

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

10:30A.M. Sunday

1:00 P.M. Wednesday

Holy Eucharist Rite II

Holy Eucharist Rite II

Bible Study

Office Hours: By Appointment

Phone: (804) 733-6228

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Email: ststephensepiscopal@yahoo.com Website: <http://ststephenspbgva.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ststephenspbgva228>

Mission Statement:

*To meet the needs of the
Church and Community*

Vision:

We are Stewards of God's Grace

Core Values:

*Actively Engage
Clear & Timely Communication
Integrity
Transparency
Trust*

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 10, 2017

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 376

'Joyful, joyful we adore thee'

*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

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

*** Exodus 12:1-14**

***C Dickens / N. Ross**

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

***Psalter**

Psalm 149

***C. Dickens**

1 Hallelujah!

Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.

2 Let Israel rejoice in his Maker; *

let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.

3 Let them praise his Name in the dance; *

let them sing praise to him with timbrel and harp.

4 For the Lord takes pleasure in his people *

and adorns the poor with victory.

5 Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; *

let them be joyful on their beds.

6 Let the praises of God be in their throat *

and a two-edged sword in their hand;

7 To wreak vengeance on the nations *

and punishment on the peoples;

8 To bind their kings in chains *

and their nobles with links of iron;

9 To inflict on them the judgment decreed; *

this is glory for all his faithful people.

Hallelujah!

*** Romans 13:8-14**

*J. Bland / M. Wallace

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Gradual

Hymn 441

‘In the cross of Christ’

***The Holy Gospel Matthew 18:15-20**

Jesus said, “If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church;

and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

*The Sermon

Father Foster

*The Nicene Creed

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*Prayers of the People

*J. Bland / M. Wallace

Priest: God our Sustainer, you have promised that whenever two or three are gathered in your name, you are among us: Unite your church as we bring our prayers to you, saying: Alleluia! Sing to God a new song; sing praise in the congregation of the faithful.

Gracious One, you have gathered your Church under Christ’s command that we love one another: Loose your people from all misunderstanding that leads to conflict and bind us with the ties of mutual regard for the sake of your Son Jesus. Alleluia! Sing to God a new song; **sing praise in the congregation of the faithful.**

Mighty One, you call our nation and the leaders of the world to fulfill your law by loving our neighbor as our selves: Give courage to the powerful to lay aside the works of darkness and to put on the armor of light, that they may mediate your peace and love. Alleluia! Sing to God a new song; **sing praise in the congregation of the faithful.**

Loving God, you bring the oppressed into freedom and work for the liberation of all: Hear the cries of all who suffer and lead them to a place of feasting and celebration for the day of their deliverance. Alleluia! Sing to God a new song; **sing praise in the congregation of the faithful.**

Uniting God, you call us to reconciliation and peace within our community, and you command us to love one another: Let your graciousness dwell in this city, that we may live honorably and generously. Alleluia! Sing to God a new song; **sing praise in the congregation of the faithful.**

Compassionate One, you invite our neighbors into the circle of your divine love: Hear our prayers for those who are near and far, especially ____.

We remember before you those who have entered into your heavenly feast, especially ____.

Alleluia! Sing to God a new song; **sing praise in the congregation of the faithful.**

Priest: Open our eyes, dear God, to see that the night is far gone and the day is close, that your salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers: Clothe us with the armor of light, that we may put on the Lord Jesus Christ and live in his love through the power of the Holy Spirit. **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 Musical Offertory

LEVAS 176

'If I have wounded any soul today'

Choral Response Hymn 43 v. 4

'Praise God from whom all blessings flow'

*The Eucharistic Prayer "A" Page 361

*Holy, Holy, Holy... Page 362

*The Lord's Prayer Page 364

*The Breaking of the Bread Page 364

*Communion LEVAS 147

'Come ye disconsolate'

*Post Communion Prayer Page 365

Choral Response ***"Pass It On"***

It only takes a spark to get a fire going. And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing; That's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it: You spread His love to everyone, you want to pass it on.

The Recessional

Hymn 592

'Teach me, my God and King'

*The Dismissal
The Postlude

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Organ

PRAYER LIST

<i>Ernestine Brown</i>	<i>Jerome Burns</i>	<i>Mary Cox</i>
<i>Benjamin Ford</i>	<i>James & Yanitzia Foreman</i>	
<i>Annie Henderson</i>	<i>Eleanor Johnson</i>	<i>Jeanette Ransom</i>
<i>Rosylyn Scruggs</i>	<i>Brandon Seymour</i>	<i>Doris Stephens</i>
<i>Porcher Taylor</i>	<i>Olivia Theriot</i>	<i>Mildred Townes</i>
<i>LaVerne Venable</i>	<i>Gary Young</i>	

NURSING HOME

James Lowe, English Meadows 1140 W. Main St. Rm.39A
Christiansburg, VA 24073

Antoinette Toppin, Room117B, 4300 George Mason Blvd
Fairfax, VA 22030

ST. STEPHEN'S CYCLE OF PRAYERS

Cassandra Coleman

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYERS

St. Andrew's, Baskerville
St. Luke's, Blackstone



PARISH NOTES

FLORA: Given by Cassandra Coleman in celebration of her birthday.

FELLOWSHIP: Rev. Foster

NEXT SUNDAY: Exodus 14:19-31, Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21
Romans 14:1-12, Matthew 18:21-35



The Stewardship cycle is just around the corner...more information to follow.



Acolytes, 6+yrs...see Michael Walker or Nany Ross



St. Stephen's Men's Day will be Sunday, November 5, 2017 during the 10:30 am service. The scheduled guest speaker is VSU President, Dr. Makola M. Abdullah.



AN EVENING WITH

Rick Elliott

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2017

7PM-9PM

ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

228 HALIFAX ST, PETERSBURG, VA

\$20.00

804.733.6228

Tickets will be limited. Tickets will not be available at the door. Make checks payable to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church with 'Elliott concert' in the memo line. All proceeds will go to the church's capital campaign.

Please submit ticket monies by Saturday, September 16, 2017.

Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world's grief.
Do justly, now. Love mercy, now. Walk humbly, now.
You are not obligated to complete the work,
but neither are you free to abandon it

~from The Talmud

Vestry

Charles Palmer, Sr. Warden
Cassandra Coleman, Jr. Warden
Joy Chapman, Brandon Kimble, Robin Magee
C. Martin Cutler, Leslie Richardson, John Russell, Harriet Scruggs