

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 16, 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: _____



Thou, whose almighty word

The Hymnal 1982, #371

1 Thou, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard,
2 Thou who didst come to bring on thy re - deem - ing wing
3 Spi - rit of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly Dove,
4 Ho - ly and bless - ed Three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,

and took their flight; hear us, we hum - bly pray, and, where the
heal - ing and sight, health to the sick in mind, sight to the
speed forth thy flight! Move on the wa - ters' face bear - ing the
wis - dom, love, might; bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in

Gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light!
in - ly blind, now to all hu - man - kind, let there be light!
gifts of grace, and, in earth's dark - est place, let there be light!
full - est pride, through the world, far and wide, let there be light!

Words: John Marriott (1780-1825), alt. Music: *Moscow*, Felice de Giardini (1716-1796); harm. *The New Hymnal*, 1916, based on *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, and Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

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).

Worship Leaders August 16, 2026

Presider The Rev. Susan Blubaugh

Musician Riki Davis

Acolyte

Altar Guild Gretchen Niemi, Brittany Forbes

Reader Rob Painter-Johnson, Katherine Beauregard

Greeter Rob Painter-Johnson

Chalice Bearer Lucy Claxton, Karen Miller

Usher Don Willows

Verger Garry Beauregard

Vestry Presence Katherine Beauregard, Greg Moore

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.

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, 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.

A Reading from **Genesis 45:1-15**

Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, “Send everyone away from me.” So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

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

Psalm 133

- 1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *
when brethren live together in unity!**
- 2 It is like fine oil upon the head *
that runs down upon the beard,**
- 3 Upon the beard of Aaron, *
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.**
- 4 It is like the dew of Hermon *
that falls upon the hills of Zion.**
- 5 For there the LORD has ordained the blessing: *
life for evermore.**

A Reading from Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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 15: 21-28** **Glory to you, O Christ.**

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

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: Lord God, let your love dwell within us and shine through our lives that our prayers might lead us into abundant life as we say, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for the church; that it might be a sanctuary and the wellspring of hope for what is broken in our lives and in our world. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the nation, that it might live into its promise and be a place of safety, justice, and dignity of all people. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our local communities, that they might become places inspired by Jesus' vision for human community. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our earth; that our land may continue to provide abundantly for our needs and that we might be effective stewards of its riches. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who suffer; that they might be delivered from their distress and know your healing power in their lives. Especially we pray for Ron & Harriet Byrnes, D. Rowley, Marge Ofstun, Holly Miller Spieth, Karen Miller, Jesse Lucas, Shirley Sonnenberg, Lois Larson, and those you now name either silently or aloud. *pause.* Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the dead and the dying; that they might be welcomed into your loving embrace and that they and we might rise again in the glory of your new age. Especially we pray for Rick Switter and those you now name either silently or aloud. *pause.* Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: God Almighty, creator of all that is known and unknown; the entirety of your presence and power are beyond our comprehension, help us to understand as best we can and to live lives in accord with your will for us to be laborers for your kingdom. **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



From all that dwell below the skies

The Hymnal 1982, #380

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. The first system has three verses of lyrics. The second system continues the melody and harmony. The third system concludes the hymn with a final cadence. The lyrics are as follows:

1 From all that dwell be - low the skies let
2 E - ter - nal are thy mer - cies, Lord, and
*3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise
the Cre - a - tor's praise a - rise! Let the Re - deem - er's
truth e - ter - nal is thy word: thy praise shall sound from
him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
Name be sung through ev - ery land, by ev - ery tongue!
shore to shore till suns shall rise and set no more.
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), para. of Psalm 117. St. 3, Thomas Ken (1637-1711). Music: *Old 100th*, melody from *Pseaumes octante trois de David*, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?).

Eucharistic Prayer B

You are invited to stand in body or spirit.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

