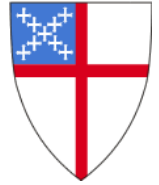




Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church

228 Halifax Street, Petersburg, VA 23803

Founded 1867



The Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost Proper 14 Morning Prayer Rite II

August 11, 2024

10:30 a.m.

Sandra Garner, Lay Worship Leader

Cecil T. Jones, Organist

Our Mission:

To meet the spiritual needs of the church and community.

Our Vision:

We strive to become valued servants to a diverse community by keeping our community connected through service and commitment.

*All text in bold print is read/recited/sang by the entire congregation
(all stand or kneel)*

The Prelude

Organ

Processional

'I am the bread of life'

Hymn 335

**¹ I am the bread of life.
He who comes to me shall not
hunger;
he who believes in me shall not
thirst.
No one can come to me
unless the Father draw him.**

**Refrain:
And I will raise him up,
and I will raise him up,
and I will raise him up on the last
day.**

**² The bread that I will give
is my flesh for the life of the world,
and he who eats of this bread,
he shall live for ever,
he shall live for ever.
[Refrain]**

**³ Unless you eat
of the flesh of the Son of Man
and drink of his blood,
and drink of his blood,
you shall not have life within you.
[Refrain]**

**⁴ I am the resurrection,
I am the life.
He who believes in me
even if he die,
he shall live for ever.
[Refrain]**

**⁵ Yes, Lord, I believe
that you are the Christ,
the Son of God,
who has come
into the world.
[Refrain]**

Officiant:

I was glad when they said to me," Let us go to the house of the Lord." *Psalm 122:1*

Let us pray.

Almighty God, who hast promised to hear the petitions of those who ask in thy Son's Name: We beseech thee mercifully to incline thine ear to us who have now made our prayers and supplications unto thee; and grant that those things which we have asked faithfully according to thy will, may be obtained effectually, to the relief of our necessity, and to the setting forth of thy glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

BCP Page 79

Officiant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together, all kneeling

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against
you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our
whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as
ourselves.**

**We are truly sorry and
we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Officiant: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Invitatory and Psalter

BCP Page 80

All stand

Officiant *Lord, open our lips.*

People *And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.*

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

You may be seated.

Officiant: The mercy of the Lord is everlasting: Come let us adore him.

Jubilate Psalm 100

BCP Page 82

Officiant only

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Psalm 130 (sung by Congregation)

BCP Page 784

De profundis

- ¹ Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD;
LORD, hear my voice; */
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication. /**
- ² If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss, * /
O Lord, who could stand? /**
- ³ For there is forgiveness with you; * /
therefore you shall be feared. /**
- ⁴ I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; * /
in his word is my hope. /**

⁵ **My soul waits for the LORD,
more than watchmen for the morning, * /
more than watchmen for the morning. /**

⁶ **O Israel, wait for the LORD, * /
for with the LORD there is mercy; /**

⁷ **With him there is plenteous redemption, * /
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins. /**

**~ Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * /
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. /**

Please be seated for the Lessons

Old Testament:

A Reading from 2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33

Minnie Wallace

The king, David, ordered Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, “Deal gently for my sake with the young man Absalom.” And all the people heard when the king gave orders to all the commanders concerning Absalom. So the army went out into the field against Israel; and the battle was fought in the forest of Ephraim. The men of Israel were defeated there by the servants of David, and the slaughter there was great on that day, twenty thousand men. The battle spread over the face of all the country; and the forest claimed more victims that day than the sword. Absalom happened to meet the servants of David.

Absalom was riding on his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great oak. His head caught fast in the oak, and he was left hanging between heaven and earth, while the mule that was under him went on.

And ten young men, Joab’s armor-bearers, surrounded Absalom and struck him, and killed him.

Then the Cushite came; and the Cushite said, “Good tidings for my lord the king! For the Lord has vindicated you this day, delivering you from the power of all who rose up against you.” The king said to the Cushite, “Is it well with the young man Absalom?” The Cushite answered, “May the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise up to do you harm, be like that young man.”

The king was deeply moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept; and as he went, he said, “O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!”

Reader: The Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God

(Recite in unison)

A Song of Praise

Benedictus es, Domine

Song of the Three Young Men, 29-34

Glory to you; Lord God of our fathers; *

you are worthy of praise; glory to you.

Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; *

we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; *

on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.

Glory to you; seated between the Cherubim; *

We will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you; beholding the depths; *

In the high vault of heaven, glory to you.

