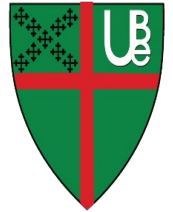
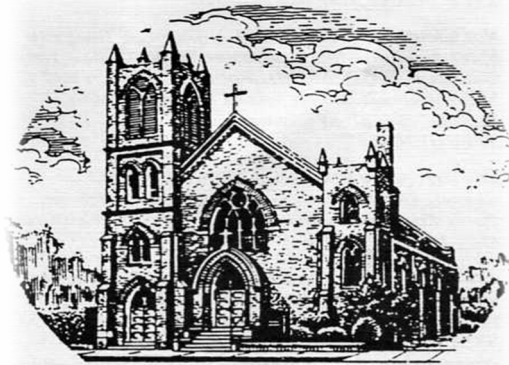
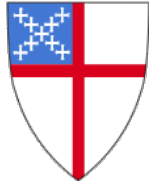


Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church

228 Halifax Street, Petersburg, VA 23803

Founded 1867

*The Oldest Continuous Black Episcopal Congregation
in the State of Virginia*



Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 21

Holy Eucharist Rite II

Year C

September 28, 2025

10:30 a.m.

Rev. Elliott Waters
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.

Please be aware that this church service is being live-stream televised via the following site:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89833169642?pwd=UEFjL29zRy9KWW5TWEF1cEdOTjIjTOT09>

Please silence your phones and other electronic devices.

Prelude

Organ

Bell rings to announce worship.

*All text in **bold print** is said/sung by the entire congregation.*

Processional Hymn

‘Crown him with many crowns’

Hymn 494

¹ **Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem
drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king
through all eternity.**

³ **Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified;
no angels in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends their burning eye
at mysteries so bright.**

² **Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save;
his glories now we sing
who died and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.**

⁴ **Crown him the Lord of years,
the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.**

Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer

BCP Page 355

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant:

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Gloria

LEVAS #243

“Glory to God”

**Glory, Glory, hallelujah, - Lord we praise your Holy name,
Glory, Glory, hallelujah, - Lord we praise your Holy name.
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.**

**Glory, Glory, hallelujah, - Lord we praise your Holy name,
Glory, Glory, hallelujah, - Lord we praise your Holy name.
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 glo-ry of the Father.**

**Glory, Glory, hallelujah, -
Lord we praise your Holy name,
Glory, Glory, hallelujah, - Lord we praise your Holy name. A-a-a-men.**

**The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.**

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 21

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Please be seated.

The First Lesson

A Reading from Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15

Clifton Dickens

¹The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord in the tenth year of King Zedekiah of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar.

²At that time the army of the king of Babylon was besieging Jerusalem, and the prophet Jeremiah was confined in the court of the guard that was in the palace of the king of Judah,

³where King Zedekiah of Judah had confined him.

⁶Jeremiah said, The word of the Lord came to me:

⁷Hanamel son of your uncle Shallum is going to come to you and say, “Buy my field that is at Anathoth, for the right of redemption by purchase is yours.”

⁸Then my cousin Hanamel came to me in the court of the guard, in accordance with the word of the Lord, and said to me, “Buy my field that is at Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, for the right of possession and redemption is yours; buy it for yourself.” Then I knew that this was the word of the Lord.

⁹And I bought the field at Anathoth from my cousin Hanamel, and weighed out the money to him, seventeen shekels of silver.

¹⁰I signed the deed, sealed it, got witnesses, and weighed the money on scales.

¹¹Then I took the sealed deed of purchase, containing the terms and conditions, and the open copy;

¹²and I gave the deed of purchase to Baruch son of Neriah son of Mahseiah, in the presence of my cousin Hanamel, in the presence of the witnesses who signed the deed of purchase, and in the presence of all the Judeans who were sitting in the court of the guard.

¹³In their presence I charged Baruch, saying,

¹⁴Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these deeds, both this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware jar, in order that they may last for a long time.

¹⁵For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16 (*Sung by Congregation*)

BCP Page 719

Qui habitat

¹ **He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, *
abides under the shadow of the Almighty.**

² **He shall say to the Lord,
“You are my refuge and my stronghold, *
my God in whom I put my trust.”**

³ **He shall deliver you from the snare of the hunter *
and from the deadly pestilence.**

⁴ **He shall cover you with his pinions,
and you shall find refuge under his wings; *
his faithfulness shall be a shield and buckler.**

⁵ **You shall not be afraid of any terror by night, *
nor of the arrow that flies by day;**

⁶ **Of the plague that stalks in the darkness, *
nor of the sickness that lays waste at mid-day.**

- ¹⁴ Because he is bound to me in love,
therefore will I deliver him; *
I will protect him, because he knows my Name.**
- ¹⁵ He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; *
I am with him in trouble;
I will rescue him and bring him to honor.**
- ¹⁶ With long life will I satisfy him, *
and show him my salvation.**

The Second Lesson

A Reading from 1 Timothy 6:6-19

Clifton Dickens

- ⁶Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment;
⁷for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it;
⁸but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these.
⁹But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.
¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.
¹¹But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness.
¹²Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.
¹³In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you
¹⁴to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ,
¹⁵which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords.
¹⁶It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.
¹⁷As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly

provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

¹⁸They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share,

¹⁹thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Gradual Hymn ‘Jerusalem my happy home’

Hymn 620

¹ Jerusalem, my happy home,
when shall I come to thee?
When shall my sorrows have an end?
Thy joys when shall I see?

ten thousand times would one
be blest
who might this music hear.

