

Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church

228 Halifax Street, Petersburg, Virginia 23803

The Reverend Father Willis R. Foster, Sr., Rector

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 11, 2018

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

The Opening Acclamation	Page 355
*The Collect for Purity	Page 355
*The Gloria	Page 356

*The Collect for the Day

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

1 Kings 17:8-16

*C. Dickens

The word of the Lord came to Elijah, saying, "Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you." So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink." As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in your

hand.” But she said, “As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.” Elijah said to her, “Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. For thus says the Lord the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth.” She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

Psalm 146

*C. Dickens

1 Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord, O my soul! *

I will praise the Lord as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

2 Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, *
for there is no help in them.

3 When they breathe their last, they return to earth, *
and in that day their thoughts perish.

4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! *
whose hope is in the Lord their God;

5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; *
who keeps his promise for ever;

6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, *
and food to those who hunger.

7 The Lord sets the prisoners free;
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; *
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

8 The Lord loves the righteous;
the Lord cares for the stranger; *
he sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the wicked.

9 The Lord shall reign for ever, *
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Hallelujah!

Hebrews 9:24-28

*S. Garner

Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

The Holy Gospel

Mark 12:38-44

As Jesus taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

*The Sermon

Father Foster

*The Nicene Creed

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Prayers of the People

*S. Garner

LEADER In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
For the Church of God, that we may be filled with love, generosity
and truth so to transform our communities and our world;

PEOPLE **May your transforming Spirit guide us.**

LEADER For the leaders of our nation, and the leaders of all
nations;

PEOPLE May your transforming Spirit give them compassion and good judgment, and guide them in the ways of justice and peace.

LEADER For all who hold authority in your Church, that they may know you and humbly teach in your light;

PEOPLE May your transforming Spirit inspire them with creativity, renew their energy, and fill them with wisdom and love.

LEADER For blessings on all of our human endeavors, and for the just and proper use of the beauty and abundance of creation;

PEOPLE May your Spirit of transformation guide us in freeing your world from poverty, famine and oppression.

LEADER For the sick in body, mind or spirit, especially _____, and for those we now name in our hearts;

PEOPLE May your transforming Spirit bring hope and healing to all who suffer.

LEADER For all who have died, and for those who grieve, especially _____, and for those we now name in our hearts;

PEOPLE May your Spirit of transformation shine perpetual light on all the saints who have gone before us.

Oh God, in your infinite generosity you have created a world with resources to sustain all of your children with abundance of food, work and recreation. Transform us to humbly receive and joyfully share your bounty with others. In the name of Jesus, we pray.

LEADER May the transforming peace of Christ be always with you.

PEOPLE **And also with you.**

RECEIVING GOD’S GRACE

The Offertory

At the Offertory *all stand*

‘All things come of Thee O Lord and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen’

*The Eucharistic Prayer “B” Page 367

*Holy, Holy, Holy...” Page 367

*The Lord’s Prayer Page 364

*The Breaking of the Bread Page 364

*Communion

*Post Communion Prayer Page 365

*The Dismissal Page 366

PRAYER LIST

Jerome Burns	Willie Campbell	Mary Cox	Amani Dailey
Benjamin Ford	Mina Forte	Annie & George	Henderson
Eleanor Johnson	Maureen Norman	Helen Pulliam	Jeanette Ransom
Brandon Seymour	Porcher Taylor	Olivia Theriot	Mildred Townes
Laverne Venable	Gary Young		

NURSING HOME / ASSISTED LIVING

Eleanor Johnson, Sunrise Senior Living, 19310 Club House Rd.
Montgomery Village, MD 20886
James Lowe, English Meadows, 1140 W. Main St., Rm.39A,
Christiansburg, VA 24073
Benjamin Ford, Ashland Nursing & Rehab Center, Rm. 104
906 Thompson St., Ashland, VA 23005
Helen Pulliam, Petersburg Healthcare Center, 287 South Blvd.
Petersburg, VA 23805

ST. STEPHEN'S CYCLE OF PRAYERS

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYERS

St. John's, Chester
St. Matthew's, Chester

PARISH NOTES

FLORA: Michael Joshua

FELLOWSHIP: Donna Lee / The Vestry

NEXT SUNDAY: Daniel 12:1-3 Psalm 16
Hebrews 10:11-25 Mark 13:1-8

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Don't forget to return today for the 10:30A.M service.
The Bishop will be confirming Ms. Amani Dailey.

**The Jewels / Family Dinner celebration will be Sunday,
November 18, 2018 after the 10:30am service.**

If you celebrated your 80th birthday this year, please let us know by giving a photo and short biography to the church office or
www.ststephensepiscopal@yahoo.com





You are cordially invited to the Annual Fall Concert presented by the VSU Concert Choir on Sunday, November 18th at 4pm (following the Jewels/Family Dinner) here at St. Stephen's

The Vestry is asking for donations of new men's hats, gloves, scarves and socks to help those in the community as the temperature drops.



Stewardship

is heart work



Pledge cards will be collected by Sunday, November 18th.

If you need another form, they can be found in the narthex.

The joint Thanksgiving service will be Tuesday, November 20th, at 7pm at Oak Street AME Church, 25 W. Wythe St, Petersburg, VA

The **Annual Parochial meeting** will follow the 10:30 am service on December 9th, 2018

Guess the weight of the pumpkin on display in the parish hall.

Proceeds will benefit our 2018 Children Holiday Party fund."

Winner to be announced November 28th @ Family

