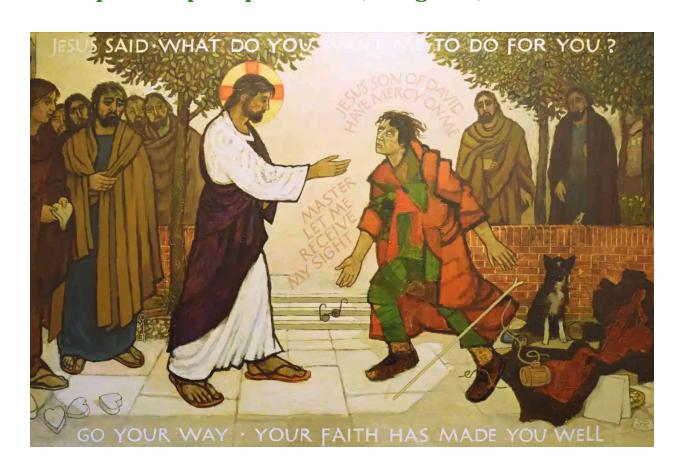
The Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost

October 27, 2024 St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Longview, WA



Worship Leaders October 27, 2024

Presider The Rev. Nic Mather

Musician Riki Davis Acolyte Juice Quiroz

Altar Guild Becky Edmiston, Lisa Harrington

Reader Rob Sudar, John Edmiston

Greeter Gretchen Niemi
Chalice Bearer Lloyd Solon
Usher Greg Lapic
Verger John Edmiston

Vestry Presence Lisa Sudar, David Piper

Coffee Hour Gretchen Moore, Jackie Goodnight

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:		\neg
Your Phone Number:		
Your Email:		

I sing the almighty power of God

The Hymnal 1982, #398



Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: Forest Green, English melody; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

(Please stand as able)

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).

This fall our children are engaging in **The Big Way of Love for Kids**, a new resource from the Episcopal Church focused on teaching the lessons from the Way of Love (from Presiding Bishop Michael Curry) to our children and connecting it to the reality of their lives. For more information, check out the resources we will be using at the below qr code.





Gloria! Gloria! In excelsis Deo!



Mike Anderson





The Collect of the Day

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

(Please be seated for readings from Holy Scripture)

A Reading from Jeremiah 31:7-9

Thus says the Lord:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say,

"Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel."

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,

among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here.

With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back,

I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;

for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 126

- 1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, * then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, * and our tongue with shouts of joy.
- 3 Then they said among the nations, *
 "The Lord has done great things for them."
- 4 The Lord has done great things for us, * And we are glad indeed.
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O Lord, * like the watercourses of the Negev.
- 6 Those who sowed with tears * will reap with songs of joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, * will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

A Reading from **Hebrews 7:23-28**

The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; but Jesus holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

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

Gospel Processional (before reading) & Recessional (after reading) (Please stand as able)



The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ According to **Mark 10:46-52 Glory to you, O Christ.**

Jesus and his disciples came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

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

Homily The Rev Nic Mather

Nicene Creed (Please stand as able)

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.

Walk in Love: Prayers of the People for Stewardship Season

Celebrant: As we prepare to bring our gifts to the altar, let us raise our voices in prayer and praise, thanking God for the opportunity to walk in love together.

Leader: I ask your prayers for the Church, God's greatest gift to us. For all who worship and serve this day. For the wisdom and teaching of our bishops, priests, deacons, and laypeople. As Christ loved us, **We walk in love.**

I bid your prayers for our Nation and for all nations; for all refugees, for an end to hostilities, for a spirit of Goodwill. We pray for our citizens as we elect leaders, and for leaders who serve with love. As Christ loved us, **We walk in love.**

I ask your prayers for our neighbors, for the mission of our church and the ways we change the world with our gifts. As Christ loved us, **We walk in love.**

I invite your prayers for those who are sick, who are isolated, who are in despair. We pray for caregivers and healers who care for those we love. Please pray for David Hughey, Ron & Harriet Byrnes, Michelle Ofstun, Kathleen Norman, Jeff Fouch, and those who we name now either silently or aloud. *Pause.* As Christ loved us, **We walk in love.**

I ask your prayers for the dead and the dying, and for those who mourn. We pray for Betty Manes, Jennifer, and those we name now with our lips or in our hearts. *Pause.* As Christ loved us, **We walk in love.**

I invite your celebrations, remembrances, and the naming of our many blessings, innumerable and filled with Grace. *Pause*. May we be inspired to share our wealth, works, and wisdom with our neighbors and our Church as Christ loved us, **We walk in love**.

Celebrant: Hear the prayers of your people, O God, and inspire us with gratitude and abundance as we share our many gifts with You and the world You made. **Amen**.

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 as able)

The peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.**

The Offertory

Run, Bartimaeus, Run By Joel Raney Choir

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

The gifts of bread and wine are brought forward from the congregation to the table, connecting the gifts we have received in abundance with the sacrifice that Christ has made for us, as we prepare a table for **all** to eat at.