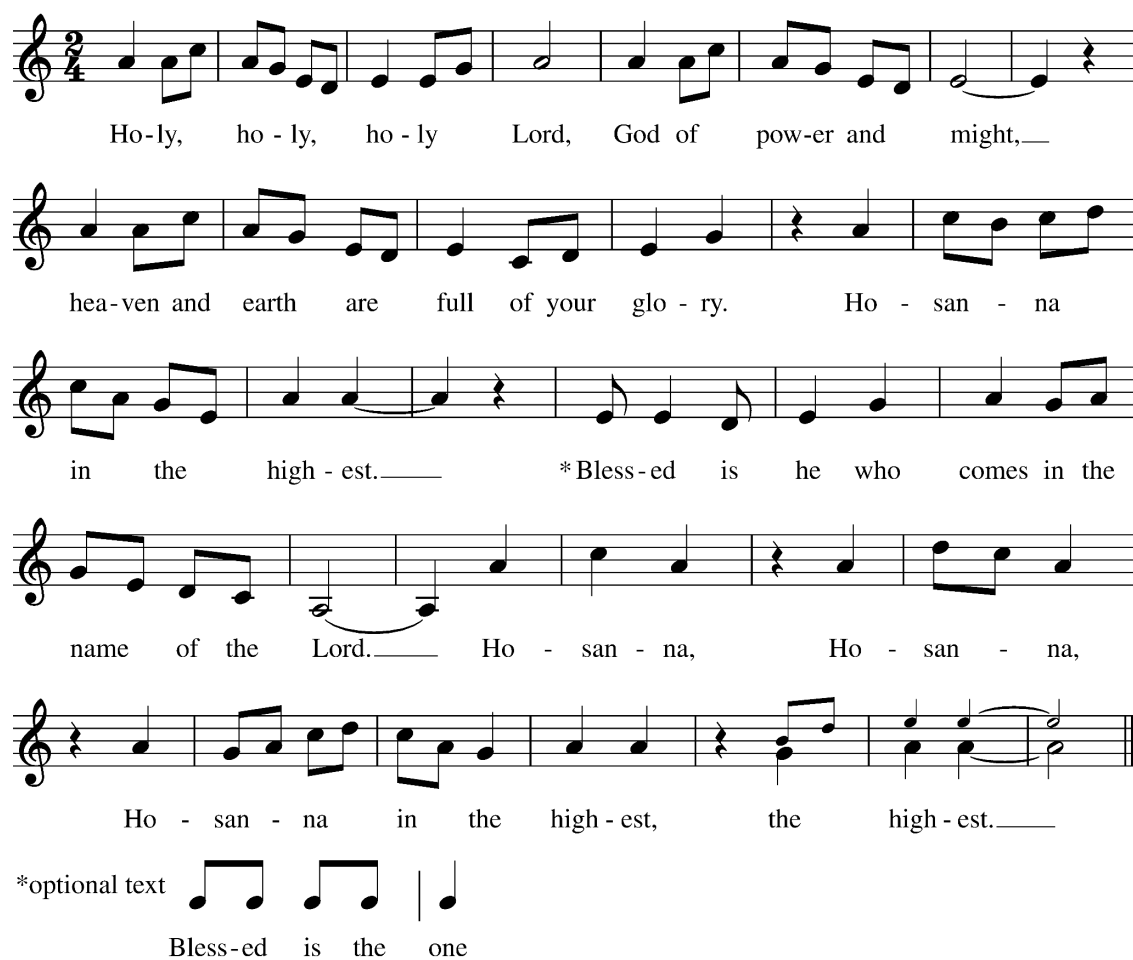
Lift up your hearts.

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 written for a voice and piano. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is in the voice part, and the piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The lyrics are: "Who-ev - er comes to me shall not hun - ger and who-ev - er be - lieves in me shall nev - er thirst."

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)!

Christ for the world we sing

The Hymnal 1982, #537

1 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
2 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
3 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
4 Christ for the world we sing! The world to

Christ we bring with lov - ing zeal; the poor, and
Christ we bring with fer - vent prayer; the way - ward
Christ we bring with one ac - cord; with us the
Christ we bring with joy - ful song; the new - born

them that mourn, the faint and o - ver - borne,
and the lost, by rest - less pas - sions tossed,
work to share, with us re - proach to dare,
souls, whose days, re - claimed from er - ror's ways,

sin - sick and sor - row - worn, whom Christ doth heal.
re - deemed at count - less cost from dark de - spair.
with us the cross to bear, for Christ our Lord.
in - spired with hope and praise, to Christ be - long.

Words: Samuel Wolcott (1813-1886). Music: *Moscow*, melody Felice de Giardini (1716-1796); harm. *The New Hymnal*, 1916 based on *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, and Lowell Mason (1792-1892).

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!**

Fish Needs

St. Stephen's FISH program would like to hand out new toothbrushes and toothpaste at our next distribution. We would love the help of our parishioners. If you could please donate new toothbrushes and/or full sized tubes of toothpaste by September 14th. Thank you!

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