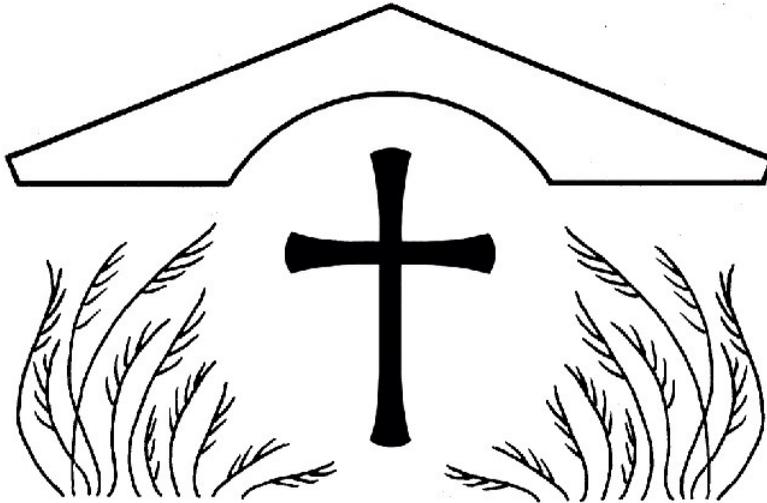


# ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

July 31, 2022



Ministers

Rector

Deacon

Senior Warden

Junior Warden

Minister of Music

Cantor

The People of the Parish

The Rev. Christy Laborda Harris

The Rev. Kate Sefton

Marshall Ward

Meg Nalley

Miles McKenzie

Kristina Ibarra

## The Gathering of the Community

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Heart of God

*please stand*

**We are gathered here to open ourselves to the heart of God  
We are gathered here to empty ourselves and find God's heart within**

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Presider In the name of God: Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life.  
People **Amen.**  
Presider Grace to you and peace from God our Creator, the love at our beginning and without end, in our midst and with us.  
People **God is with us, here we find new life.**

God of unchangeable power, when you fashioned the world the morning stars sang together and the host of heaven shouted for joy; open our eyes to the wonders of creation and teach us to use all things for good, to the honor of your glorious name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE

Clearly Love

**Clearly love is born in my heart  
Born in my heart again  
Clearly love is born in my heart  
Born in my heart again**

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## The Liturgy of the Word

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.  
People **And also with you.**  
Presider Let us pray.

Lord of abundance, you demand our life entire and whole: lead us out from prisons of greed to a place of riches uncontained and always new; through Jesus Christ, our common wealth.  
**Amen.**

Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me -- and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 49:1-11

- 1 **Hear this, all you peoples; hearken, all you who dwell in the world, \*  
you of high degree and low, rich and poor together.**
- 2 **My mouth shall speak of wisdom, \*  
and my heart shall meditate on understanding.**
- 3 **I will incline my ear to a proverb \*  
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.**
- 4 **Why should I be afraid in evil days, \*  
when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,**
- 5 **The wickedness of those who put their trust in their goods, \*  
and boast of their great riches?**

- 6 We can never ransom ourselves, \*  
or deliver to God the price of our life;
- 7 For the ransom of our life is so great, \*  
that we should never have enough to pay it,
- 8 In order to live for ever and ever, \*  
and never see the grave.
- 9 For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish \*  
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.
- 10 Their graves shall be their homes for ever,  
their dwelling places from generation to generation, \*  
though they call the lands after their own names.
- 11 Even though honored, they cannot live for ever; \*  
they are like the beasts that perish.

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GOSPEL READING

Luke 12:13-21

*please stand*

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

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

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

SERMON

The Rev. Rod McAulay

*please be seated*

*A period of silent reflection follows the sermon*

HYMN

Love Lights the Candle

*please stand*

**Come when you're able  
Love lights the candle  
Peace lays the table  
And our hope survives  
Join us there, join us there, join us there, join us there**

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We give you thanks and praise, O God of creation, for the grandeur of all that you have made, saying: **We thank you, God.**

For the healing waters of creation, which bring pleasure and health, purity and life, **We thank you, God.**

For the richness of the good Earth that brings forth fruits and flowers, a pleasure to taste and a joy to behold, **We thank you, God.**

For the soaring birds of the air, the crawling creatures on the Earth, the gliding fishes in the seas, for all creatures great and small with whom we share this precious web of life, **We thank you, God.**

For the invigorating sunlight of day, the deepening mystery of night, the wonder of the stars, and the call of the unknown in the universe, **We thank you, God.**

From heedless misuse and dishonoring of the wonders of your hand, **Good Lord deliver us.**

From squandering resources, abusing our companion species, and polluting the habitat we all share, **Good Lord deliver us.**

From the folly of imagining ourselves free from the fate of your whole creation, **Good Lord deliver us.**

For the courage and wisdom to confess how little we have cared for your gifts,  
**Strengthen us, O Spirit.**

For the conviction that you have called us to love and restore the Earth,  
**Strengthen us, O Spirit.**

For repentance and the determination to begin our stewardship anew,  
**Strengthen us, O Spirit.**

We pray for those who seek healing, especially...

We pray for those we love but see no longer, especially...

O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

#### CONFESSION

Let us confess our sin against God and God's creation.

