

**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Sunday August 4, 2024 10 a.m.**

**Voluntary**      “The King of love my shepherd is”      Emma Lou Diemer

**Hymn 657**      “Love divine, all loves excelling”      *Hyfrydol*

**Opening Acclamation**      *(page 1 in booklet)*

**The Collect**

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**First Lesson:** 2 Samuel 11: 26 -12: 13

When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son.

But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD, and the LORD sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, “There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds; but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man’s lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him.” Then David’s anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, “As the LORD lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.”

Nathan said to David, “You are the man! Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; I gave you your master’s house, and your master’s wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and have taken his wife to be your wife,

*If you are new to St. Stephen’s, you will find helpful information on the back of this leaflet.*

and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. Thus says the LORD: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes, and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this very sun. For you did it secretly; but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.” David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the LORD.” Nathan said to David, “Now the Lord has put away your sin; you shall not die.

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

**Psalms 51: 1-13**

*(Please read responsively)*

*Miserere mei, Deus*

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; \*  
**in your great compassion blot out my offenses.**
- 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness \*  
**and cleanse me from my sin.**
- 3 For I know my transgressions, \*  
**and my sin is ever before me.**
- 4 Against you only have I sinned \*  
**and done what is evil in your sight.**
- 5 And so you are justified when you speak \*  
**and upright in your judgment.**
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, \*  
**a sinner from my mother's womb.**
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \*  
**and will make me understand wisdom secretly.**
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \*  
**wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.**
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, \*  
**that the body you have broken may rejoice.**
- 10 Hide your face from my sins \*  
**and blot out all my iniquities.**
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, \*  
**and renew a right spirit within me.**
- 12 Cast me not away from your presence \*  
**and take not your holy Spirit from me.**
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again \*  
**and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

## **The Gospel** John 6: 24-35

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

### **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

The next day, when the people who remained after the feeding of the five thousand saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

The Gospel of the Lord

### **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

**Sermon**

The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley

**Affirmation of Faith**

*(page 2 booklet)*

### **The Prayers of the People**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, Especially:

***Those on our prayer list:*** *We pray for: Ken; Tommie; Judy; Kathy; David; Kate; Jeff; Keith; Kathryn; Marcus; Evan; Sandy; Sokpha; Robert; Mike; Will; Jennifer; Judy; John; Jack; Steve; Marty; Valerie; Ann; Peter; Marc; Sam; We pray for a just peace for Ukraine, and for those affected by the violence in Israel and Palestine.*

*Please include your intercessions.*

**Offertory Hymn 325** “Let us break bread together” *Afro-American Spiritual*

**The Great Thanksgiving** (page 5, booklet)

**Communion Solo** “Love Divine, all loves excelling” Robert Hobby

**Announcements**

**Hymn 473** “Lift high the cross” *Crucifer*

**Voluntary** “Joyful, joyful we adore Thee” arr. May Schwarz



**PARISH NOTICES**

**POP UP CHOIR TODAY-** Please join Joy Mullen at the front of the Church & and blend your voices during the offertory and final hymns.

**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 “Give,” and “St. Stephen’s Table” from the Fund menu.

**BLOOMIN’4 GOOD IS BACK!** During the month of August, shoppers at the Merrill Rd Stop & Shop who purchase a Bloomin’4 Good bouquet for \$10.99 will provide \$1 to St. Stephen’s Table.

**LIVING GREEN TIP**

**Don’t Turn on Lights:** Don’t turn on lights at all for as long as you can-open your curtains and use natural light..

Paper Toter Brendan Dillon

Cardboard-Home Paula Morey



**GIVING TO ST. STEPHEN’S IS EASY-** Scan the QR code to find our giving form. Or, text “giveststephens\$*your amount*” to 73256. (example: giveststephens\$25 will donate \$25.) Message and data rates may apply. Message frequency varies. Text HELP to 73256 for help. Text STOP to 73256 to cancel.

