

# *Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church*

*228 Halifax Street, Petersburg, Virginia 23803*



*The Reverend Bill Queen Jr., Interim Rector*

## ***Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost*** ***September 12, 2021***

10:30-11:30 a.m.

Holy Eucharist Rite II

11:30

Formation: The Alien Episcopalians-  
Approaches to Christianity

### ***Per Bishop Haynes' guidelines -***

**MASKS ARE REQUIRED** for everyone, including while singing  
**SOCIAL DISTANCING** must be observed, even while receiving Communion  
**SERVICE LENGTH IS SHORTENED**, there will be less singing  
**OFFERING PLATES NOT PASSED**, see tables at each entrance

Prelude

Organ

*bell rings to announce worship*

Processional                      Lift Every Voice 31 (1st verse)  
***'Lead Me to Calvary'***

Opening Acclamation      Book of Common Prayer      Page 355

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
People:      And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy.  
People:      Christ, have mercy.  
Celebrant: Lord have mercy.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.  
People:      And also with you.  
Celebrant: Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; 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***

## Proverbs 1:20-33

Sandra Garner

Wisdom cries out in the street;  
in the squares she raises her voice.

At the busiest corner she cries out;  
at the entrance of the city gates she speaks:

“How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple?

How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing  
and fools hate knowledge?

Give heed to my reproof;

I will pour out my thoughts to you;  
I will make my words known to you.

Because I have called and you refused,  
have stretched out my hand and no one heeded,

and because you have ignored all my counsel  
and would have none of my reproof,

I also will laugh at your calamity;  
I will mock when panic strikes you,

when panic strikes you like a storm,  
and your calamity comes like a whirlwind,  
when distress and anguish come upon you.

Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer;  
they will seek me diligently, but will not find me.

Because they hated knowledge  
and did not choose the fear of the Lord,

would have none of my counsel,  
and despised all my reproof,

therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way  
and be sated with their own devices.

For waywardness kills the simple,  
and the complacency of fools destroys them;  
but those who listen to me will be secure  
and will live at ease, without dread of disaster.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

## Psalm 19

S. Garner

(spoken responsively by **half-verse** breaking at asterisk)

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God, \*  
and the firmament shows his handiwork.
- 2 One day tells its tale to another, \*  
and one night imparts knowledge to another.
- 3 Although they have no words or language, \*  
and their voices are not heard,
- 4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, \*  
and their message to the ends of the world.
- 5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; \*  
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- 6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens  
and runs about to the end of it again; \*  
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect  
and revives the soul; \*

the testimony of the Lord is sure  
and gives wisdom to the innocent.

8 The statutes of the Lord are just  
and rejoice the heart; \*  
the commandment of the Lord is clear  
and gives light to the eyes.

9 The fear of the Lord is clean  
and endures for ever; \*  
the judgments of the Lord are true  
and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold,  
more than much fine gold, \*  
sweeter far than honey,  
than honey in the comb.

11 By them also is your servant enlightened, \*  
and in keeping them there is great reward.

12 Who can tell how often he offends? \*  
cleanse me from my secret faults.

13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;  
let them not get dominion over me; \*  
then shall I be whole and sound,  
and innocent of a great offense.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my  
heart be acceptable in your sight, \*  
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

## James 3:1-12

Sandra Garner

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue-- a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn

Hymnbook 525 (1<sup>st</sup> verse)  
*'The Church's one foundation'*

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

## **The Holy Gospel**

## **Mark 8:27-38**

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ

Sermon

Rev. Queen

Nicene Creed	Page 358
Prayers of the People Form I	S. Garner Page 383
Confession of Sin	Page 360
Peace	Page 360
Announcements	

## ***RECEIVING GOD’S GRACE***

Offertory Sentence

Musical Offertory	Lift Every Voice 145 (1 <sup>st</sup> verse) <b><i>‘Have thine own way Lord’</i></b>
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Eucharistic Prayer “B”	Page 367
Holy, Holy, Holy...”	Page 367
Lord’s Prayer	Page 364
Breaking of the Bread	Page 364

Communion

**Please follow the Greeter’s instructions of forming a socially-distanced single line in the center aisle to receive the host and returning to your seat by the side aisles.**

*\*Please tell a Greeter if you are unable to walk to the altar rail and would like Communion brought to you in your pew.*

Communion Hymn	Hymnbook 324 (1 <sup>st</sup> verse) <b><i>‘Let all mortal flesh keep silence’</i></b>
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Post Communion Prayer	Page 365
Blessing	

Recessional

Lift Every Voice 136 (1<sup>st</sup> verse)  
*'I have decided to follow Jesus'*

Dismissal  
Postlude

Page 366  
Organ

## PRAYER LIST

Antonio Belmar, Jr.	Pam Bolt	Jerome Burns	Mary Cox
Marie C. Jones	Sarah Dickens	George Henderson	
Jeanette Ransom	Porcher Taylor, Jr.	Olivia Theriot	
Laverne Venable	The family of Daniel Biaggi		

## ST. STEPHEN'S CYCLE OF PRAYERS

### DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYERS

St. Michael's, Bon Air



### PARISH NOTES

**FLOWERS:** Offered by Cecil Jones to the Glory of God and in memory of

**NEXT SUNDAY:** Isaiah 58:9b-12, 14 / Psalm 16:5-11 /

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 3:5-11 / Matthew 7:24-27

## A Note About Our Sunday Time Schedule



When we set the fall Sunday schedule we had hoped that by now we could at least offer coffee for some kind of brief fellowship time.

Unfortunately, that is still not allowed, so we have decided to keep worship at the roughly 50 minutes we've been running, cancel fellowship time, and start the Formation and Interim Events at 11:30.

The parish hall has been set up to accommodate 30 people, seated at tables, socially distanced six feet apart.

We will also Zoom those parish hall sessions every Sunday. Handouts will be sent weekly with the bulletin emailing.

We hope you will be able to join us today and in the weeks to follow, in person or on Zoom.

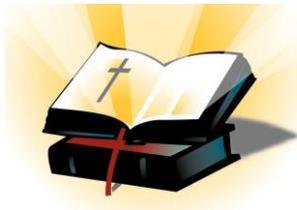
The Sunday schedule for the fall begins today.

10:30 - 11:30 Worship

11:30 - Interim Events or Formation on alternate weeks



If you've ordered altar flowers, the check can be placed in the offering plate.



Noonday Prayers every Wednesday from noon to 12:30 on Zoom.

We follow the *Book of Common Prayer* pp 103 - 107, with the addition of the Psalms and Gospel for that day from the Daily Office Lectionary, *Book of Common Prayer* pp 935 - 1001, and a short meditation.

The daily readings can be accessed any time at [https://prayer.forwardmovement.org/daily\\_readings\\_anytime.php](https://prayer.forwardmovement.org/daily_readings_anytime.php)

The Zoom link for this service is sent out every week along with the Sunday service Zoom link.

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se of Southern Virginia, Episcopal Church Women General Fall Meeting will be conducted via Zoom on Saturday, October 16, 2021. Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlpcuurqTsjG9Gfi0QG-j9X2JoqEpsJNeal>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

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Please return any church property that you may be using off-site to the church's undercroft as soon as possible. ~ *The Building Committee*

## Office Hours: By Appointment

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Vestry

Charles Palmer, Sr. Warden

Otha Myers, Jr. Warden

Jacqueline Bonilla, Clifton Dickens, Michael Joshua,  
Donna Lee, James Love, Aleisha Manson, Nancy Ross

