Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Saturday November 14, 5p.m. Sunday November 15, 2026 10a.m.

Voluntary "Ascend" Sandra Eithun

Hymn 556 "Rejoice, ye pure in heart" *Marion*

Welcome

The Opening Acclamation *(page1 in the booklet)*

Collect
Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

First Lesson Judges 4:1-7
The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

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

Psalm 123 (*Please read responsively)* *Ad te levavi oculos meos*
1 To you I lift up my eyes, *
to you enthroned in the heavens.

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

2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, *
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,

3 So our eyes look to the Lord our God, *
until he show us his mercy.

4 Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy, *
for we have had more than enough of contempt,

5 Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, *
and of the derision of the proud.

The Gospel Matthew 25: 14-30
The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw

him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Christ

Sermon The Rev. David DeSmith
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, Robertine, Paul, Glen, Ted, Charley, Craig; Natasha; Sue; Mike; Don; Heather; Caleb; Angelo; Linda; Sharon; Julie; Penny; Jay; Will; Tammy; Leona; Pat; Susan; a just peace for Ukraine; those affected by the violence in the Middle East and Sudan.

Confession *(page 4 in the booklet)*

Peace *(page 5 in the booklet)*
(Collection Plates are located at each Entrance)

Offertory Anthem "Unto the hills" Malcolm Archer

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills,
From whence cometh my help.
My help cometh even from the Lord,
Who hath made heaven and earth.

He will not suffer thy foot to be moved
And he that keepeth thee will not sleep.
Behold, he that keepeth Israel
Shall neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord himself is thy keeper,
The Lord is thy defense upon thy right hand.
So that the sun shall not burn thee by day,
Neither the moon by night.

The Lord himself is thy keeper,
The Lord is thy defense upon thy right hand.
The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil.
Yea, it is he, even he that shall keep thy soul.

Psalm 121

The Great Thanksgiving *(page 5 in booklet)*

Sanctus *(Sung by all)* *(page 6 in the booklet)*

The Fraction *(Sung by all)"* *(page 8 in the booklet)*

Communion Anthem "Grazioso" Arnold Sherman

Post Communion Prayer *(page 9 in the booklet)*

Blessing

Announcements

Hymn 707 "Take my life, and let it be" *Hollingside*

Voluntary "Finale in F" Dom Moore

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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.

SHARING OUR PLENTY! What does it mean to give freely and with joy? To whom do we give and why? As we ponder these questions as stewards of God's abundance, how might giving express itself? We are grateful to Cathy Carchedi for exploring these questions with us in her remarks today.

In addition to thinking about your pledge, you are invited to donate warm winter clothing to congregants at the Cathedral of the Beloved. As a reminder, collection bins and baskets for donations to the Cathedral of the Beloved, as well as to The First and St. Stephen's Table can be found in the narthex and in the back hallway next to the office. For more information, please refer to the Sharing Our Plenty brochure included in your bulletin.

ST. STEPHEN'S TABLE - Since the start of the year St Stephens Table has served 11,537 people. During October 1,171 meals were served and the average meals served per day was 146. Your generous support makes a difference to hundreds of our neighbors each week.

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 –November 22, Children in Kindergarten through 4th grade gather before the 10:00 a.m. Service in the Sears Room.
SEND-OFF FOR SARAH - We're planning a potluck lunch in our dining room after the service on Sunday, Nov 22. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Allen St foyer. You can drop food off in the dining room before the service, and we'll keep it warm/cold!

THANKSGIVING ANGELS – Once again we're collecting funds for our neighbors in need so they may have a healthy home cooked Thanksgiving meal. You may donate directly, Thanksgiving Angels has a website with donation information, or through St. Stephen's. Be sure to include a note with your donation so the office knows to direct it to Thanksgiving Angels.

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

Bottles/Cans Toter - John Garinther Cardboard-Breakdown – Mark Miller

THIS WEEK"S SCHEDULE

Office Hours: Tuesday – Thursday, 9 a.m.– 4 p.m.
Worship: Compline: Wed. November 18, 6:30 p.m. Zoom,
Sunday November 22, 2026 10a.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 DR

MINISTERS OF THE CELEBRATION

CELEBRANT 5p.m.	The Rev. David DeSmith
LECTOR 5p.m.	Dan Moon
LAY MINISTER 5p.m.	Dan Moon
HEALING PRAYERS 5p.m.	Debbie Stillman, J.D Hebert
CELEBRANT	Rev. Nina R. Pooley
LECTORS	Renee Kaley, Nancy Travis
LAY MINISTERS	Lois Symonds, Al Symonds
ALTAR GUILD	Claudia Curry, Jim Brennan
GREETERS	Andrea Stasioski, Sue Tourigny
VESTRY GREETER	Chris Plankey
CRUCIFER	Anne Williams

ST. STEPHEN'S HANDBELL RINGERS

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THIS WEEK'S PRAYER LIST

In our Parish prayers, we pray for: Ken, Keith, Marcus, Robertine, Paul, Glen, Ted, Charley, Craig; Bill; Sue; Natasha; Mike; Don; Pat; Mary; Heather; Caleb; Angelo; Linda; Jay Sharon; Julie; Penny; Will; Tammy: Susan; Leona; Pat; Susan; 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

Our Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for:
St. John's, Williamstown;
Inquirers, Postulants and Seminarians
Tough Love, Amherst;
Bishops' Executives Secretaries Together (B+E+S+T)

In our Anglican cycle of prayer we pray for:
Sunday: lglesia Anglicana de Chile
Monday: Diocese of Chichester (England)
Tuesday Diocese of Chotanagpur (North India)
Wednesday: Diocese of Christ the King(lgreja Anglicana de Mocambique e Angola)
Thursday: Diocese of Christ the King (Southern Africa)
Friday: Diocese of Christchurch (Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia)
Saturday: Diocese of Chubu (The Nippon Sei Ko Kai)

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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

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

Joy Mullen, Director of Music
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Sukeigh Sukiennik, Parish Administrator
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Dan Moon,
Director of St Stephen's Table
dmoon@pittsfield.net

Bert Boos, Office Assistant
bboos@ststephensfield.org

Weekday Sextons – Ecuadorian Women's Co-op
Sunday Sexton Roy Stillman

The Diocese of Western Massachusetts
The Rt. Rev. Miguelina Howell
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.