² Thy saints are crowned with glory
great;
they see God face to face;
they triumph still, they still rejoice
in that most happy place.

⁴ Our Lady sings Magnificat
with tune surpassing sweet,
and blessed martyrs' harmony
doth ring in every street.

³ There David stands with harp in
hand
as master of the choir:

⁵ Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
God grant that I may see
thine endless joy, and of the same
partaker ever be!

The Gospel

The Holy Gospel

Luke 16: 19-31

Rev. Waters

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹⁹“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day.

²⁰And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores,

- ²¹who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores.
- ²²The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried.
- ²³In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side.
- ²⁴He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.'
- ²⁵But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony.'
- ²⁶Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.'
- ²⁷He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house—
- ²⁸for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.'
- ²⁹Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.'
- ³⁰He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.'
- ³¹He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Rev. Waters

Musical Reflection *I Surrender All (LEVAS #133 refrain)*

Organist

Please stand as you are able.

The Creed

The Nicene Creed

BCP Page 358

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, - seen and unseen.**

**in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand
of the Father.**

**We believe in one Lord,
Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,**

**He will come again in glory to
judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no
end.**

**God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father
and the Son.**

**Through him all things were
made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the
Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**With the Father and the Son
he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the
Prophets.**

**For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was
buried.
On the third day he rose again**

**We believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of
the dead,
and the life of the world to
come. Amen.**

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

The Prayers

Prayers of the People

Form II

BCP Page 385

Sandra Garner

In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop(s); for our presiding Bishop – Sean; for our diocesan Bishop –

Susan; for our priest – John; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed [especially Biafra, Wanda and Iris], Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present.

I ask your prayers for _____. *(Our Saint Stephen's Prayer List.)

SAINT STEPHEN'S PRAYER LIST

Mattie Bell Antonio Belmar, Jr. Diane Bennett The Donald Birchette Family Pam Bolt The Joyce Brown Harris Family Jerome Burns + David Campbell The Wanda Jones Corbett Family Mary Cox Sarah Dickens Barbara Ford	Melissa Harrington Lamar Hawkes The George W. Henderson Family Kenya Jackson Earnestine Johnson Marie C. Jones The Helen Jordan Keene Family Michael Joshua Yvonne Joshua James Love Marciel Love Kelly Mills, Jr.	Otha Myers Jeanette Ransom The Biafra Sidney Family James Smith + Janice Smith Ann Taylor Vernita Taylor Olivia Theriot Laverne Venable The Vicki Hayes West Family Margaret Whiteman Deborah Williams
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I ask your thanksgiving for _____.
Silence

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYERS

- The Rev. Charlie Bauer (Kelly)
- The Rev. Marie Kirk-Clunan (John)
- The Rev. Tige E. Newell (Courtney)
- Mrs. Sally Lassalle
- The Rev. Allan Wentt (Karen)
- The Rev. David Duprey
- The Rev. James W. Browder, III
- Mrs. Ellen Sell
- Brandon, Burrowsville
- William M. Jackson (Saint of Local Remembrance)

SAINT STEPHEN'S CYCLE OF PRAYERS

Luke & Autumn Berneking

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

The Search Prayer

Sandra Garner

Reader: Please join with me in praying our Search Prayer.

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. *A-men.*

Celebrant:

Lord, please hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Confession

BCP Page 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

The Absolution

BCP Page 360

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

Please stand as you are able.

The Peace

BCP Page 360

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

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 ‘All to Jesus I Surrender’

LEVAS 133

¹ All to Jesus I surrender,
all to Him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust Him,
In His presence daily live.

Refrain:

I surrender all,
I surrender all,
All to thee, my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.

² All to Jesus I surrender
Humbly at His feet I bow;
Worldly pleasures all forsaken,

Take me, Jesus, take me now.
[Refrain]

³ All to Jesus I surrender
Make me, Savior, wholly thine;
Let me feel the Holy Spirit
Truly know that thou art mine.
[Refrain]

⁴ All to Jesus I surrender
Lord, I give myself to thee;
Fill me with thy love and power,
Let thy blessings fall on me.
[Refrain]

Alms Presentation:

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

Remain standing as you are able.

