

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 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: _____



Morning has broken

The Hymnal 1982, #8

Unison or harmony

1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing,
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from hea - ven,
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing

black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird._____
 like the first dew - fall on the first grass._____
 born of the one light E - den saw play!_____

Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!
 Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,
 Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery morn - ing,

Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!_____
 sprung in com - plete - ness where his feet pass._____
 God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!_____

Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965), alt. By permission of David Higham Associates Limited, London. Music: *Bunessan*, Gaelic melody; harm. Alec Wyton (b. 1921). Harmonization Copyright © by The Church Pension Fund.

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

Gretchen is on vacation and Sunday School is on summer hiatus until August 16th.

Worship Leaders August 9, 2026

Presider	The Rev. Susan Blubaugh
Musician	Riki Davis
Acolyte	
Altar Guild	Robin Swecker
Reader	Rob Sudar, Mary Hoover
Greeter	Gretchen Niemi
Chalice Bearer	John Edmiston, Mary Hoover
Usher	Greg Moore
Verger	John Edmiston
Vestry Presence	Darcy Davis, Lisa Sudar
Coffee Hour	



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.

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for readings from Holy Scripture.

A Reading from Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. This is the story of the family of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron.

He came to Shechem, and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" "I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him" —that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

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

Psalms 105, 1-6, 16-22, 45b

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.**

- 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works.**
- 3 Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.**
- 4 Search for the LORD and his strength; *
continually seek his face.**
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,**
- 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, *
O children of Jacob his chosen.**
- 16 Then he called for a famine in the land *
and destroyed the supply of bread.**
- 17 He sent a man before them, *
Joseph, who was sold as a slave.**
- 18 They bruised his feet in fetters; *
his neck they put in an iron collar.**
- 19 Until his prediction came to pass, *
the word of the LORD tested him.**
- 20 The king sent and released him; *
the ruler of the peoples set him free.**
- 21 He set him as a master over his household,
as a ruler over all his possessions,**
- 22 To instruct his princes according to his will
and to teach his elders wisdom.**
- 45 Hallelujah!**

A Reading from **Romans 10:5-15**

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say?

“The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

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 14:22-33** **Glory to you, O Christ.**

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

Homily

The Rev. Susan Blubaugh

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 are always with us, in the silence and in the storms. Make us fearless and willing to do your will and hear us as we offer you the deep held prayers of our heart, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for the many men and women in every nation who follow Jesus and strive to live his way of Love. Bless the church and send her worshippers into the world to be your hands and heart to all in need. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this nation and for all who have the responsibility of serving the public good. Bless our public servants with a desire to serve the common good with compassion, generosity and justice. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the needs of the world, for the earth herself, and for the safety and livelihood of all people. Bless us with a deep awareness that our common life is connected; that the welfare of our brother and sister is as important as our own. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the health of the world, for doctors, nurses and those called to the vocation of healing and for all those who are afflicted by any illness. Bless those who work to heal, those who wait in hope and those who worry at home. We pray especially for Ron & Harriet Byrnes, D. Rowley, Marge Ofstun, Holly Spieth, Karen Miller, Jesse Lucas, Shirley Sonnenberg, and those you now name either silently or aloud. *pause.* Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the dying, for those called from this life into the next, that all might have a place in your kingdom and a deep certainty in your constant presence. Especially we pray for Rick Sutter and those you now name either silently or aloud. *pause.* Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: We offer all these prayers and praises in great hope and certain of your love, through Jesus Christ, our only strength and advocate. **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 @ssl.v.org

Virtual Offering Plate



How Can I Keep from Singing?



1. My life flows on in end-less song. A -
 2. Through all the tu - mult and the strife I
 3. What though my joys and com-fort die? The
 4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, A



bove earth's lam - en - ta - tion I hear the clear though
 hear that mu - sic ring - ing. It finds an ech - o
 Lord my sav - ior liv - eth. What though the dark - ness
 foun - tain ev - er spring-ing! All things are mine since



far - off hymn That hails a new cre - a - tion.
 in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
 gath - er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
 I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?



No storm can shake my in-most calm While to that Rock I'm



cling - ing. Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth,



How can I keep from sing - ing?

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899, alt.

Tune: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, 8 7 8 7 with refrain; Robert Lowry, 1826-1899; harm. by Robert J. Batastini, b.1942

Eucharistic Prayer B

You are invited to stand in body or spirit.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

