for the persecuted, the starving, the diseased, the imprisoned, and those who are desperately poor. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the needs of our community, for reconciliation and the recognition of the dignity of all persons, for continuing awareness and effective action against injustice of this world, and for those who have dedicated their lives to the well-being of their neighbors. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for healing for all who suffer in any way, that they may know wholeness and peace. Especially we pray for Ron & Harriet Byrnes, D. Rowley, Marge Ofstun, Jesse Lucas, Wendee Nicole, and those you now name either silently or aloud. *pause.* Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the dying and for their entry into the light of your kingdom, and an awareness that our griefs are not our burden alone. Especially we pray for James Wellington Wright Jr. and those you now name either silently or aloud. *pause.* Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Finally, Lord, we pray for your peace to settle on us and remain with us throughout our trials and triumphs. Send out and give us the courage and the will to live the life you call us toward. Help us to shed our need for preparation and instead inspire us to work boldly to further your kingdom. Bless us this day and always in your name and in the name of your Son and Holy Spirit. **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

You are invited to 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

“Suite Modale” Movements 1 and 3
by Ernest Bloch
Luke Askeland,
Riki Davis, piano

Eucharistic Prayer B

You are invited to stand in body or spirit.

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 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 you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. 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:

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, —
hea-ven 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, Ho - san - na,
Ho - san - na in the high - est, the high - est. —

*optional text
Bless - ed is the one

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Stephen all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 Anthem: Whoever comes to me

Wonder Love and Praise, #878

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Whoever comes to me'. It is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The score consists of two systems. The first system covers the lyrics 'Who-ev - er comes to me shall not hun - ger and'. The second system covers the lyrics 'who-ev - er be - lieves in me shall nev - er thirst.' Each system includes a vocal line on a single treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on two staves (treble and bass clefs). The piano accompaniment features block chords and simple rhythmic patterns.

Music: Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from *Fraction Anthems, Canticles, and Chants*. Copyright © 1997 Carl Haywood.

