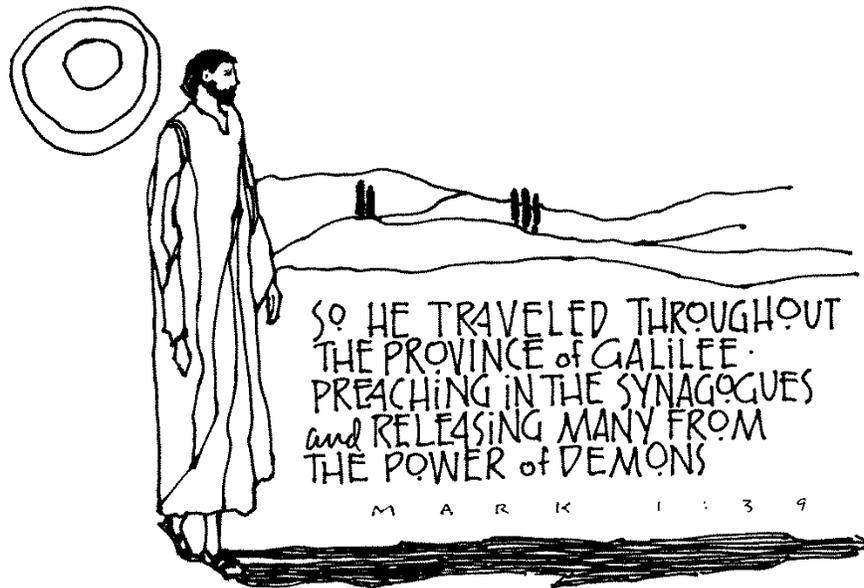


SAINT STEPHEN'S PARISH

Pittsfield, Massachusetts

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 7, 2021



Our Mission

is to be the heart and hands of Christ: nourishing people, transforming lives

Our Core Values

May be found on our Web Page

THE HOLY EUCHARIST
10:00 A.M. February 7, 2021

Hymn 423

“Immortal, invisible”

St. Denio

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light in accessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great Name we praise.
2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might.
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.
3. To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
In all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish, like leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish; but nought changeth thee.
4. Thou reignest in glory, thou rulest in light,
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

The Word of God

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

The Celebrant prays:

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.

People **Amen.**

Gloria in excelsis *(all saying together)*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father, Amen

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant prays the Collect.

The Collect

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

First Lesson Isaiah 40:21-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"?

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 147:1-12, 21c *(please read responsively at the half verse)*

1 Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! *
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

2 The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem; *
he gathers the exiles of Israel.

3 He heals the brokenhearted *
and binds up their wounds.

- 4 He counts the number of the stars *
and calls them all by their names.
- 5 Great is our LORD and mighty in power; *
there is no limit to his wisdom.
- 6 The LORD lifts up the lowly, *
but casts the wicked to the ground.
- 7 Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; *
make music to our God upon the harp.
- 8 He covers the heavens with clouds *
and prepares rain for the earth;
- 9 He makes grass to grow upon the mountains *
and green plants to serve mankind.
- 10 He provides food for flocks and herds *
and for the young ravens when they cry.
- 11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse; *
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;
- 12 But the LORD has pleasure in those who fear him, *
in those who await his gracious favor.
- 21 Hallelujah!

Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel. For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

***People* Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel Mark 1:29-39

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

***People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After Jesus and his disciples left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because

they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, “Everyone is searching for you.” He answered, “Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.” And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

David Nevin

Organ Solo “I love to tell the story”

Emma Lou Diemer

The Nicene Creed *said by all, standing*

**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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**
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 and the Son.**
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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

The Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael Presiding Bishop, and Douglas our Bishop; and
for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;**

**and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Celebrant

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer B)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son 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

said by all

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Bless'd is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel. Then 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,

Celebrant and People say:

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

The Celebrant continues

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 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, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Spiritual Communion Prayer

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen

Blessing

Hymn 529 “In Christ there is no East or West”

McKee

1. In Christ there is no East or West, in him no South or North,
but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.
2. Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be!
Who serves my Father as his child is surely kin to me.
3. In Christ now meet both East and West, in him meet South and North,
All Christly souls are one in him, throughout the whole wide earth.

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary “Agincourt Hymn” *(Deo Gracias)*

John Dunstable/E. Power Biggs



Ministers of the Celebration

CELEBRANT

The Rev. David DeSmith

PREACHER

David Nevin

LECTOR

Debbie Stillman

PRAVERS

William Frazier

ALTAR GUILD

Marie Sutton, William Frazier

VOCALISTS

Wavelyn Hine

Jeffrey Hine

VIDEO PRODUCTION

MusiChris DJ and Lighting Service

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THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN'S

SUNDAY, February 7

10:00 a.m. Facebook Service
1:00 p.m. Cathedral of the Beloved
Grab and Go Lunch

FRIDAY, February 12

4:30 p.m. Parish Office Closed
St. Stephen's Table-
Grab and Go

MONDAY, February 8

SATURDAY, February 13

10:00 a.m. Zoom Finance Presentation

TUESDAY, February 9

SUNDAY, February 14

10:00 a.m. Facebook Service
11:00 a.m. Zoom Annual Meeting
1:00 p.m. Cathedral of the Beloved
Grab and Go Lunch

WEDNESDAY, February 10

THURSDAY, February 11

4:30 p.m. St. Stephen's Table-
Grab and Go

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER LIST

SUNDAY

All persons serving in the armed forces and their families: MAJ Andrew B., CPT Nicholas P., ILT Curran J. D., Lance CPL Chad L., SPC Amanda D., Pvt. Corey F. D., Army Ranger Sean J., MAJ Michael C., Micah H.