Glory to you; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *

we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

The Epistle:

A Reading from Ephesians 4:25-5:2

Minnie Wallace

Putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil. Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Glory to God

Gloria in Excelsis

Officiant

BCP Page 94

(Recite in unison)

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.*

*Lord God, heavenly king,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father;
receive our prayer.*

*For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

The Gradual Hymn

'Lord, make us servants of your peace'

Hymn 593

**¹ Lord, make us servants of your peace:
where there is hate, may we sow love;
where there is hurt, may we forgive;
where there is strife, may we make one.**

**² Where all is doubt, may we sow faith;
where all is gloom, may we sow hope;
where all is night, may we sow light;
where all is tears, may we sow joy.**

**³ Jesus, our Lord, may we not seek
to be consoled, but to console,
nor look to understanding hearts,
but look for hearts to understand.**

**⁴ May we not look for love's return,
but seek to love unselfishly,
for in our giving we receive,
and in forgiving are forgiven.**

**⁵ Dying, we live, and are reborn
through death's dark night to endless day;
Lord, make us servants of your peace,
to wake at last in heaven's light.**

Please remain standing if you are able.

The Gospel

A Lesson from John 6:35, 41 - 51

Sandra Garner

Jesus said, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” They were saying, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, ‘I have come down from heaven’?” Jesus answered them, “Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and

not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please be seated for the message

Message

Sandra Garner

Melody of Reflection

Organist

Please stand as you are able

The Apostles' Creed

BCP Page 96

Officiant and People together, all standing

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our
Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy
Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the
Father.**

**He will come again to judge
the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Offertory (Seated)

The Offertory Sentence

Let us walk in love, as Christ loved us, and gave himself for us,
an offering and a sacrifice to God.

Musical Offertory

'Ain' a that good news'

LEVAS 180

**¹ I got a robe up in-a that kingdom
Ain'-a that good news,
Ain'-a that good news.
I'm gonna lay down this world
gonna shoulder up-a my cross.
Gonna take it home-a to my Jesus
ain'-a that good news, ain'-a that good news.**

**² I got a crown up in-a that kingdom
Ain'-a that good news,
Ain'a that good news.
I'm gonna lay down this world
gonna shoulder up-a my cross.
Gonna take it home-a to my Jesus
ain'-a that good news, ain'-a that good news.**

**³ I got a savior in-a that kingdom . . .
Ain'-a that good news,
Ain'a that good news.
I'm gonna lay down this world
gonna shoulder up-a my cross.
Gonna take it home-a to my Jesus
ain'-a that good news, ain'-a that good news.**

Alms Presentation:

*All things come of thee, O Lord,
and of thine own, have we given thee. A-men.*

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

The Prayers

Officiant

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Officiant and People together:

The Lord's Prayer

BCP page 97

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

**And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Suffrage B

BCP page 98

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

R. Govern and uphold them, now and always.

V. Day by day we bless you;

R. We praise your Name for ever.

V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;

R. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;

R. For we put our trust in you.

V. In you, Lord is our hope;

R. And we shall never hope in vain.

The Officiant:

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A Collect for Peace

BCP page 99

The Officiant:

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Search Prayer:

Sandra Garner

Reader: Let us read our Saint Stephen's Search Prayer together.

Almighty God, Giver of every good gift: Guide this congregation in its search for a Priest for St. Stephen's. Give us wisdom to work together effectively to represent the needs of this parish. Let the thoughts of many be expressed through our actions; and if we stray from our purpose, right our path by enlightening us with your Holy Spirit. Grant us your favor in this vast undertaking so that when we have concluded this process, we will know that we have done what you would have us do. All this we ask for the sake of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Parish & Diocesan Prayers

Sandra Garner

For the health, care and well-being of those on our prayer list, as well as those on the cycle of prayers for St. Stephen's and our Diocese.

(People are invited to offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud).

SAINT STEPHEN'S PRAYER LIST

Antonio Belmar, Jr. Diane Bennett Donald Bichette Pam Bolt Jerome Burns David Campbell The Clinkscales Family Mary Cox Sarah Dickens Barbara Ford The Ardieth P. Hamilton Family The Carlyse Hammond Family	Melissa Harrington Lamar Hawkes George Henderson Kenya Jackson Earnestine Johnson Marie C. Jones Michael Joshua Elsie G. Lewis James Love Marciel Love The Emily Madden Family Kelly Mills, Jr.	Jeanette Ransom Biafra Sidney James Smith Janice Smith Cheryl Talley Ann Taylor The Porcher Taylor, Jr. Family Vernita Taylor Olivia Theriot Laverne Venable Margaret Whiteman
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DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYERS

- Bruton Parish, Williamsburg
- Christ Church, Waverly
- The Rev. Lissie Rhoton (Christopher)
- The Rev. Betty Hudson (John)
- The Rev. Marni Schneider
- Mrs. Anne Kellett

