

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.

Last Sunday after Epiphany

Saturday February 14, 5 p.m. Sunday February 15, 2025 10:00 a.m.

Voluntary "Rondo Espressivo" from *Sonata in B Minor*

Hymn 460 "Alleluia! sing to Jesus!" (*stanzas 1-3*) *Hyfrydol*

Welcome

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

A Collect

Friend of Moses, strength of Elijah, you go with your people and give them your Spirit: may the Child of your heart transfigure the moral world, so that love may know no bounds; through Jesus Christ, the beloved one. **Amen.**

First Lesson: Exodus 24:12-18

The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

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

Psalm 99 (*please read responsively*) *Dominus regnavit*

1 The Lord is King;
let the people tremble; *
he is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake.

2 The Lord is great in Zion; *
he is high above all peoples.

3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *
he is the Holy One.

4 "O mighty King, lover of justice,
you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."

5 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and fall down before his footstool; *
he is the Holy One.

6 Moses and Aaron among his priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, *
they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.

7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.

8 O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; *
**you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds.**

9 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and worship him upon his holy hill; *
for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

The Gospel Matthew 17: 1-9

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Christ

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

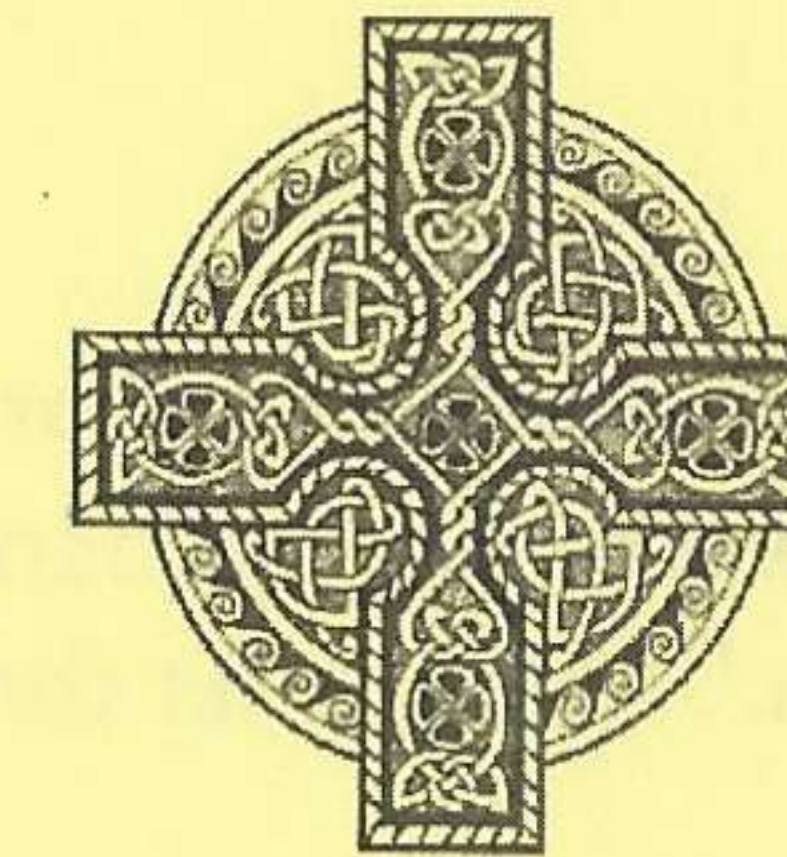
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VESTRY

John Garinther, Co-Warden
J. Christopher Perry, Treasurer
James Brennan
Caleb Dillon-Harmon
Leah Luczynski
Anne Williams

David Nevin, Co-Warden
Christopher Plankey, Clerk
Al Symonds, Asst. Treasurer
Christine Furcinite-Reynolds
William Morey

Our Staff

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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

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER LIST

In our Parish prayers, we pray for: Ken, Keith, Marcus, Drew, Robertine, Paul, Glen, Thom, Ted, Scott, Charley, Henry, Shirley, Bill; Natasha; Philip; Sue; Mike; a just peace for Ukraine; those affected by the violence in Minneapolis, the Middle East; Sudan, Venezuela and Iran.