Trinity Church, Chicopee
The Rt. Rev. Gordon P. Scruton, VIII Bishop, retired
Office of Government Relations
Episcopal Communicators

Anglican Church of Burundi

MONDAY

Diocese of Saint Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane (Scotland)

TUESDAY

We remember all who need our prayers especially: Timothy A., Clarence D., Ken & Diana E., Cyndi K., Henry L., Christina O., Kevin S., Clara V., Maureen W., Abby, Becca, Betty, Donna, Faye, Fiona, Heather, Jay, Jim, Joan, John, Josh, Judy H., Karen, Keith, Linda, Lisa, Maia, Marilyn, Mary, Melissa & Family, Nancy & Rick, Noreen, Pam, Patrick, Paula, Susan, Barbara, Zeke, Marion, Joe, Roy, Marie, Bob, Robert J., Walter H., Jill, Barbara A., Jeff S., Shirley, Maryann J. and family, Marion, Charles W. H., Sydney A., Jeffrey B., Thomas S., Peter, Barbara D., Ray, William, Doris, Barbara, Erika, Johnathan W., Nancy G., all who are impacted by the Coronavirus, Pat, Jack, Francis, Susan, Frank L., Deane, Tom, David P, Joan K., Teddy C., Eileen, Joan M., David W.

Those with mental health issues

Anglican Missionary District

WEDNESDAY

Diocese of Angola

THURSDAY

The Elizabeth Freeman Center
Pittsfield Area Council of Congregations
Members of Congress

Diocese of Ankole (Uganda)

FRIDAY

St. Stephen's Teaching and Learning Team
St. Stephen's Parish Life Team

Diocese of North Ankole (Uganda)

SATURDAY

Diocese of Northwest Ankole (Uganda)

PARISH NOTICES

WHO ARE WE? St. Stephen's Parish is a community of people who together seek to serve our community, drawing strength and joy from worshipping together. We don't all believe the same, act the same, vote the same, or dress the same – but we strive to love the same, as Christ loved and served all people.

ST. STEPHEN'S TABLE - Gifts in thanksgiving or in memory can be made by sending a donation to the church with the name of the person to be honored or remembered. You can also make a donation online! Just go to our website, select "Support Our Ministries," and follow the prompts to the list of gift opportunities. Select "St. Stephen's Table" and follow the directions. *This week's Gifts to the Table are given in loving memory of Virginia S. Smith.*

ZOOM FINANCE PRESENTATION TO BE HELD BEFORE THE ANNUAL MEETING on Saturday, February 13 at 10:00 a.m.. The link is available on the website, through Realm and the weekly email or by contacting the office. (smorrison@ststephenspittsfield.org)

THE DATE FOR ANNUAL MEETING IS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14. It will be a Zoom meeting at 11:00 a.m. following the online service. This meeting will be recorded. Please contact the office if you would like the link. (smorrison@ststephenspittsfield.org)

WE WELCOME THE. REV. DR. NINA POOLEY!

Nina began her service at St. Stephen's on February 1st in typical COVID era fashion – virtually. Luckily, technology allows for close communication and the wonderful Rev. David DeSmith continues to be on call.

Schedule for February 2021

February 7, 10:00 a.m. Facebook Service

Celebrant - Rev. David DeSmith, Preacher - David Nevin

February 13, 10:00 a.m.

Zoom Finance Presentation

February 14, 10:00a.m. Facebook Service

Celebrant - Rev. David DeSmith, Preacher - Louise Penney

followed by

11:00 a.m. Zoom Annual Meeting

Ash Wednesday, February 17, Noon Facebook Service

Rev. David DeSmith

There will not be an imposition of ashes, instead there will be a blessing of masks

February 21, 10:00 a.m. Facebook Service

Celebrant - Rev. David DeSmith

Preacher - Rev. Dr. Nina Pooley

service followed by

11:00 a.m. Zoom Coffee Hour!

February 28, 10:00 a.m. Facebook Service

Celebrant – Rev. David DeSmith or Rev. Dr. Nina Pooley

Preacher - Rev. Dr. Nina Pooley

service followed by

11:00 a.m. Zoom Coffee Hour

LIVING GREEN TIP

Make your COVID baking work for you, try to bake during the evening this winter when the heat from your oven will be appreciated
(<https://greenlivingguy.com>)

Cardboard Home: Mark Miller
Paper Toter: Craig Reynolds

MEETINGS HELD AT SAINT STEPHEN'S

All AA and NA meetings remain suspended due to COVID-19

Saint Stephen's

A Jubilee Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts

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www.ststephenspittsfield.org



Our Vestry

Tom Dillon, Co-Warden
Erin Sullivan, Co-Warden
Mark Miller, Clerk
Leah Luczynski, Treasurer

Valerie Andersen
Louise Penney
Angie Moon
John Culver

Chris Plankey
Wendy Coakley

Our Staff

The Rev. David DeSmith, Bridge Pastor
ddesmith@ststephenspittsfield.org

Joy Mullen, Director of Music
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Sarah Morrison, Parish Administrator
smorrison@ststephenspittsfield.org

Dan Moon, Coordinator of St. Stephen's Table
dmoon92@nycap.rr.com

William Frazier, Pastoral Leader
wfrazier413@gmail.com

Bert Boos, Office Assistant
bboos@ststephenspittsfield.org

Weekday Sextons-Berkshire County ARC Jenell Pullano, Supervisor
Sunday Sexton Roy Stillman

The Diocese of Western Massachusetts
The Rt. Rev. Douglas Fisher
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