

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost
Saturday October 26, 5 p.m. & Sunday October 27, 2024 10 a.m.

Voluntary “Listen, God is calling” Anne Krentz Organ

Hymn 408 “Sing praise to God who reigns above” *Mit Freuden zart*

Opening Acclamation *(page 1 of booklet)*

Collect 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.**

First Lesson: Job 42:1-6, 10-17

Job answered the Lord:

“I know that you can do all things,
and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.
‘Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?’
Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand,
things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.
‘Hear, and I will speak;
I will question you, and you declare to me.’
I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear,
but now my eye sees you;
therefore I despise myself,
and repent in dust and ashes.”

And the Lord restored the fortunes of Job when he had prayed for his friends; and the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before. Then there came to him all his brothers and sisters and all who had known him before, and they ate bread with him in his house; they showed him sympathy and comforted him for all the evil that the Lord had brought upon him; and each of them gave him a piece of money and a gold ring. The Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning; and he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand donkeys. He also had seven sons and three daughters. He named the first Jemimah, the second Keziah, and the third Keren-happuch. In all the land there were no women so beautiful as Job’s daughters; and their father gave them an inheritance along with their brothers. After this Job

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

lived for one hundred and forty years, and saw his children, and his children's children, four generations. And Job died, old and full of days.

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

Psalm 34: 1-8 (*Please read responsively*) *Benedicam Dominum*

- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times; *
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
- 2 I will glory in the Lord; *
let the humble hear and rejoice.
- 3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord; *
let us exalt his Name together.
- 4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me *
and delivered me out of all my terror.
- 5 Look upon him and be radiant, *
and let not your faces be ashamed.
- 6 I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me *
and saved me from all my troubles.
- 7 The angel of the Lord encompasses those who fear him, *
and he will deliver them.
- 8 Taste and see that the Lord is good; *
happy are they who trust in him!

The Gospel: Mark 10:46-52

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
Glorify to you, Lord 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 the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Christ

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; Keith; Marcus; Sokpha; Mike; Will; Judy; Marty; Ann; Marc; Francie; Sam; Pat; Becky; Susan; James; Drew; Jeff; the family of Michael Silver; We pray for all those affected by recent hurricanes; a just peace for Ukraine, and for those affected by the violence in Israel, Palestine and Lebanon. Please include your intercessions.*

Those who have died: *Michael Silver*

Offertory Anthem “Set me as a seal” René Clausen

Set me as a seal upon your heart,
as a seal upon your arm, for love is strong as death.
Many waters cannot quench love;
neither can the floods down it.

Song of Solomon 8:6

The Great Thanksgiving (page 5, booklet)

Communion Anthem “The King of Heaven his table spreads” Daniel Burton

The King of Heaven his table spreads, and blessings crown the board;
Not paradise, with all its joys, could such delight afford.

Millions of souls, in glory now, were fed and feasted here;
And millions more, still on the way, around the board appear.

Yet is his house and heart so large, that millions more may come;
Nor could the wide assembling world over fill the spacious room.

All things are ready, come away, nor weak excuses frame;
Crowd to your places at the feast; and bless the Founder’s Name.
Philip Doddridge

Announcements

Hymn 495 Hail, thou once despised Jesus!” *In Babilone*

Voluntary “Trumpet Tune in B-flat” Mark Shepperd

PARISH NOTICES

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. *This week's Gifts to the Table are given in memory of Margaret Gonzalez from a friend.*

YPF WILL HOLD THEIR FALL KICK-OFF SUNDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 27, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. at Ioka Valley Farm.

Next SUNDAY FUNDAY Nov 10th; gather in the Sears Room at 9:45 a.m.

RECYCLING SCHEDULE

Paper Toter Brendan Dillon

Cardboard-Home Paula Morey

THE THANKSGIVING ANGELS 2024 VOLUNTEER SIGN-UPS should be made through the Berkshire United Way website. They are still in need of monetary donations, too. Checks should be made out to Thanksgiving Angels. You may also donate through St. Stephen's website-pick Special Donations. Questions: contact Joan Evans, 413-822-0889.

BLOOMIN' 4 GOOD: THE DAN FOX DRIVE STOP & SHOP HAS ONCE AGAIN CHOSEN ST. STEPHEN'S TABLE! – All November purchases of the special bouquets will result in \$1 for Table.

FALL ADULT EDUCATION in the Sears Room at 9 a.m., *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again*, by Rachel Held Evans will be explored over 2 more sessions: Nov 3 and Nov 17. Please contact Craig Reynolds (cmreyn@gmail.com, 413-822-0248) with questions.



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.

THERE IS A NEW EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY GROUP FORMING IN THE BERKSHIRES! If you'd like to be a part of the group or simply want to know more, please contact Brett Roberts from St. Paul's, Stockbridge brett.roberts25@gmail.com.

MINSTERS OF THE CELEBRATION

CELEBRANT	5 p.m. & 10a.m.	The Rev. D. Nina R. Pooley
LECTORS	10 a.m.	Paula Morey, Donald Phipps
LECTOR	5 p.m.	Josie Ellis
LAY MINISTERS	10 a.m. .	Josie Ellis, David Nevin
LAY MINISTER	5 p.m..	Josie Ellis
ALTAR GUILD		Joan Evans (Chair) Sandy Soule
GREETERS		Craig & Christine Reynolds
VESTRY GREETER		Suzanne White
COFFEE HOUR		Cathy Carchedi, Dot Lambert

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TABLE SETTINGS

An Update on St. Stephen's Table

Volunteer Hours

Each month volunteers contribute more than 300 hours of service to support St. Stephen's Table. Some months, that figure approaches 400 hours.

Thank you!

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Office Hours: Tuesday-Thursday 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

Worship: Wednesday, October 30, 6:30 p.m. Compline;
Sunday November 3, 2024 10 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

WEEK'S PRAYER LIST

In our Parish prayers, *We pray for:* Ken E.; Tommie C; Keith C; Marcus B; Sokpha I; Mike E.; Will C.; Judy J.; Marty P; Ann M; Marc B; Francie H.; Sam; Pat; Becky; Susan C; James; Drew; Jeff S; The family of Michael Silver; Presiding Bishop Michael Curry; Presiding Bishop –elect Sean Rowe; We pray for all those affected by the recent hurricanes, just peace for Ukraine, and for those affected by the violence in Israel, Palestine and Lebanon

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:

Episcopal Church of the Atonement, Westfield;
“Believe OUT Loud” Congregations
St Stephen’s Table, Pittsfield
Episcopal Appalachian Ministries

In our Anglican cycle of prayer we pray for:

Sunday: Scottish Episcopal Church
Monday: Diocese of North Karamoja (Uganda)
Tuesday: Diocese of Karimnagar (South India)
Wednesday: Diocese of Karnataka Central (South India)
Thursday: Diocese of Karnataka North (South India)
Friday: Diocese of Karnataka South (South India)
Saturday; Diocese of Karongi (Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda)

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VESTRY

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

John Garinther Co-Warden
William O'Neill, Asst. Treasurer
Wendy W. Coakley
Chris Plankey
Caleb Harmon

Our Staff

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

Joy Mullen, Director of Music
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Sarah Morrison, Parish Administrator
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Dan Moon,
Director of St Stephen's Table
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Bert Boos, Office Assistant
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Weekday Sextons Ecuadorian Women's Co-op
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.