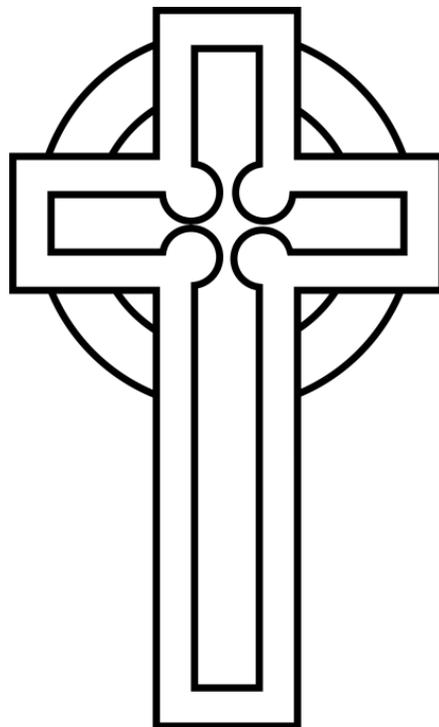


SAINT STEPHEN'S PARISH

Pittsfield, Massachusetts

A Jubilee Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Western
Massachusetts

**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 18, 2021**



Our Mission

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

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 18, 2021
Holy Eucharist and Healing Prayers

**As we are currently unable to offer opportunities for laying on of hands and healing prayers during Communion, we offer this monthly healing-oriented worship*

Voluntary

“Cantilene”

Théodore Dubois

Welcome

Opening Acclamation

Blessed be our one, Holy and Living God.

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

Presider continues:

Jesus said: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

- *Matthew*

11:28-30

The Collect of the Day

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson: 2 Samuel 7: 1-14a

When the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?” Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 89: 20-37 (*Please read responsively at half verse*)

Tunc locutus es

- 20 I have found David my servant; *
with my holy oil have I anointed him.
- 21 My hand will hold him fast *
and my arm will make him strong.
- 22 No enemy shall deceive him, *
nor any wicked man bring him down.
- 23 I will crush his foes before him *
and strike down those who hate him.
- 24 My faithfulness and love shall be with him, *
and he shall be victorious through my Name.

25 I shall make his dominion extend *
from the Great Sea to the River.

26 He will say to me, 'You are my Father, *
my God, and the rock of my salvation.'

27 I will make him my firstborn *
and higher than the kings of the earth.

28 I will keep my love for him for ever, *
and my covenant will stand firm for him.

29 I will establish his line for ever *
and his throne as the days of heaven."

30 "If his children forsake my law *
and do not walk according to my judgments;

31 If they break my statutes *
and do not keep my commandments;

32 I will punish their transgressions with a rod *
and their iniquities with the lash;

33 But I will not take my love from him, *
nor let my faithfulness prove false.

34 I will not break my covenant, *
nor change what has gone out of my lips.

35 Once for all I have sworn by my holiness: *
'I will not lie to David.

36 His line shall endure for ever *
and his throne as the sun before me;

37 It shall stand fast for evermore like the moon, *
the abiding witness in the sky.' "

The Gospel: Mark 6: 30-34,53-56

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them,

because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Introduction to the Reflection

The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley

The Reflection

Sharon Billetter

Hymn "Will you come and follow me?"

Kelvin Grove



1. Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2. Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3. Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call
 5. Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



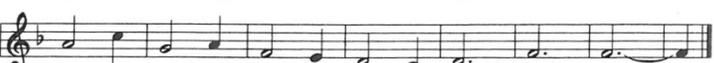
your name? ___ Will you go where you don't know and
 your name? ___ Will you care for cruel and kind and
 your name? ___ Will you set the pris - oners free and
 your name? ___ Will you quell the fear in - side and
 my name. ___ Let me turn and fol - low you and



nev - er be the same? ___ Will you let my love be
 nev - er be the same? ___ Will you risk the hos - tile
 nev - er be the same? ___ Will you kiss the lep - er
 nev - er be the same? ___ Will you use the faith you've
 nev - er be the same. ___ In your com - pa - ny I'll



shown, ___ will you let my name be known, ___ will you
 stare ___ should your life at - tract or scare? ___ Will you
 clean, ___ and do such as this un - seen, ___ and ad -
 found ___ to re - shape the world a - round, ___ through my
 go ___ where your love and foot - steps show. ___ Thus I'll



let my life be grown in you and you in me? ___
 let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me? ___
 mit to what I mean in you and you in me? ___
 sight and touch and sound in you and you in me? ___
 move and live and grow in you and you in me. ___

WORDS: John Bell
 MUSIC: Traditional Scottish

KELVINGROVE
 13 13 77 13

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Prayers for Healing *(Please remain seated.)*

Introduction to healing:

The ministry of Jesus invites us to new life in God and with each other. As we pray together for the healing of all, we proclaim the Good News that God desires us to be healthy and one in the body of Christ. In addition to those for whom you pray, you are invited to offer yourself to God, and ask for healing of spirit, mind, or body; and wholeness in the Name of the holy and undivided Trinity.