## MINSTERS OF THE CELEBRATION

CELEBRANT	The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley
LECTORS	James Cawse, Angie Moon
LAY MINISTERS	Joan Evans, Andrea Stasiowski
ALTAR GUILD	David Nevin (Chair)
GREETERS	Craig & Christine Reynolds
VESTRY GREETER	Chris Plankey

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This morning's altar flowers are given by Diane Forsyth and Bill Frazier in  
celebration of their 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

### THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

**Office Hours:** Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. Closed Friday

**Worship:** Wednesday, August 7, 6:30 p.m. Compline;  
Saturday August 10, 5 p.m. & Sunday August 11, 10:00 a.m.

**St. Stephen's Table:** Thursday and Friday, Grab and Go 4:30 p.m.

**Meetings:** AA –Monday - Thursday at noon, Friday at 6:30 p.m.; Saturday at  
10:00 a.m. NA - Tuesday & Wednesday 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 6:30 p.m.  
Dining Room

## THIS WEEK'S PRAYER LIST

**In our Parish prayers,** *We pray for:* Ken E.; Tommie C; Judy; Kathy; E; David; Kate; Jeff K; Keith C; Kathryn D; Marcus B; Evan C; Sandy S; Sokpha I; Robert L; Mike E.; Will C.; Jennifer D. Judy J.; John H; Jack M; Steve M; Mackenzie P; Marty P; Valerie A; Ann M; Peter F; Marc B; Sam; Presiding Bishop Michael Curry; Presiding Bishop-elect Sean Rowe; We pray for a just peace for Ukraine, and for those affected by the violence in Israel and Palestine.

*And those serving in the armed forces and their families:* MAJ Andrew B., CPT Nichols P., CPT 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:***

Local Food Programs  
Pittsfield City Government  
The Governor of Massachusetts

***In Our Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for:***

Trinity Church, Shrewsbury;  
Hampden Region & Dean of Clericus  
Interfaith Coalition for Homeless, Worcester;  
Worcester Interfaith

***In our Anglican cycle of prayer we pray for:***

Sunday: Anglican Church of Kenya  
Monday: Diocese of Huron (Canada)  
Tuesday: Diocese of Hyderabad (Pakistan)  
Wednesday: Diocese of Ibadan (Nigeria)  
Thursday: Diocese of Ibadan North (Nigeria)  
Friday: Diocese of Ibadan South (Nigeria)  
Saturday; Diocese of Ibba (South Sudan)

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### **VESTRY**

Josie Ellis, Co-Warden  
Suzanne White, Treasurer  
Christopher Perry, Clerk  
David Nevin  
James Alden  
Caleb Harmon

John Garinther Co-Warden  
William O'Neil, Asst. Treasurer  
Wendy W. Coakley  
Chris Plankey  
Beth-Anne Hamling

### **Our Staff**

The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley, Rector  
ninapooley@revnina.org

Joy Mullen, Director of Music  
jmullen@ststephenspittsfield.org

Sarah Morrison, Parish Administrator  
smorrison@ststephenspittsfield.org

Dan Moon,  
Director of St Stephen's Table  
dmoon@pittsfield.net

Bert Boos, Office Assistant  
bboos@ststephensfield.org

Weekday Sextons - Berkshire County ARC  
Sunday Sexton Roy Stillman

### **The Diocese of Western Massachusetts**

The Rt. Rev. Douglas Fisher  
800-322-8513 www.diocesewma.org

## **Welcome to Worship at St. Stephen's**

We are delighted to have you with us today as we worship together. St. Stephen's Episcopal Church is an inclusive parish welcoming all people - regardless of ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or creed. God loves you, and so do we!

### **All Are Welcome to Receive from God's Table.**

Each week we share the bread and the wine: the gifts of God, given for the people of God. We invite you to receive communion, but, if you'd rather receive a blessing, please come forward and indicate that by crossing your arms across your chest.

### ***Receiving Communion:***

The bread - When you come forward hold your hands out together, palm up. The clergy person will place a wafer in your hands, and say, "The body of Christ." Your response: "Amen." (Please let the clergy know if you'd prefer a gluten free wafer.)

The wine - is offered by chalice bearers on either side of the aisle in front of the altar area. Those sitting on the right should choose the right side chalice, those sitting on the left, choose the left side chalice. The chalice bearer will offer the wine, saying, "The Blood of Christ." Your response: "Amen." You may receive the wine by taking a small sip from the chalice, or by dipping your wafer in the wine, taking care not to touch the wine with your fingers. You may also choose to hear the words and respond without choosing to partake of the wine.

### **Children are always welcome at worship!!**

Families are welcome to sit wherever they wish. There are child-friendly books in a bookshelf near a coloring station in the back, on the right side of the sanctuary. There's a second coloring station on the front left, where there is also our **Kids' Own Space activity area**. There's a Nursery Nook in the Guild Room for caregivers of infants and toddlers who need to take a break during worship. Caregivers, please come and go as your child needs to - for their safety, **we ask that children be accompanied at all times**. Sunday school is offered on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, September through May.

### **Restrooms are located in our Parish House**

Exit the sanctuary via the doors on either side of the altar and follow the signs.