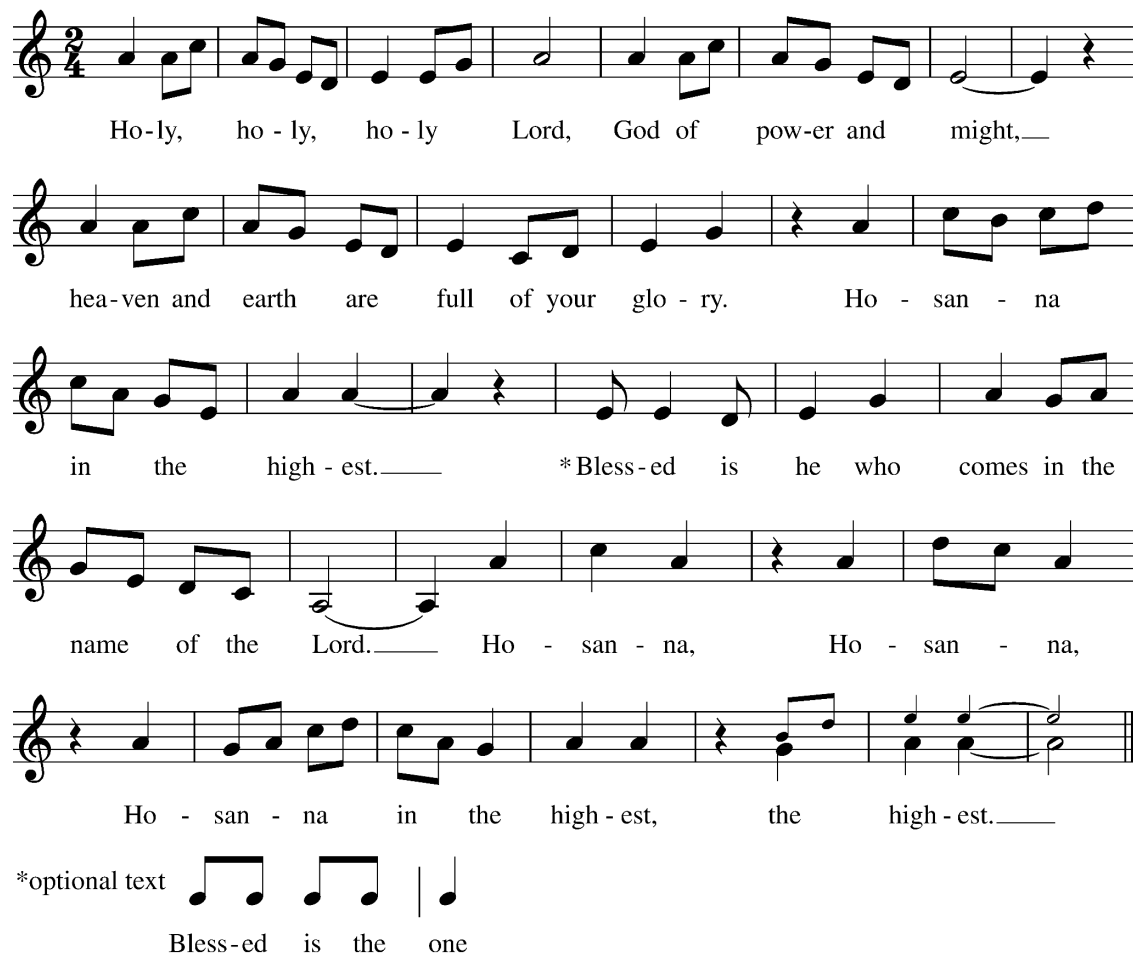
Lift up your hearts.

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 and 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 musical score is for a hymn in 4/4 time, key of D major. It consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts with a quarter rest, then the melody for 'Who-ev - er comes to me shall not hun - ger and'. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords in the right hand. The second system continues the melody with 'who-ev - er be - lieves in me shall nev - er thirst.' and concludes with a final chord.

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.***

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)!

Eternal Father, strong to save

The Hymnal 1982, #608

1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm hath bound the
2 O Christ, whose voice the wa - ters heard and hushed their ra - ging
3 Most Ho - ly Spi - rit, who didst brood up - on the cha - os
4 O Trin - i - ty of love and power, thy chil - dren shield in

rest - less wave, who bidd'st the might - y o - cean deep its
at thy word, who walk - edst on the foam - ing deep, and
dark and rude, and bid its an - gry tu - mult cease, and
dan - ger's hour; from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -

own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: O hear us when we
calm a - mid its rage didst sleep: O hear us when we
give, for wild con - fu - sion, peace; O hear us when we
tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall

cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
rise to thee glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

Words: William Whiting (1825-1878), alt. Music: *Melita*, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876).

Community Invitations:

SquirrelFest Tabling and Volunteers Needed!

- Join us at SquirrelFest on ***Saturday August 22!***
- Volunteers needed to help staff 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!**

Music in the Stacks: What's in a name?

Wednesday, August 12 at 2pm at the Longview Library.

Join Clark and Franzl as they introduce the basics of reading music and share how melodies are made in this fun, interactive program. Perfect for curious learners and aspiring musicians of all ages!

Church Family Bowling Night!

What: Bowling fun with fellow members of our St. Stephen's church family! Additionally there's arcade games and food and drinks can be ordered as well.

Where: Triangle Bowl
700 Triangle, Center Ct, Longview

When: Wednesday, August 19th from 3-5pm.
Arrive 10-15 minutes early to pay and set up to bowl at 3pm.

How much: Cost is \$26 per lane per hour for up to 6 people (\$52 total for 2 hours). Smaller groups can share a lane/cost. Shoe rental is \$3.



St. Stephen's Family Bowling Night

August 19, 2026

Menu and more information
available at trianglebowl.com



Columbia River
CHAMBER MUSIC
Festival

Columbia River Chamber Music Festival

THROUGH THE AGES	FROM THE CITY OF LIGHT	MAJESTIC BAROQUE	THE BARD AND THE BUFFOON
AUG 13th 7pm <i>Gluck, Haydn, Serly and Fartens</i>	AUG 14th 7pm <i>Hotteterre, Sancan, Ravel and more</i>	AUG 15th 7pm <i>Handel, Bach, Vivaldi and more</i>	AUG 16th 2pm <i>Mendelssohn, Elgar, Stravinsky and more</i>

Artists: Maria Sampen, Grant Mack, Clark Potter, Don Kirkpatrick, Austin Bennett, Sarah Viens, Rob Davis, Franziska Brech, Steve Meharg, Selina Greso, Tom Walworth and CRCM Chamber Orchestra

www.columbiarivermusic.org

Concerts at St Stephens Episcopal Church