ST. STEPHEN'S CYCLE OF PRAYERS

Judy Bland

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored [especially _____ whom we remember today]. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

The General Thanksgiving

BCP Page 101

Officiant and People

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and
to all whom you have made.**

**We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord
Jesus Christ; for the means of grace,
and for the hope of glory. And, we pray,
give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show
forth your praise, not only with our lips,
but in our lives, by giving up our selves to
your service, and by walking before you in
holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom,
with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and
glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Announcements

- We welcome all of you to our Saint Stephen's Sunday Service today.
- We thank our Layreader, Sandra Garner, our worship leader, today.
- We congratulate The Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church Women (ECW) for a wonderful Women's Day Service on Sunday, August 4, 2024. We will always remember the message of Seek the truth, Listen to the Truth and Obey the Truth, given by our guest speaker, Dr. Violet Whiteman.
- The Ransom/Patterson Men's Club will reschedule our annual church cookout on Saturday afternoon, 3:00 pm, August 17, 2024.
Location will be the parish hall.

Closing Prayer: A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

BCP page 102

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will

be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Recessional:

'Break thou bread of life'

LEVAS 146

Break Thou the Bread of Life

146

1. Break thou the bread of life, Dear Lord, to me,
2. Bless thou the truth, dear Lord, To me, to me,
3. Teach me to live, dear Lord, On - ly for thee,

1. As thou didst break the loaves Be - side the sea;
2. As thou didst bless the bread By Gal - i - lee;
3. As thy dis - ci - ples lived in Gal - i - lee;

1. Be - yond the sa - cred page I seek thee, Lord;
2. Then shall all bond - age cease, All fet - ters fall,
3. Then, all my strug - gles o'er, Then, vic - t'ry won,

1. My spir - it pants for thee, O liv - ing word!
2. And I shall find my peace, My all in all,
3. I shall be - hold thee, Lord, The liv - ing one.

Words: Mary A. Lathbury (1841-1913)
Music: William F. Sherwin (1826-1888)

Officiant:

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*
Romans 15:13

Dismissal

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Parish Notes

Flowers: *Given to the glory of God, by Mrs. Ann C. Taylor, in loving remembrance of her husband, Col.(Ret.)Porcher L. Taylor, Jr., Ph.D., and in memorial celebration for his 99th birthday, on August 9, 2024.*

Coffee Hour:

NEXT SUNDAY: *Proper 15, August 18, 2024*

1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14; Psalm 111; Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6:51-58

Coffee Hour Sign Up Sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

Thank you for joining us for worship today:

St. Stephen's is a diverse community of faith where all people find home in Jesus and each other. We unite to transform the world to celebrate God.

We encourage you to get to know us better by visiting our website, www.ststephenspbgva.org. (You can worship with us on ZOOM.)

Email: ststephensepiscopal@yahoo.com

Church office: (804) 733-6228

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

ZOOM LINKS:
Sunday Worship 10:30 am



Scan QR code above or Click on link below!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89833169642?pwd=UEFjL29zRy9KWW5TWEFicEdOTIjTQT09>

Meeting ID: 898 3316 9642 Passcode: 6Up8xp

Mid-week Noonday Prayer

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88267646851?pwd=UGFBV0t3anlIM0x2UG15T2JlVFprQT09>

Vestry

Nancy Ross, Sr. Warden, 2025

RJ Bragg, Jr. Warden, 2024

Clifton Dickens, 2026

Kenneth Lewis, 2026

Otha Myers, 2026

Cheryl Talley, 2025

Marie Carol Jones - Register

Greeters

Anthony Lewis

Otha Myers

Trustees

Judy Bland

Brandon Kimble

John Russell

Finance Committee

Deborah B. Young - Chair

Bennie Wooten – Treasurer

Kenneth Lewis – Assistant Treasurer

Joan Campbell

Michael Walker

Acolytes:

Acolyte Masters:

Nancy S. Ross

Michael C. Walker

Acolytes

Dwelaya Burns

Liam Berneking

Midori Sheets

Brown Bag Lunch Committee

Harriett Scruggs - Chair

Clifton Dickens

Marie Carol Jones

Anthony Lewis

Otha Myers

Please submit announcements you would like included in the bulletin by the preceding Monday.

Materials may be edited for content and length.

Supply Priest Schedule*

Rev. Ruth Partlow

August 18, 2024

Rev. Elliott Waters

August 25, 2024

* *Subject to change based upon scheduling changes.*

*Saint Stephen
Our Patron Saint*



*When you come to church next Sunday,
please remember to ...
Bring a friend or a family member,
Invite a neighbor,
Welcome a stranger.*