

Celebration of New Ministry
October 10, 2021



The fullness of joy is to behold God in everything.
God is the ground, the substance,
the teaching, the teacher,
the purpose, the reward for which every soul labors.
- Julian of Norwich

Celebration of New Ministry and Holy Eucharist
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 10, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

Voluntary

“Prelude”

Théodore Dubois

Opening Hymn 376 “Joyful, joyful, we adore thee”

Hymn to Joy

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

Welcome

Opening Acclamation

Blessed are you, our Holy and Living God.

Glory to God for ever and ever.

Presider may read the following:

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel:

The Lord your God is the only Lord.

Love the Lord your God with all your heart,

with all your soul, with all your mind,

and with all your strength.

The second is this:

Love your neighbor as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these."

Mark 12:29-31

The Institution

The Wardens, standing before the bishop with the new minister:

Bishop Fisher, we have come together today to welcome Nina Ranadive Pooley who has been chosen to serve as Rector of St. Stephen's Parish. We believe that she is well qualified, and that she has been prayerfully and lawfully selected.

The Bishop may read the Letter of Institution.

The Bishop then says

Nina do you, in the presence of this congregation, commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility?

New Minister **I do.**

The Bishop then addresses the congregation

Will you who witness this new beginning support and uphold Nina in this ministry?

People :We will.

Let us then offer our prayers to God for all God's people, for this congregation, and for Nina your Rector.

Litany of Thanksgiving

For the Church universal, of which you, O Christ, are the foundation and chief cornerstone,

We thank you, Lord.

For your presence whenever two or three have gathered together in your Name,

We thank you, Lord.

For making us your children by adoption and grace, and refreshing us day by day with the bread of life,

We thank you, Lord.

For the knowledge of your will and the grace to perform it,

We thank you, Lord.

For the fulfilling of our desires and petitions as may be best for us,

We thank you, Lord.

For the pardoning of our sins, which restores us to the company of your faithful people,

We thank you, Lord.

For the blessing of lives with your goodness,

We thank you, Lord.

For the faith and perseverance of those who have gone before us,

We thank you, Lord.

For the fellowship of Mary the God-bearer, the holy apostles, blessed Stephen and of all the saints,

We thank you, Lord.

At the end of the litany, the Bishop, standing, says the following, first saying

Bishop The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Bishop Let us pray.

Everliving God, strengthen and sustain Nina, that with patience and understanding she may love and care for your people; and grant that together they may follow Jesus Christ, offering to you their gifts and talents; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

The Liturgy of the Word

First Lesson: Ephesians 3:16-19 *(The St. Helena Breviary)*

I pray that, according to the riches of God's glory,
you may be strengthened in your inner being
with power through the Holy Spirit.

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith,
as you are rooted and grounded in love.

I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints,
what is the breadth and length and height and depth of the love
of God for us,

and that you may know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge,
and be filled with all the fullness of God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle adapted from **The Showings of Julian of Norwich** *(The St. Helena Breviary)*

read alternately by whole verse:

You, O Christ, are the One:
the might and goodness of fatherhood.

You are the One:
the wisdom and kindness of motherhood.

You, O Christ, are the One:
the light and grace of all blessed love;
you are Trinity; you are Unity.

**You, O Christ, are the One:
the high sovereign goodness of all manner of things.**

You are the One who makes us to love;
you are the One who makes us to long.

**You, O Christ, are the One:
the endless fulfilling of all our true desires.**

Second Lesson: Romans 8:38-39

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Savior.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel: John 15:9-16

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

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.

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

The Sermon

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Douglas Fisher

Solo “How beautiful are the feet of them”

from *Messiah*, G.F. Handel

The Induction

Representatives of the congregation and of the clergy of the diocese come forward maintaining social distance, as the new minister stands up front with the Bishop.

The Bishop presents a vessel of water, saying

Nina, take this water, and help me baptize in obedience to our Lord.

People: Amen.

Representatives of the congregation present a Bible and Lectionaries, saying

Nina, accept this Bible and Women's Lectionary, and be among us as one who proclaims the Word.

People: Amen.

Others present a stole, saying

Nina, receive this stole, and be among us as a pastor and priest.

People: Amen.

Other Representatives of the congregation present bread and wine, saying

Nina, take this bread and wine, and be among us to break the Bread and bless the Cup.

People: Amen.

Others present liturgical colored face masks, saying

Nina, wear these face masks, and be among us as a healer and reconciler.

People: Amen.

Others present books of prayers and poetry, saying

Nina, receive these books, and be among us as a person of prayer.

People Amen.

Members representing St. Stephen's Table present an apron, saying:

Nina, wear this apron, and serve alongside us as we feed our neighbors.

People: Amen.

Members of the Visioning Team present a kaleidoscope, saying:

Nina, take this kaleidoscope, and join us as people who envision a vibrant future, as we respond to the needs of the 21st century.

People: Amen.

The Wardens presents the keys of the church, saying

Nina, receive these keys, and let the doors of this sanctuary be open to all people.

People: Amen.

