

First Sunday after the Epiphany
The Baptism of our Lord
Saturday January 10, 5 p.m. Sunday January 11, 10 a.m. 2026

Voluntary “Love divine, all loves excelling” David Cherwein

Hymn 432 “O praise ye the Lord!” *Laudate Dominum*

Opening Acclamation (*page 1 in the booklet*)

The Gloria *spoken (page 2 in the booklet)*

The Collect

Lord of the desert river, you search our depths and call us by name: may your flame-born Spirit open the heavens that we might recognize you in the one born of earth, Jesus Christ, the Gift of Peace. **Amen.**

First Lesson: Isaiah 42:1-9

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
He will not cry or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
a bruised reed he will not break,
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
He will not grow faint or be crushed
until he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the Lord,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it
and spirit to those who walk in it:
I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness,
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people,
a light to the nations,
to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

New to St. Stephen's? You will find helpful information on the back of this leaflet.

I am the Lord, that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to idols.
See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth,
I tell you of them.

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

Psalms 29 *(Please read responsively)*

Afferte Domino

- 1 Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, *
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; *
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders; *
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.
- 4 The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; *
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.
- 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; *
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
- 7 The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; *
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- 8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe *
and strips the forests bare.
- 9 And in the temple of the Lord *
all are crying, "Glory!"
- 10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; *
the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.
- 11 The Lord shall give strength to his people; *
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

The Gospel Matthew 3: 13-17

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley

Affirmation of Faith *(page 2 in the booklet)*

The Prayers of the People *(page 3 in the booklet)*

We also pray for: Ken, Keith, Marcus, Sokpba, Drew; Judy, Robertine, Steph, Paul, Craig, Glen, Thom, Mike, Jay, Linda, Evan, Haley, Eve, Ted, Sophia, Natasha, Philip, Stephen; Scott; Charley; David; Susan; Jane; Henry; Shirley; Todd; the family of Stephen Momron; the family of Michael Laurin; the family of Marjorie Cabill; a just peace for Ukraine, those affected by the violence in the Middle East and Sudan.

Those who have Died *Stephen Momron; Michael Laurin; Marjorie Cabill*

Confession *(page 5 in the booklet)*

Peace *(page 5 in booklet)*

Offertory Solo “Blessed are ye who live in faith” Johannes Brahms

The Great Thanksgiving *(page 6 in booklet)*

Fraction Anthem *spoken (page 8 in booklet)*

Communion Solo “I want to walk as a child of the light” Wayne Wold

Post Communion Prayer & Blessing

Announcements

Hymn 544

“Jesus shall reign”

Duke Street

Voluntary

“In thee is gladness”

J S Bach

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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 may be made by sending a donation to the church or through our website. On the website, select “Give,” to find the link to the online giving page. Select “St. Stephen’s Table from the Fund menu.

SNOW/INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY - Services at St. Stephen’s will be held as long as a celebrant or worship leader can get to the church safely. If a service is canceled, notification will be posted on the church website.

SUNDAY FUNDAY - today gather in the Sears Room 9:50 a.m., next meeting: January 25th.

IMMIGRATION INFORMATION SESSION SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 2:00 PM, TRINITY CHURCH, LENOX – a presentation on the dimensions of the problems faced by our local immigrant community and how we are called to help. Speakers will include Deacon Margot Page.

BENDING TOWARD JUSTICE, CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL - Worship and Service in honor of Dr. King, Monday, January 19, 2026, Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m. In preparation you are asked to commit to action, service or advocacy the week before or after January 19.

BASIC BRUNCH JANUARY 25 AFTER WORSHIP– Join your fellow parishioners for a potluck brunch in the Dining Room.

ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE TUESDAY, JANUARY 29 – email to smorrison@ststephenspittsfield.org,

**THE ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY,
FEBRUARY 8, 2025, DURING THE 10:00 AM SERVICE.**

(Snow Date: February 15)



GIVING TO ST. STEPHEN'S IS EASY – Scan the QR code to find our giving form, or text “giveststephens\$youramount” to 7325(example: giveststephens\$25 will donate \$25.) Google Pay accepted. Message and data rates may apply. Message frequency varies. Text HELP to 73256 for help. Text STOP to 73256 to cancel.

Bottles/Cans Toter- John Garinther	Carboard-Breakdown-Jennifer Townsend
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MINISTERS OF THE CELEBRATION

CELEBRANT	5p.m.	The Rev. David DeSmith
LECTOR	5p.m.	Jim Alden
LAY MINISTER	5p.m.	Jim Alden
CELEBRANT		The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley
LECTORS		Dan Moon, William Frazier
LAY MINISTERS		Christine Furcinite-Reynolds, Angie Moon
ALTAR GUILD		David Nevin
GREETERS		Claudia Curry, Sue Tourigny
VESTRY GREETER		Chris Perry
CRUCIFER		Anne Williams

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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

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

Worship: Compline: Wednesday, January 14, 6:30 p.m., Zoom
Sunday, January 18, 10 a.m.

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

Meetings: AA: Friday at 6:30 p.m.; Saturday at 10:00 a.m. NA: Saturday, 6:30 p.m. Dining Room

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER LIST

In our Parish prayers, we pray for: Ken E.; Keith C.; Marcus; Sokpha; Drew; Steph M.; Robertine M.; Judy; Paul A.; Craig S.; Glen M.; Mike E.; Thom S.; Jay G.; Linda H.; Evan C.; Haley; Eve; Ted K.; Sophia; Sue C.; Natasha L.; Philip R.; David J.; Stephen L.; Scott E.; Charley S.; Susan W.; Jane M.; Henry; Shirley; Todd G.; the family of Stephen Momrow; the family of Michael Laurin; the family of Marjorie Cahill; a just peace for Ukraine, those affected by the violence in the Middle East and Sudan.

We pray for 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 Christian Center
Congregation of Knesset Israel
Temple Anshe Amunim
The Supreme Court

In Our Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for:

Grace Episcopal, Amherst;
Building Bridges Veterans Initiative
The House of Bishops

In our Anglican cycle of prayer we pray for:

Sunday Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America
Monday: Diocese of (Sodor and Man (England)
Tuesday Diocese of Sokoto (Nigeria)
Wednesday Diocese of Central Solomons (Melanesia)
Thursday: Diocese of Soroti (Uganda)
Friday: Diocese of Southwark (England)
Saturday: Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham (England)

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

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VESTRY

John Garinther, Co-Warden
J. Christopher Perry, Treasurer
James Alden
James Brennan
Leah Luczynski
Christine Furcinite-Reynolds

David Nevin, Co-Warden
Christopher Plankey, Clerk
Al Symonds, Asst. Treasurer
Caleb Dillon Harmon
William Morey

Our Staff

The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley, Rector
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Joy Mullen, Director of Music
jmullen@ststephenspittsfield.org

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

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.

Collection Plates are located at each entrance. All gifts gratefully accepted.

Restrooms are located in our Parish House: Exit the sanctuary via the doors on either side of the altar, follow the signs.