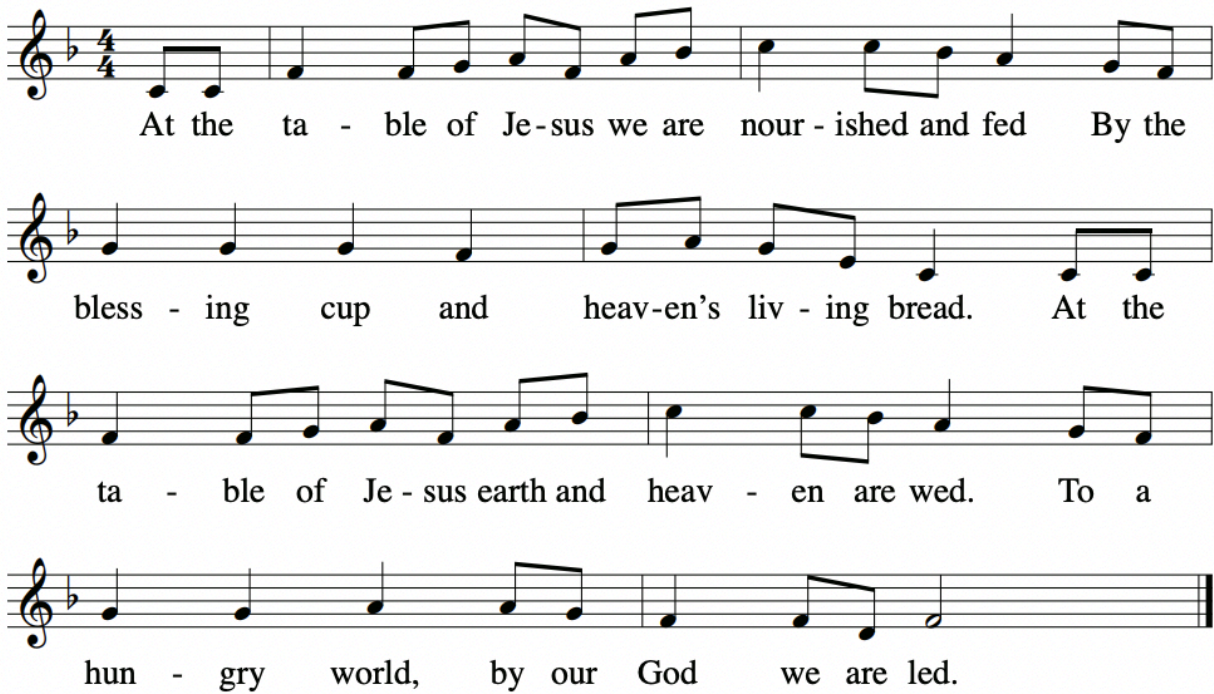
The Invitation to the Table

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 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. You may also place your arms across your chest to receive a blessing. **Know that ALL who God calls to the table are welcome here this day.***

At the Table of Jesus

Refrain



At the ta - ble of Je - sus we are nour - ished and fed By the
bless - ing cup and heav - en's liv - ing bread. At the
ta - ble of Je - sus earth and heav - en are wed. To a
hun - gry world, by our God we are led.

Verses



1. Where love and char - i - ty are found There God is a - mong us; God's
2. Now, as we gath - er all as one, Di - vi - sion is end - ed, com -
3. Joined with the an - gels and the saints, Be - hold - ing God's glo - ry and
good - ness a - bounds. As Christ gath - ers man - y as one,
mun - ion be - gun. Let fear, an - ger, ha - tred now end.
tast - ing God's grace, We'll sing praise in God's ho - ly place,
D.C.
Let our hearts be glad and re - flect God's love.
Let us dwell in love as our God in - tends.
And with heav - en's hosts we'll come face to face.

Text: Based on *Ubi Caritas*; Tony E. Alonso, b.1980

Tune: SIMPLE GIFTS, Irregular with refrain; Joseph Brackett, Jr., 1797–1882; arr. by Marty Haugen, b.1950

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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 stand 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.**

May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
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)!

Go Make a Difference

Refrain



Go make a dif - f'rence. We can make a dif - f'rence.



Go make a dif - f'rence in the world.



Go make a dif - f'rence. We can make a dif - f'rence.



Go make a dif - f'rence in the world.

Verses 1, 2



1. We are the salt of the earth, called to let the peo - ple
2. We are the hands of Christ reach-ing out to those in



see the love of God in you and me.
need, the face of God for all to see.



We are the light of the world, not to be hid - den but be
We are the spir - it of hope; † we are the voice of



seen. Go make a dif - f'rence in the world.
peace. Go make a dif - f'rence in the world.

Verse 3



3. So let your love shine on, let it shine for all to see.



Go make a dif - f'rence in the world. And the



spir - it of Christ will be with us as we go.



Go make a dif-f'rence in the world.

Text: Matthew 5:13–16; Steve Angrisano, b.1965, and Tom Tomaszek, b.1950
Tune: Steve Angrisano, b.1965, and Tom Tomaszek, b.1950; acc. by Rick Modlin, b.1966
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Community Invitations:

Longview Pride Festival–June 27 10am-6pm

- Help us staff a table! See Fr. Nic for details!

Summer Book Club: Yesteryear

- You are invited to join host Lauren Henricksen in reading a New York Times 2026 Best Books of the Year (so far) selection, Yesteryear. Lauren is inviting those who are interested in reading this novel to join her for discussion and potluck dinners according to the following schedule:
 - June 17, chapters 1-19
 - July 8, chapters 20-57
 - July 29, part 3 + epilogue
- These gatherings will start around 5:30pm with the potluck dinner and head into book discussion. **Contact Lauren for more information and to sign up! 206-354-1272 or lhenric@gmail.com**

Summer Book Reading: Jesus & the Disinherited

- Join us in reading Howard Thurman's seminal text: Jesus and the Disinherited as our Summer Reading Text.
- We will gather on ***Wednesday August 12 @ 6pm at Roland Wines*** to discuss this work and our reflections on it.
- **Contact Fr. Nic to RSVP and if you need help ordering the book.**

SquirrelFest Tabling and Volunteers Needed!

- Join us at SquirrelFest on ***Saturday August 22!***
- Volunteers needed to help man our table from 9am-5pm! Multiple shifts available!
- Come and help us spread the Good News of St. Stephen's in our Community!
- **See Katherine Beauregard for details!**