Let us pray:

Common Worship

**Heal us, O God, from all our afflictions
and keep us steadfast in your love;
bind up our wounds,
raise us from death,
and lead us to fullness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.**

+ May you and those for whom you pray find healing and peace in the name of God, the holy and undivided Trinity. May Christ be present with you to comfort you, to guard and protect you, and to keep you in everlasting life. **Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

Presider: *Would those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries in July please stand.*

A Collect for Those Celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts - may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Praying for the World and the Church *(All standing)*

A Litany of Healing:

Let us pray for the World and the Church,
particularly for God's healing grace.

God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation;
We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

God the Son, you came that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly;
We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

God the Holy Spirit, you make our bodies the temple of your presence;
We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

Holy Trinity, one God, in you we live and move and have our being;
We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers.

Ken & Diana E; Maureen W; David W; Bill C; Pat W; Noreen R;

"Please add those for whom you pray."

Lord, grant your healing grace to all in need of healing,
that they may be made whole;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Grant to all who seek your guidance,
and to all who are lonely, anxious, or despondent,
a knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Mend broken relationships, and restore those in emotional distress
to soundness of mind and serenity of spirit;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Bless physicians, nurses, and all others who minister to the suffering,
granting them wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Grant to the dying peace and a holy death.

We pray for:

Please add those for whom you pray.

Uphold those who are bereaved with the grace and consolation of your Holy Spirit;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Restore to wholeness whatever is broken by human sin,
in our lives, in our nation, and in the world;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

You are the Lord who does wonders:

You have declared your power among the peoples.

With you, O Lord, is the well of life:
And in your light we see light.

Hear us, O Lord of life:
Heal us, and make us whole.

Concluding Collect:

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Confession

(BCP 360)

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

Celebrant: Most merciful God,

All: **we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

The Absolution

Celebrant: 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

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

Announcements

Celebrant God 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 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:

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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,
**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 are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer

**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 Fraction, spoken

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast.

The Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Organ Solo “The King of love, my shepherd is”

Emma Lou Diemer

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray:

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing: *(Celebrant may use this or another blessing)*

Go forth into the world in peace;
be of good courage;
hold fast that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil;
strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak;
help the afflicted; honor everyone;
love and serve our God,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;
And the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ,
And the love of God,
And the communion of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all, now and always. **Amen.**

Hymn 664 "My Shepherd will supply my need"

Resignation

1 My Shep-herd will sup-ply my need, Je-ho-vah
 2 When I walk through the shades of death, thy pres-ence
 3 The sure pro-vi-sions of my God at-tend me

is his Name; _____ in pas-tures fresh he
 is my stay; _____ one word of thy sup-
 all my days; _____ oh, may thy house be

makes me feed be-side the liv-ing stream.....
 port-ing breath drives all my fears a-way.....
 mine a-bode and all my work be-praise.....

He brings my wan-dering spi-rit back when I for-
 Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my
 There would I find a sett-led rest, while o-thers

sake his ways, _____ and leads me, for his
 ta-ble spread; _____ my cup with bless-ings
 go and come; _____ no more a stran-ger

mer-cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.....
 o-ver-flows, thy oil a-noints my head.....
 or a-guest, but like a child at home.....

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. (Alleluia, alleluia)
 People Thanks be to God. (Alleluia, alleluia)

Voluntary "A Thornbury Fanfare"

Malcolm Archer



Liturgical Resources

This season's liturgy is from our Book of Common Prayer, 1979.

With the following additions/adaptations:

After the opening acclamation the celebrant may choose to read either the collect for purity, or the text from Mark 12:29-31, from
A Penitential Order, Rite Two, for use at the beginning of the liturgy. (BCP 79, p. 351)

Our Affirmation of Faith is the Nicene Creed, in the form approved by General Convention 1997, and is included in *Enriching Our Worship; Supplemental Liturgical Materials prepared by The Standing Liturgical Commission 1997*.

The Prayers of the People are adapted from the Anglican Church of Canada's Book of Alternative Services (our BCP 1979 suggests use of other forms and adaptations).

The Eucharistic Prayer is Eucharistic Prayer B, the Expansive Language Version, approved for use by General Convention 2018.

Ministers of the Celebration

CELEBRANT
The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley

PREACHER
Sharon Billetter

LECTOR
Karen Wallace

PRAYERS
Karen Wallace

ALTAR GUILD
Joan Evans

PASTORAL CARE VISITOR
William Frazier

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THIS WEEK AT ST STEPHEN'S

SUNDAY, July 18

9:00 a.m. Eucharist in the Sanctuary
and live-streamed

FRIDAY, July 23

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

MONDAY, July 19

SATURDAY, July 24

TUESDAY, July 20

WEDNESDAY, July 21

SUNDAY, July 25

9:00 a.m. Eucharist in the Sanctuary
and live-streamed

THURSDAY, July 22

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

This week's flowers are given by Dorothy Lambert in loving memory of
Roy Lambert and Caroline Bregg.

