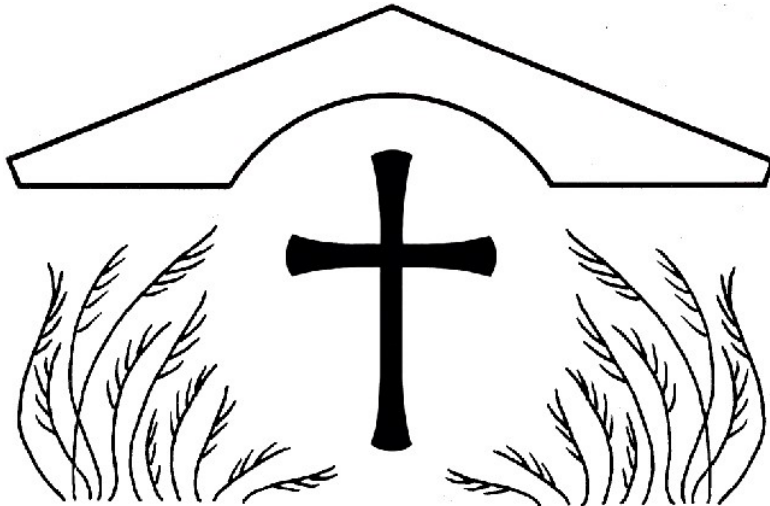


ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 19, 2021



Ministers

Rector

Deacon

Senior Warden

Junior Warden

Minister of Music

Admin. Assistant

The People of the Parish

The Rev. Christy Laborda Harris

The Rev. Kate Sefton

Elizabeth Herold

Meg Nalley

Miles McKenzie

Jessica Venezia

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Gathering of the Community

PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL

Come and Fill Our Hearts with Peace

please stand

**Come and fill our hearts with peace,
Come and fill our hearts with love,
Come and fill our hearts with peace,
Fill our hearts with peace and love.**

**Come and fill our hearts with peace,
Come and fill our hearts with love,
Come and fill our hearts with peace and love.**

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Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE

Open my Heart

Ana Hernandez

Open my heart, open my heart!

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The Service of the Word

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

God, who draws near, who comes to our level, whose nature is revealed in lordship laid aside: give us grace to welcome you in the one who tests the bounds of our community: in the child, the outcast, the one who comes with no power save that of remaking our heart; through Jesus Christ, the one who will be betrayed. **Amen.**

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF JEREMIAH (11:18-20)

please be seated

It was the Lord who made it known to me, and I knew;
then you showed me their evil deeds.

But I was like a gentle lamb
led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me
that they devised schemes, saying,

"Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
so that his name will no longer be remembered!"

But you, O Lord of hosts, who judge righteously,
who try the heart and the mind,
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

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

PSALM 54

- 1 **Save me, O God, by your Name; *
in your might, defend my cause.**
- 2 **Hear my prayer, O God; *
give ear to the words of my mouth.**
- 3 **For the arrogant have risen up against me,
and the ruthless have sought my life, *
those who have no regard for God.**
- 4 **Behold, God is my helper; *
it is God who sustains my life.**
- 5 **Render evil to those who spy on me; *
in your faithfulness, destroy them.**
- 6 **will offer you a freewill sacrifice *
and praise your Name, O God, for it is good.**
- 7 **For you have rescued me from every trouble, *
and my eye has seen the ruin of my foes.**

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GOSPEL READING

Mark 9:30-37

please stand

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus and his disciples passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON

The Rev. Kate Sefton

please be seated

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN

Hope be in my Heart

please stand

**Hope be in my heart,
Strength be in my soul,
Peace be in my prayer,
And love be in my life.**

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop Megan; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church. For what else do you pray?

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace. For what else do you pray?

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble. For what else do you pray?

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God. Pray that they may find and be found by God. For what else do you pray?

I ask your prayers for the departed, especially... Pray for those who have died. For whom do you pray?

I ask your prayers for the sick and all who face challenge or hardship, especially... For whom do you pray?

