

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**  
**Saturday April 25, 5:00 p.m. and April 26, 2026, 10:00 a.m.**

**Voluntary**                                    “Here I am Lord”                                    Robert Farlee

**Hymn 204**                                    “Now the green blade riseth”                                    *Noël Nouwelet*

**Welcome**

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

**Collect**

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**First Lesson:** Acts 2: 42-47

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People

**Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 23**                                    *(please read responsively)*                                    *Dominus regit me*

1 The Lord is my shepherd; \*

**I shall not be in want.**

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures \*

**and leads me beside still waters.**

3 He revives my soul \*

**and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.**

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

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I shall fear no evil; \*  
**for you are with me;**  
**your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; \*  
**you have anointed my head with oil,**  
**and my cup is running over.**

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \*  
**and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

**The Gospel** John 10: 1-10

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

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

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

**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, Bill; Natasha; Sue; Mike; Don; Pat; Jason; Heather; Mary Evan the family of Michael Miller; the family of Don Fillio; just peace for Ukraine; those affected by the violence in the Middle East and Sudan.*

*Those who have died: Michael Miller; Don Fillio (father of Amanda Watroba)*

|                               |   |  |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Confession</b>             | <i>(page 4 in the booklet)</i>  |  |
| <b>Peace</b>                  | <i>(page 5 in the booklet)</i><br><i>(Collection Plates are located at each Entrance)</i> |  |
| <b>Offertory Solo</b>         | “The Lord is my shepherd”   | Samuel Liddle                                |
| <b>The Great Thanksgiving</b> | <i>(page 5 in booklet)</i>  |  |
| <b>Sanctus</b>                | <i>(Sung)</i>   |  |
| <b>Fraction Anthem</b>        | <i>(Sung)</i>   |  |
| <b>Communion Solo</b>         | “Give me Jesus”   | <i>Traditional Spiritual/</i><br>Moses Hogan |
| <b>Post Communion Prayer</b>  | <i>(page 8 in the booklet)</i>  |  |
| <b>Blessing</b>               |   |  |
| <b>Announcements</b>          |   |  |
| <b>Hymn 708</b>               | “Savior, like a shepherd lead us”   | <i>Sicilian Mariners</i>                     |
| <b>Voluntary</b>              | “Trumpet Tune”  | Edward Lasky                                 |

† † †

## 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** – today, gather in the Sears Room at 9:50 a.m.

**WATCH OR RE-WATCH THE CONSECRATION OF BISHOP MIGUELINA HOWELL** anytime on the YouTube channel "Diocese of Western Massachusetts."

**YOU'RE INVITED TO CELEBRATE WORLD LABYRINTH DAY AT ST. STEPHEN'S** – Saturday, May 2 from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m..

All around the globe people will be walking a labyrinth between 11am-1pm in their local time zone creating a wave of meditation around the world. It is an opportunity to quiet our mind, listen to our breath, and open our hearts as we pray for peace on a global scale and celebrate connection. St. Stephen's is home to a Chartres-style labyrinth located in the auditorium on the second floor. If you have questions or are interested in a labyrinth practice, ask Anne Williams.



**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.

Paper Toter –Roy Sutton

Cardboard - Home – Chris Plankey

## MINISTERS OF THE CELEBRATION

|                |         |  |
|----------------|---------|--|
| CELEBRANT      | 5 p.m.  | The Rev. Bill Loutrel                        |
| LECTOR         | 5 p.m.  | Angie Moon                                   |
| LAY MINISTER   | 5 p.m.  | Angie Moon                                   |
| CELEBRANT      | 10 a.m. | The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley                  |
| PREACHER       | 10 a.m. | Craig Reynolds                               |
| LECTORS        | 10 a.m. | Paula Morey, Renee Kaley                     |
| LAY MINISTERS  | 10 a.m. | Al Symonds, Lois Symonds                     |
| ALTAR GUILD    | 10 a.m. | David Nevin, Jim Alden                       |
| GREETERS       | 10 a.m. | Craig Reynolds, Christine Furcinite-Reynolds |
| VESTRY GREETER | 10 a.m. | Christine Furcinite-Reynolds                 |
| CRUCIFER       |         | Jim Brennan                                  |
| SOLOIST        |         | Sarah Novak, <i>soprano</i>                  |
| COFFEE HOUR    |         | Marie and Roy Sutton                         |

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## THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

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

*Worship:* Compline: Wednesday April 29, 6:30 p.m. , Zoom  
Sunday May 3, 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, Keith, Marcus, Drew, Robertine, Paul, Glen, Thom, Ted, Scott, Charley, Bill; Natasha; Sue; Mike; Don; Pat; Jason; Heather; Mary; Evan; the family of Michael Miller; the family of Don Fillio; just peace for Ukraine; those affected by the violence in the Middle East and Sudan.

***Those who have died:*** Michael Miller; Don Fillio;

***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 Elizabeth Freeman Center  
Pittsfield Area Council of Congregations  
Members of Congress

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

Trinity Church, Lenox;  
The Rt. Rev. Miguelina Howell;  
Social Justice Commission  
Episcopal Youth Event (EYE)  
The Society for Increase the Ministry (SIM)

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

Sunday: Church Nigeria  
Monday Diocese of Windward Islands (West Indies)  
Tuesday Diocese of Wondurba (South Sudan)  
Wednesday Diocese of Worcester (England)  
Thursday: Diocese of Wulu (South Sudan)  
Friday: Diocese of Wusasa (Nigeria)  
Saturday: Diocese of Wyoming (The Episcopal Church)

## **St. Stephen's Episcopal Church**

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413-448-8276

mail@ststephenspittsfield.org (e-mail)

ststephenspittsfieldnews@gmail.com (news items)

www.ststephenspittsfield.org



### **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**

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

Sarah Morrison, Parish Administrator  
smorrison@ststephenspittsfield.org

Bert Boos, Office Assistant  
bboos@ststephensfield.org

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.