**Holy and merciful God,  
we confess that we have failed to honor you  
by rightly claiming our kinship with all your creatures.  
We have walked heavily on your earth,  
overused and wasted its resources,  
taken for granted its beauty and abundance,  
and treated its inhabitants unjustly,  
holding future generations hostage to our greed.  
Have mercy on us and forgive us our sin.  
Renew in us the resolve to tend and keep your earth  
as you desire and intend,  
with grateful and compassionate hearts,  
through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

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

## THE PEACE

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

*You are invited to pass the peace  
distanced and respectfully.*

## The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY HYMN

Veo la luz

*please be seated*

**Veo la luz, la luz, la luz  
Veo la luz, la luz, la luz  
Veo la luz de Cristo, en ti y en mi  
Veo la luz de Cristo, en ti y en mi**

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OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Give Thanks

*please stand*

**This is the day the Lord has made  
Earth and air and fire and water sing.  
Give thanks. Give honor and glory.  
Give thanks, for this life is Holy.**

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EUCHARISTIC PRAYER—*From the Anglican Church of Southern Africa*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to God.**

Let us praise and magnify the God of all of Creation.

**We sing to the Creator with songs of creation.**

Let us give thanks to God, Creator, Lover, and Sustainer of the universe.

**Let us rejoice in our Maker, Sustainer and Reconciler.**

You spoke the Word and all that is in heaven and on the earth, all things, came to be. Your Spirit hovered over the primal elements, and you brought forth life in forms innumerable, including this our fragile earth, and we amongst its inhabitants.

As our past is in you, so our hope for the future rests with you. As we have turned from your way, so we turn again to the warmth of your love. Through you all things are brought to new life.

And now we give you thanks for the glories of your creation given into our care, and for the opportunities we have to share that richness with all your people.

And so with the wonders of creation and the songs of praise of all your creatures both in heaven and on earth we praise you now and for ever saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power, of power and might,  
Heaven and Earth are full of your glory, (2x)**

**Hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed is He who comes  
In the name of the Lord. (2x)**

On the night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, work of human hands, gift of our earth, and gave thanks to God. He broke the bread to speak to us of the breaking of his body upon the cross. He gave it to his friends and said: Take and eat, for this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

He took the wine, work of human hands, gift of our earth, and gave thanks to God, Creator. He poured out the wine to speak to us of the pouring out of his blood. He gave it to his friends saying: This is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you and for all creation for the forgiveness of sins. Every time you drink of the wine, do this in remembrance of me.

So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ has risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Therefore God, we who seek your reconciliation; we who need reconciliation one with another; we who hope for reconciliation with all creation, draw close to this mystery. In being broken, spilt and buried, life sprang forth again. In the breaking, there is an opening up; in the spilling, there are the roots of sharing; in death and burial, there is the seed of the new life to come.

As we look in our world, in our lives, and in our hearts, for his second coming, keep us close to this vision that we have seen. Through the giving of the bread and wine, reconcile us to our world and give us the broken oneness, the spilt unity, and the buried resurrection by which we can restore your creation and fulfill your will.

Send upon us, and upon all your creation, the life giving Spirit who first moved upon the waters of the deep. Stir in us the creative and redeem the destructive. Unite us with you through the body and blood of your Son, your Word made flesh as your Word has made flesh.

By whom, and with whom and in whom, in the unity of your Creative Spirit, with all that has been, is, and will be in your universe, we stand before you and worship you, God of all, in songs of everlasting praise,

**Blessing and honor and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As Jesus taught, 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

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*All are welcome at the Lord's table. You are invited to come forward when the ushers indicate. Please extend your hands together to receive the bread. If you are gluten free, please let us know. If you prefer a blessing, please cross your arms across your chest. If you would like your bread intincted (dipped in the chalice) please let the clergy person with the bread know before the bread is handed to you. It will be intincted for you and handed to you. We are no longer able to allow you to intinct the bread yourself nor are we able to place it in your mouth. Alternately, you may sip directly from the chalice or choose to receive the bread only.*

## COMMUNION HYMN

## Green Pastures

**In green pastures I lie down.  
By still waters I lie down.  
Your love restores my soul  
Your love restores my soul**

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## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*please stand*

Most loving God, Creator and Redeemer, we give you thanks for this foretaste of your glory.

**Through Christ, and with all your saints, we offer ourselves and our lives to your service. Send us out in the power of your Spirit, to stand with you in your world. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the servant, our friend and brother. Amen.**

## BLESSING

The blessing of the Creator God, the Eternal Father, the Risen Son and the Promised Holy Spirit be upon you, that you might be a blessing to others today and always. **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## DISMISSAL

*please stand*

Go out into the world rejoicing, and encounter the Creator who waits to meet you there; savor creation's richness and diversity and live as those who praise God for its bounty. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**My sisters, my brothers**

**Oh kindred ones.**

**See who you are and become who you see**

**See who you are and become who you see**

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*For a Birthday*

Watch over thy child(ren), O Lord, as *his* days increase; bless and guide *him* wherever *he* may be. Strengthen *him* when *he* stand(s); comfort *him* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *him* up if *he* fall(s); and in *his* heart(s) may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of *his* 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.