Representative clergy of the diocese present the Constitution and Canons of this Church, saying

Nina, obey these Canons, and be among us to share in the councils of this diocese.

People: Amen.

The new Rector gives symbolic gifts to the congregation.

Beloved Community of St. Stephen's, thank you for these gifts - I have gifts for you as well.

May this stole, with text from the prophet Micah, be a symbol of our ministry for Social Justice and advocacy, as we strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.

People: Amen.

May these buttons and this rainbow stole be symbols of our ministry of inclusion and welcome, as we proclaim the Good News of God in Christ.

People: Amen.

May these prints by artist Janet McKenzie, hanging around the sanctuary be symbolic of our Baptismal promise to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbor as ourselves.

People: Amen.

The Bishop then says

Nina, let all these be signs of the ministry which is mine and yours in this place.

People: Amen.

The new Minister may then stand in the midst of the church, and say:

O Lord my God, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; yet you have called your servant to stand in your house, and to serve at your altar. To you and to your service I devote myself, body, soul, and spirit. Fill my memory with the record of your mighty works; enlighten my understanding with the light of your Holy Spirit; and may all the desires of my heart and will center in what you would have me do. Make me an instrument of your salvation for the people entrusted to my care, and grant that I may faithfully administer your holy Sacraments, and by my life and teaching set forth your true and living Word. Be always with me in carrying out the duties of my ministry. In prayer, quicken my devotion; in praises, heighten my love and gratitude; in preaching, give me readiness of thought and expression; and grant that, by the clearness and brightness of your holy Word, all the world may be drawn into your blessed kingdom. All this I ask for the sake of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Bishop then presents the new minister to the congregation, saying
Greet your new Rector.

The family of the new minister is presented at this time.

The Congregation expresses its approval. Applause is appropriate.

The Bishop greets the new minister.

The new Minister then says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The People greet one another.

The Bishop, standing at the Lord's Table as chief celebrant, proceeds with the Great Thanksgiving of the Eucharist.

The Great Thanksgiving

(Copyright 2016, The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley)

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to our God.

Let us give thanks to the Holy One.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

All thanks and praise are yours, our true and loving God; you are the strength and goodness of fatherhood, you are the wisdom and love of motherhood; you are light and grace and blessed love. You are Trinity, you are Unity.

With so much of this life beyond our control, often overwhelmed by anxiety and grief, we gather around your table to remember that there is nothing the powers of this world can bring, nothing in our present lives, nor in whatever the future may hold, there is nothing in all creation that can separate us from your love.

You, O God, are nearer to us than our own soul, for you are the ground in whom our soul stands. So will we bless you as long as we live, and lift our voices in praise as we say:

Sanctus, spoken

**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.

Gracious One, before you made us, you loved us. And when our sin turns us away from you and causes us pain, in your love and mercy you assure us that all shall be well, all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well.

Out of love for us you sent your Son, Jesus, to live and die as one of us, to teach and heal, to feed those who were hungry, to embrace the outcasts. Through his life you showed us the depth of your reconciling love for the world. Through his death and resurrection, you overcame death forever and gave to us everlasting life.

On their last night together, Jesus gathered his friends around the table. He took the bread, gave you thanks, broke it and gave it to them, saying, "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you."

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and offered it to them, saying, "Drink this all of you. This is my blood, the cup of God's new covenant with you and with all, the promise of life everlasting. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

The love of Christ restores and transforms us; and we rejoice in our salvation:

We open our hearts to love one another as he loved us;

We remember how he died and rose again to live now in us.

Together with him, we offer you these gifts, and ourselves, our souls and bodies. Send your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon this bread and this wine, that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Empowered by your Spirit, may we do justice, and love kindness and walk with you all our days; until at the last, we are gathered home, and our hearts may rest in you.

With all your people, past, present and yet to come, we give you thanks and praise, through the Son and in the Spirit, in every moment of our lives, now and forever. **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*

The Living Bread, given for the life of the world.

Whoever eats this bread will live forever.

cf John 6:51

The Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Solo "I, the Lord of sea and sky"

Daniel Schutte

Post Communion Prayer *The Bishop leads the people in the following prayer (BCP):*

Let us pray:

Almighty Father, we thank you for feeding us with the holy food of the Body and Blood of your Son, and for uniting us through him in the fellowship of your Holy Spirit. We thank you for raising up among us faithful servants for the ministry of your Word and Sacraments. We pray that Nina may be to us an effective example in word and action, in love and patience, and in holiness of life. Grant that we, with her, may serve you now, and always rejoice in your glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Bishop:

We have celebrated this new pastoral relationship in the great Thanksgiving at this altar. *Nina*, I commend to your love and care the people of St. Stephen's. My brothers and sisters in Christ, I commend to your love and care your new Rector, colleague and friend, *Nina*.

A newly inducted Priest may, at the bishop's request, pronounce a blessing.

The Blessing

My friends, life is short
and we do not have much time
to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us,

so be quick to love and make haste to be kind.
 And rest assured that God is infinitely more concerned
 with the promise of our future
 than the mistakes of our past.
 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 657 “Love divine, all loves excelling”

Hyfrydol

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to
 2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy
 3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise with
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord,
 Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia.