Eucharistic Prayer B (*Please stand as able*)

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 God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, 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:

SANCTUS

The Sanctus acclamation is sung to conclude the introduction to the eucharistic prayer.



The Celebrant continues

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 the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, 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 Lord 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 he 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,

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord 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 to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, 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 sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN**.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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



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 let the priest know so that they may intinct in a separate chalice reserved for this practice. 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.

For the Faithful Who Have Answered



Postcommunion Prayer (Please kneel as able)

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.

The blessing of God: Father, Son, & Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

(Please stand as able.)

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Saints that have come before and the Spirit that is with us now.

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, chocolate bar, and coffee mug (found at the front door)!

O God of every nation

The Hymnal 1982, #607



Words: William Watkins Reid, Jr. (b. 1923), alt. Copyright © 1958 by The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.) All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Llangloffan*, melody from *Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru*, 1865; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

Updating Our Records:

We are in the process of updating our records including addresses for the directory (which we are always happy to print out for anyone who asks!) and birthdays. Please tear off this bottom half sheet with the following information:

Name:	
Birthday (Month/Day):	
Address:	
	2025 Pledge Commitment
	Following in the footsteps of Christ, I/we commit
Walk in Love	to walking in love with St. Stephen's in 2025 with
	an ANNUAL commitment of \$
	I/we plan to fulfill this annual pledge through
(circle one):	
Weekly Payments	
Monthly Payments	
One-Time Annual Payment	
Name:	
Address:	
Phone:	

Email:_____

HALLOWEEN HOSPITALITY: WE NEED CANDY!

For the 15th year we will be hosting Halloween Hospitality at St. Stephen's for the hundreds of trick-or-treaters who descend on the Old West Side and we need donations of candy to offer! Please bring it by the office Monday-Thursday 9am-4pm. Halloween is this Thursday so bring it soon!

Service of Remembrance, Friday November 1 @ 7pm

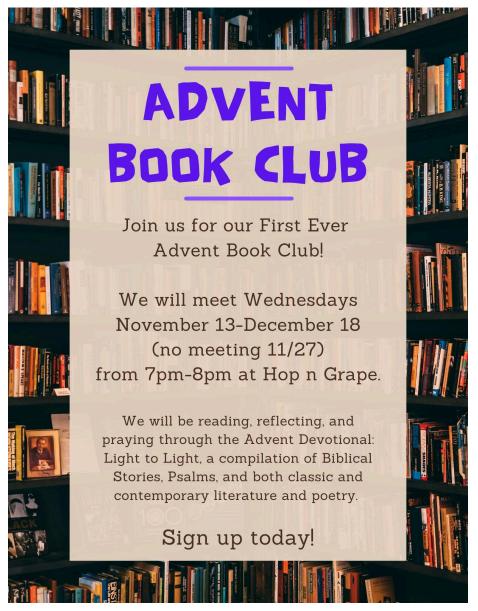
Join us for our annual Service of Remembrance featuring music from local choirs and prayers for all those who have gone before us. All are invited and welcome to attend this community worship offering.



2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off All Saints Sunday November 3 Coffee Hour

Contact Fr. Nic to:

- -Enter a Chili
- -Bake Cornbread
- -Prepare a dessert



Join us for our Advent Book Club!

To pre-order your copy of Light upon Light, please see Fr. Nic!

Wednesdays 7-8pm @ Hop N Grape 11/13, 11/20, 12/4, 12/11, 12/18

Join us on Election Day, Tuesday November 5 at Noon for Noonday Prayers with a Litany for Sound Government. All Saints Chapel will be open Tuesday evening from 7-8pm for private silent prayer.

A Novena for An Election 2024: Nine Days of Prayer 10/29-11/6

OCT 29 Pray for the nation

NINE DAYS OF PRAYER

Lord God Almighty, you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

OCT 30 Pray for every human heart

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

OCT 31 Pray for those who influence public opinion

Almighty God, you proclaim your truth in every age by many voices: Direct, in our time, we pray, those who speak where many listen and write what many read; that they may do their part in making the heart of this people wise, its mind sound, and its will righteous; to the honor of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

NOV 1 Pray for these times of conflict

O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

NOV 2 Pray for guidance

O God, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light riseth up in darkness for the godly: Grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what thou wouldest have us to do, that the Spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in thy light we may see light, and in thy straight path may not stumble; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

NOV 3 Pray for direction from God

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy Name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

NOV 4 Pray for discernment

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

NOV 5 Pray for the election

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United States in the election of officials and representatives; that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

NOV 6 Pray for our own work for the common good

Almighty God our heavenly Father, you declare your glory and show forth your handiwork in the heavens and in the earth: Deliver us in our various occupations from the service of self alone, that we may do the work you give us to do in truth and beauty and for the common good; for the sake of him who came among us as one who serves, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

All prayers are taken from *The Book of Common Prayer*, pages 258, 823, 827, 824, 832, 231, 822, and 261.



This free resource is offered as part of the ministry of Forward Movement, which donates thousands of resources each month to hospitals, nursing homes, armed forces, and prisons.

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