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 weeks gifts for the table are given by Cathy Carchedi in loving memory of Caroline Bregg & Roy Lambert*

BUILDING THE BELOVED COMMUNITY a Middle School Adventure in Community and Justice begins on Sunday July 25. Contact The Rev. Jenny Gregg for more information. revjgregg@gmail.com

LIVING GREEN TIP

Always Recycle Glass and Aluminium It is possible to make twenty recycled cans with the same amount of energy it takes to make just one new one. That's a great saving. And the glass is another great saving. Every ton of glass that is recycled saves nine gallons of the oil used for fuel to produce new glass.

Cardboard-Breakdown John Garinther

Bottles/Cans Toter Jeff Pringle

In-person A.A. and N.A. meetings will begin again in July

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER LIST

SUNDAY

All persons serving in the armed forces and their families: MAJ Andrew B., CPT Nichols P., 1LT Curran J.D., Lance CPL Chad L., SPC Amanda D., Pvt. Corey F.D., Army Ranger Sean J., Michah H.

Christ Church, Rochdale; North Worcester Region & Dean of Clericus United Thank Offering (UTO); National Network of Episcopal Church Employees

Diocese of the Dominican Republic

MONDAY

Diocese of Dornakal (India))

TUESDAY

We remember all who need our prayers especially: Ken & Diana E., Maureen W., Noreen, all who are

impacted by the Coronavirus, Deane, David W., Bill C., Pat W; Doug D.

Those with mental health issues
Diocese of Down and Dromore (Ireland)

WEDNESDAY

Diocese of Duk (South Sudan)

THURSDAY

Local Food Programs
Pittsfield City Government
The Governor of Massachusetts
Diocese of Dunedin (New Zealand)

FRIDAY

St. Stephen's Participating in Worship Team

Diocese of Dunkwa-on-Offin (Ghana)

SATURDAY

Diocese of Durgapur(India)

Saint Stephen's

67 East Street + Park Square
Pittsfield, MA 01201
413-448-8276
413-442-5374 (fax)

mail@ststephenspittsfield.org (e-mail)
ststephenspittsfieldnews@gmail.com (news items)
www.ststephenspittsfield.org



Our Vestry

Erin Sullivan, Co-Warden
Angela Moon, Clerk
Valerie Andersen
Louise Penney
Mark Miller

Craig Reynolds, Co-Warden
Leah Luczynski, Treasurer
John Culver
Wendy Coakley
Chris Plankey

Our Staff

The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley, Rector
[npoolley@ststephenspittsfield.org](mailto:npooley@ststephenspittsfield.org)

Joy Mullen, Director of Music
jmullen@ststephenspittsfield.org

Sarah Morrison, Parish Administrator
smorrison@ststephenspittsfield.org

Dan Moon, Director 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

Sunday Sexton Roy Stillman

The Diocese of Western Massachusetts

The Rt. Rev. Douglas Fisher
800-332-8513 www.diocesewma.org

LOVING THE QUESTIONS is a community of spiritual discernment sponsored by the Diocese. This community is for those looking for something more in their faith and in their relationship with God. It is for those looking to connect more deeply to God's lead in how they live their day-to-day life. This community of spiritual discernment is grounded in the contemplative practice of prayer and sharing our story and our experience. We gather for a process aimed at listening to an inner wisdom in the Spirit, which draws on the collective wisdom of others in a prayerful small group dynamic. We offer a process that builds trust with one other through freedom to ask honest and open questions. We trust in our inner teacher, which is the glory of God alive in each one of us. The power of holy listening and a good deal of silence weaves our times together as we wait in eager expectation and witness life-giving transformation right before our eyes. By *Loving the Questions* we learn to live wisely day-to-day, in the moment, without having to fix ourselves or fix the world around us.

Today we listen to Sharon Billetter's experience. If after you hear Sharon's experience and you sense the Spirit stirring to learn more, please visit our website at https://www.diocesewma.org/mission_ministry/loving-the-questions/ and/or reach out to Jenny Gregg (revjgregg@gmail.com). *Loving the Questions* 2021-22 begins September 18th.

Welcome to Worship at St. Stephen's

It's good to be worshipping together in the sanctuary!
Thank you for your understanding and patience as we observe the following protocols:

Masks: Please wear a mask; if you do not have one the greeter can provide one for you.

Wellness: The greeter will ask how you are feeling today. If you are not feeling well, please return home and come back when you are feeling better.

Preregistration and Nametags: Greeter will ask your name to check off the pre-registered list (and give you your name tag). If you have not pre-registered, the greeter will need to get contact information from you. It's helpful if you preregister each week for Sunday's service.

Children are always welcome at worship!! While there's no nursery offered at this time, **Family Seating** has been set aside for those with children and younger teens (in the last rows of the sanctuary). Parents, please come and go as your child needs to - though we ask that children be accompanied at all times.

Singing: We are thrilled to be able to sing hymns finally! Though for now, we ask that masks remain in place. Singing gently into our masks is a vast improvement over these many months of pandemic hymn-lessness.