Voluntary “Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates”

June Nixon

† † †

Liturgical Resources

The Eucharistic Prayer was written in-house. I drew upon Micah 6:8, Romans 8:38-39, Ephesians 3:16-19, and portions of St. Julian of Norwich’s Showings, as translated by Clifton Wolters, and found in prayer form in *The Saint Helena Breviary*.

You may find those texts below:

Micah 6:8 (NRSV)

He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
 and what does the Lord require of you
 but to do justice, and to love kindness,
 and to walk humbly with your God?

Romans 8:38-39 (NRSV)

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Savior.

Ephesians 3:16-19 (The St. Helena Breviary)

See our First Lesson in today's service.

Canticle adapted from **The Showings of Julian of Norwich** (*The St. Helena Breviary*)

The Canticle is our psalm for today's service.

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.

HARVEST DINNER, SATURDAY OCTOBER 23! The Stewardship Committee and Vestry invite you to the Harvest Dinner. Our great chef Dan Moon will prepare a delicious dinner to kick off our Stewardship Campaign and give thanks for another year in the St. Stephen's Community. This will be a take-out meal. Please sign up by calling the office or through Realm. Let us know how many meals you would like and if you prefer a vegetarian entree. **Sign-up deadline is October 14,** pick-up is between 5 and 6 p.m. on the 23rd. An on-line Stewardship Presentation will be available on the website.

GOOD NEWS, YPF! - We have received a grant funding a group trip to the ropes course at Ramblewild on October 24. We will meet there at 12:30 (pending confirmation with Ramblewild) Please pencil this exciting day into your calendar and reach out to fellow YPFers (and friends) to encourage them to join in the fun! Please RSVP to me by email, text or phone call, so we know our numbers. More details will come as the time gets closer. YPF's service project for November will be supporting the Thanksgiving Angels project. I will be providing details as it gets closer.
Matt Behnke, cell 413-579-4005 Coordinator of Young People's Fellowship

BIO NEWS - THIS YEAR'S MICAH FUNDRAISING EVENT WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY and "live-streamed" on November 21st. St. Stephen's is happy to share with you that this year's honoree is Chris Plankey. You will get to see and hear about Chris's contributions, living into the words of the prophet, Micah, to "do justice, love mercy and walk humbly" during the event. Also, we will have a memorial to those who have lost their lives during the past year and honoring their commitment to social justice and to the work of BIO. Of the four people who will be honored is our own, The Right Reverend John Tarrant. Stay tuned for further details as they emerge. Tickets will be for sale online and donations will be accepted to support the work of BIO which continues, even in the midst of these difficult times. Micah team members: Paula Morey and Susan Wojtasik

LIVING GREEN TIP

Stop Using Bottled Water: This may be very hard for many. If it's not that hard for you, start using re-usable materials and fill it up every time.

Bottles/Cans Toter - Jeff Pringle Cardboard-Breakdown Dot Lambert

MINISTERS OF THE CELEBRATION

CELEBRANT	The Rt. Rev. Dr. Douglas Fisher
LECTORS	Gwen Davis, Louise Penney
PRAYERS	Gwen Davis
ALTAR GUILD	Sue Smith, Claudia Austin Curry
PASTORAL CARE VISITOR	Sharon Billetter
GREETERS	Paula Morey, Diane Forsyth
LEMONADE on the LAWN	Marie Sutton, Joan Evans
SOLOIST:	Sarah Novak, <i>soprano</i>

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THIS WEEK'S PRAYER LIST

In our Parish prayers, we pray for:

Ken & Diane E; David W; Pat W; Noreen R; Margaret W; Jill; Jennifer; Keith; Sylvia; Martie E; The Family of Kevin Bilotta; The Family of Lou Desloges

And those 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., Micah H.

We pray for our community:

The Elizabeth Freeman Center
Pittsfield Area Council of Congregations
Members of Congress
St. Stephen's Welcoming Team
St. Stephen's Cooking Team

In our Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for

Church of the Reconciliation, Webster;
Canon to the Ordinary, The Rev. Dr. Richard Simpson
Union of Black Episcopalians (UBE);
Open Pantry Community Services, Springfield

In our Anglican cycle of prayer we pray for:

Sunday: Province of West Africa
Monday: Diocese of Georgia (USA)
Tuesday: Diocese of Gippsland (Australia)
Wednesday: Diocese of Gitega (Burundi)
Thursday: Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway (Scotland)
Friday: Diocese of Gloucester (England)
Saturday: Diocese of Gogrial (South Sudan)

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Office Hours:

Closed Monday, October 11, 2021, Tuesday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Worship:

Sunday, October 10th Eucharist at 10:00a.m., Sanctuary and streaming online.

St. Stephen's Table:

Thursday and Friday, Grab and Go 4:30 p.m.

AA Meetings:

Monday and Friday at 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday thru Friday at noon; Saturday at 10:00 a.m.

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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

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Weekday Sextons-Berkshire County ARC
Sunday Sexton Roy Stillman

The Diocese of Western Massachusetts

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