I ask your thanksgiving for all the blessings of this life especially... For what do you give thanks?

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

CONFESSION

Let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

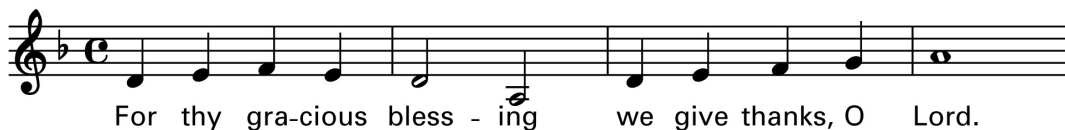
Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

For Thy Gracious Blessing



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*The offering plate can be found on the table
in front of the sanctuary doors.*

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A - *The Book of Common Prayer*

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

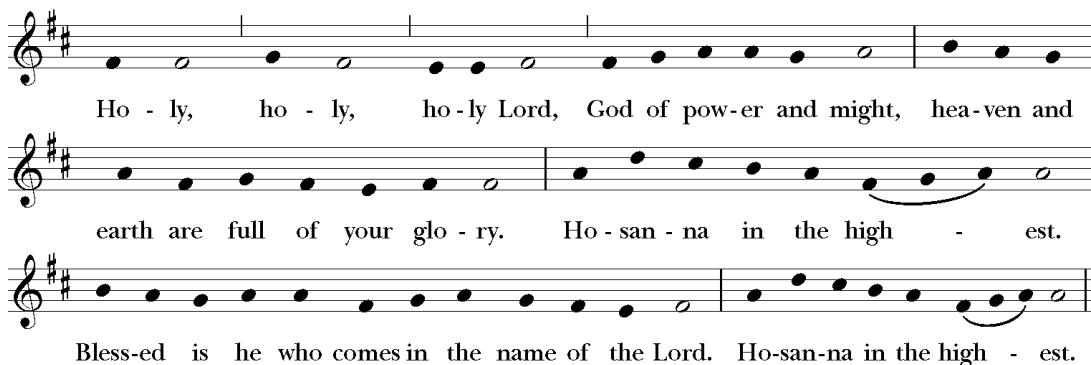
People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



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Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

As our savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION HYMN

God of Mercy

**God of mercy and forgiveness,
God who heals the broken heart,
Deepest source of all our longing:
Keep us near to you, close to your heart.**

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POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of God's Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia. Alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.



1 We are ___ a part of all cre - a - tion,
 2 We are ___ a part of ev - 'ry per - son,
 3 We are ___ a part of God's cre - a - tion,
 4 We are ___ a part of all cre - a - tion



all of ___ cre - a - tion sings in us, earth and sea and
 all of ___ the peo - ples sing in us, one our jour - ney,
 God is ___ the voice that sings in us, be our jour - ney,
 giv - en ___ the breath of life to share all the glo - ry



sky and crea - tures, join in ___ the dance of life and love.
 one our path - way, one in ___ the dance of life and love.
 be our path - way, come be ___ our dance of life and love.
 of our Mak - er with ev - 'ry per - son ev - 'ry - where.



All of ___ cre-a - tion, one o - ha-na,* All of ___ cre-a - tion sings in you;



Ma-ny ___ the voic-es, one great mu-sic, part of me ___ and part of



you. ___ you; part of me ___ and part of you. ___

*ohana = great family

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For a Birthday

Watch over thy child(ren), O Lord, as *their* days increase; bless and guide *them* wherever *they* may be. Strengthen *them* when *they* stand; comfort *them* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *them* up if *they* fall; and in *their* heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of *their* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For an Anniversary

Almighty God, Giver of life and love: Bless those whom You have joined in holy matrimony. Grant them wisdom and devotion in the ordering of their life together, that each may be to the other a strength in need, a counselor in perplexity, a comfort in sorrow, and a companion in joy. And so knit their wills together in Your Will, and their spirits in Your Spirit, that they may show forth Your Love and abide in Your Peace all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.