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

Local Food Programs

Pittsfield City Government

The Governor of Massachusetts

In Our Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for:

St. Mark's, East Long Meadow;

Lawrence House Service Corps Church Periodical Club;

The Episcopal Church and Visual Arts

In our Anglican cycle of prayer we pray for:

Sunday: Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean

Monday Diocese of Tennessee (The Episcopal Church)

Tuesday Diocese of East Tennessee (The Episcopal Church)

Wednesday Diocese of West Tennessee (The Episcopal Church)

Thursday: Diocese of Terekeka (South Sudan)

Friday: The Territory of the People (Canada)

Saturday: Missionary Diocese of Tete (Igreja Anglicana de Mocambique e Angola)

Sermon

Mr. Craig Reynolds

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, Drew, Robertine, Paul, Glen, Thom, Ted, Scott, Charley, Henry, Shirley, Bill; Natasha; Philip; Sue; Mike; a just peace for Ukraine; those affected by the violence in Minneapolis, the Middle East; Sudan, Venezuela and Iran.

Confession (page 5 in the booklet)

Peace (page 5 in the booklet)

Offertory Solo "Prelude in C Major"

J.S. Bach

The Great Thanksgiving (page 6 in booklet)

Sanctus spoken by all

Fraction Anthem spoken responsively

Communion Solo "Reflection"

R. Lovland

Post Communion Prayer (page 9 in the booklet)

Blessing

Announcements

Hymn 135 "Songs of thankfulness and praise"

Salzburg

Voluntary "Allegro" from *Symphony No. IV*

William Boyce

†††

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.

SUNDAY FUNDAY – February 22, gather in the Sears Room at 9:50 a.m.

ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18 – Ashes to Go on Allen St., noon-2:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. worship in the sanctuary.

BASIC BRUNCH SUNDAY FEBRUARY 22 IN THE DINING ROOM

after the 10 AM worship service. Please bring a dish to share or just your smile and scintillating conversation and enjoy a meal in fellowship with your St. Stephen's friends. The kitchen will be open before church for food drop-off. Sign-up in the Allen St. lobby or Narthex.

DIOCESAN LENTEN BOOK CONVERSATION *For Such A Time As This "An Emergency Devotional"* by Hanna Reichel, Thursdays in March on Zoom from 7-8 PM. Rev. Nina & Deacon Margot will facilitate. March 5, 12, 19 & 26. The Zoom link may be found in the weekly email or contact the office. Books may be purchased online. Please contact the office if you need help acquiring the book.

2026 CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATES REQUESTED – Please send new emails, phone numbers, address etc. to the church office.

WELCOME DEBORAH DUFF, GUEST PIANIST, for the next two weeks.

ANNUAL REPORTS are available outside the chapel or on the church website.



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.

MINISTERS OF THE CELEBRATION

CELEBRANT 5 p.m.	The Rev. William Loutrel
LECTOR 5 p.m.	Dan Moon
LAY MINISTER 5 p.m.	Dan Moon
CELEBRANT	The Rev. Dr. Nina Pooley
PREACHER	Craig Reynolds
LECTORS	Nancy Travis, Renee Kaley
LAY MINISTERS	Jim Alden, David Nevin
ALTAR GUILD	David Nevin, Jim Alden
GREETERS	Diane Forsyth, Andrea Stasiowski
VESTRY GREETER	Bill Morey
CRUCIFER	Melissa Patnode
PIANO	Deborah Duff

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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

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

Worship: Ashes to Go: Wednesday, February 18, Noon – 2:00 p.m., Ash Wednesday service 6:00 p.m.; Sunday, February 22, 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