

Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church

228 Halifax Street, Petersburg, VA 23803

Organized in 1867

Dedicated on June 2, 1918



*The Reverend Father Willis R. Foster, Sr., Rector
John Thompson, Verger*

CHURCH SERVICES

8:00 A.M. Sunday

9:15 A.M. Sunday

10:30A.M. Sunday

Holy Eucharist Rite II

Christian Education

Holy Eucharist Rite II

Office Hours: By Appointment

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THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
May 19, 2019

8:00* am & 10:30 a.m.: Holy Eucharist Rite II

The Prelude

Organ

'All are Welcome'

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat: a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet. Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space: as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

The Processional

Hymn 473

'Lift high the cross'

*The Opening Acclamation

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*The Collect for Purity

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*The Gloria

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*The Collect for the Day

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Acts 11:1-18

*J. Bland / J. Thompson

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

* Psalter

Psalm 148

*J. Bland

1 Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord from the heavens; *
praise him in the heights.

2 Praise him, all you angels of his; *
praise him, all his host.

3 Praise him, sun and moon; *
praise him, all you shining stars.

4 Praise him, heaven of heavens, *
and you waters above the heavens.

5 Let them praise the Name of the Lord; *
for he commanded, and they were created.

6 He made them stand fast for ever and ever; *
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.

7 Praise the Lord from the earth, *
you sea-monsters and all deeps;

8 Fire and hail, snow and fog, *
tempestuous wind, doing his will;

9 Mountains and all hills, *
fruit trees and all cedars;

10 Wild beasts and all cattle, *
creeping things and winged birds;

11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, *
princes and all rulers of the world;

12 Young men and maidens, *
old and young together.

13 Let them praise the Name of the Lord, *
for his Name only is exalted,
his splendor is over earth and heaven.

14 He has raised up strength for his people
and praise for all his loyal servants, *
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.
Hallelujah!

Revelation 21:1-6

*C. Dickens / N. Ross

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them as their God;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the

Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

The Gradual

Hymn 304

'I come with joy'

The Holy Gospel John 13:31-35

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

*The Sermon

Father Foster

*The Nicene Creed

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*Prayers of the People

*C. Dickens / N. Ross

Fr. Foster: *Gracious and loving God, you have glorified the Son of Man and taught us to love one another even as Christ loves us:*

Manifest your love in us as we bring before you the prayers of your people, saying: Let us praise your Name, O God, for your splendor is over earth and heaven.

You have baptized your Church in your Holy Spirit, O God: Grant us such love toward all people that we may acknowledge your Spirit wherever it is manifested and never call profane those whom you have made clean. Let us praise your Name, O God, **for your splendor is over earth and heaven**

Let the rulers of the earth and all people, judges and leaders of the world praise your Name, O God, that justice and peace may prevail. Let us praise your Name, O God, **for your splendor is over earth and heaven.**

You are making all things new, O Holy One: Let the sun and moon and shining stars sing praise; the earth and sea-monsters and all deeps, sing praise; fire and hail, snow and fog, mountain and hills, wild beasts and winged birds, sing praise. Let us praise your Name, O God, **for your splendor is over earth and heaven**

You have promised that you will dwell with us as our God, to wipe away every tear and to banish hunger and thirst: Let your home be among mortals, that your love may triumph in this community and throughout the world. Let us praise your Name, O God, **for your splendor is over earth and heaven.**

Guide us to the springs of the water of life as we bring to you our prayers for those who are ill or suffering from any need or affliction, especially ____.

You have raised up strength for your people and praise for all your children, accept our grateful thanksgiving, especially for ____.

You have brought into your presence those who have come out of the great ordeal, and you have clothed them in white to dwell with you where death will be no more: We remember those who have died, especially ____.

Let us praise your Name, O God, **for your splendor is over earth and heaven.**

Fr. Foster:** You are the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and end, O God: Accept our prayers on behalf of your whole creation and strengthen it in your love, that we may honor your Spirit which fills the whole earth, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.

*The Confession of Sin

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*The Peace

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RECEIVING GOD'S GRACE

*The Offertory

*At the Offertory

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

*The Eucharistic Prayer "B"

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*Holy, Holy, Holy..."

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*The Lord's Prayer

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*The Breaking of the Bread

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*Communion

LEVAS 147

'Come ye disconsolate'

*Post Communion Prayer

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Choral Response 'This is my Father's world'

*This is my Father's world - O let me ne'er forget
That tho' the wrong seems oft so strong God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father's world! The battle is not done
Jesus who died shall be satisfied, And earth and heav'n be one.*

The Recessional

LEVAS 62

'In Christ there is no East or West'

*The Dismissal

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The Postlude

Organ

PRAYER LIST

Jerome Burns	Antonio Belmar, Jr.	Mary Cox	baby Nariah
Benjamin Ford	Mina Forte	Annie Henderson	George Henderson
Eleanor Johnson	Maureen Norman	Helen Pulliam	Jeanette Ransom
Brandon Seymour	Porcher Taylor	Olivia Theriot	Mildred Townes
Laverne Venable	Phyllis Vorhees	Gary Young	Judy Hawkes
Willis Foster & Family		Jackie Burns & Family	

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

Ebony Walker

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYERS

Good Shepherd, Richmond
St. George's, Pungoteague

PARISH NOTES

FLORA:

COFFEE HOUR: sponsored by Shanda Wallace & Emma Townes

NEXT SUNDAY: Acts 16:9-15 Psalm 67

Revelation 21:10,22-22:5 John 14:23-29

† † † † †



It is with deep sorrow that we inform you of the death of Mr. Ruben L. Gilliam, II, brother of R. Patrice Gilliam. Ruben died Tuesday, May 15th. The family asks that we respect their privacy during their time of grief.

The **Men's Club** will meet today following the 10:30am service. The Men's Club is currently taking orders for sausage. Delivery date is May 25th

The **ECW** will hold a call-meeting today, following the 10:30am service.



YOGA AT ST. STEPHENS
TUESDAYS 6:30 PM and THURSDAYS 9 AM
\$5 ADMISSION \$3 SENIOR ADMISSION
FREE FOR VETERANS AND HOMELESS
BRING YOUR OWN YOGA MAT, WATER
(use Byrne Street entrance)
INQUIRIES CONTACT YVETTE POWELL
YMPOWELL77@YAHOO.COM 330.714.3215

Tai  Chi

w/ YVETTE POWELL
in Central Park (Poplar Lawn)
use the Sycamore St. side
8AM Saturdays (starting June 1st)
YMPOWELL77@YAHOO.COM 330.714.3215

For you whoe revere my name

the sun of righteousness shall rise,
with healing in its wings.

~Malachi 4:2

Vestry

John Thompson, Sr. Warden

Cassandra Coleman, Jr. Warden

Joy Chapman, Chyrel M. Cutler, Michael Joshua,

Otha Myers, James Norman, Nancy Ross, Joyce Small