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP Page 367

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, (twice)
heaven and earth are full, (full) of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes, in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel as able.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life. On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you:

This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you,
O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this
bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon
these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of
Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your
Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him,
being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time,
put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to
that heavenly country where, with [Stephen] and all your
saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and
daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all
creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy
Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and
for ever. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,

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

**And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil:**

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

**Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.**

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance
that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with
thanksgiving.

Communion

*Please follow the Greeter's instructions of forming a socially-distanced single line in the center aisle to receive your Holy Communion. The sacrament will be **distributed** by a priest, deacon or licensed lay eucharistic minister who will intinct/dip the wafer into the wine (if wine is desired) and hand the wine infused wafer to the worshipper for consumption. To decline one or both of the elements simply cross your arms in front of your chest and you will receive a prayer (if desired) by the worship leader. You may then return to your seat by the side aisles. *Please tell a Greeter if you are unable to walk to the altar rail and would like your Holy Communion Cup brought to you in your pew.*

**¹ Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidd'st me come to
thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**² Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt;
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**³ Just as I am, poor, wretched,
blind;
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea, all I need, in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**⁴ Just as I am, thou wilt receive;
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse,
relieve,
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**⁵ Just as I am, thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**⁶ Just as I am, of thy great love
the breadth, length, depth, and
height to prove,
here for a season, then above:
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

Post Communion Prayer *(standing or kneeling)*

BCP Page 365

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Announcements

- We welcome all of you to our Sunday Service today, September 28, 2025.
- We welcome all first time or returning visitors to our service today.
- We thank our Audio/Video Technology Committee.
- We welcome Rev. Elliott Waters for serving as our celebrant today.
- Sandra Garner will be our worship leader next Sunday, October 5, 2025.
- We thank you in advance for your generous donations for our Brown Bag Ministry. The Brown Bag distribution will take place today.
- We thank you for keeping up your financial pledges to Saint Stephen's during the summer months and now we ask that you please read the Stewardship Letter and see the Pledge Form found on pages 22 and 23 in this bulletin.
- Please support the Downtown Churches United, Inc., 'P.T. Taylor Walk Against Hunger Walk-A-Thon', scheduled for Saturday morning, October 4, 2025, from 9 am to 12 noon. See detailed information on pages 24 and 25 in this bulletin.
- When you come to church next Sunday, please remember to *'Bring a friend or a family member; Invite a neighbor; Welcome a stranger.'*
- Thank you for any further announcements.

Please kneel as you are able.

Blessing

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. ***Amen.***

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. ***Amen.***

And the blessing of God Almighty, our Creator, Redeemer, and Giver of life, be with you always. ***Amen.***

Please stand as you are able.

Recessional Hymn

‘How sweet the name’

Hymn 644

**¹ How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds
in a believer's ear!
It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds,
and drives away our fear.**

**² It makes the wounded spirit whole,
and calms the troubled breast;
'tis manna to the hungry soul,
and to the weary, rest.**

**³ Dear Name, the rock on which I build,
my shield and hiding-place,**

**my never-failing treasury, filled
with boundless stores of grace!**

**⁴ O Jesus! Shepherd, Guardian, Friend,
O Prophet, Priest and King,
my Lord, my Life, my Way, my End,
accept the praise I bring.**

**⁵ Weak is the effort of my heart,
and cold my warmest thought;
but when I see thee as thou art,
I'll praise thee as I ought.**

Dismissal

BCP Page 366

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Flowers: *Given to the Glory of God, by Dr. Jada Bing, in Thanksgiving and Blessings for her sister's birthday, Janessa Bing. Happy Birthday Janessa!*

Coffee Hour:

NEXT SUNDAY: *The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost Proper 22 –
October 5, 2025: Lamentations 1:1-6; Psalm: Lamentations 3:19-26;
2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10*

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=UEFjL29zRy9KWW5TWEFicEdQTjJQT09>

Meeting ID: 898 3316 9642

Passcode: 6Up8xp

Mid-week Noonday Prayer

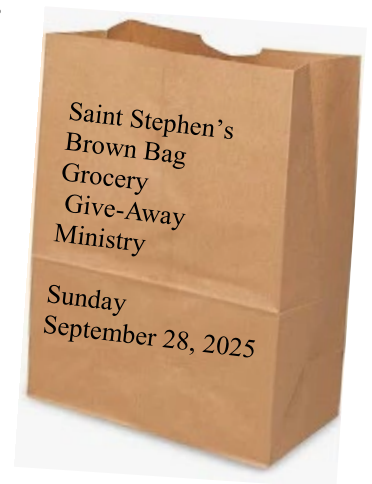
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88267646851?pwd=UGFBV0t3anlIM0x2UG15T2JlVFprQT09>

One More Reminder

We Need Your Help!

PLEASE

donate canned or non-perishable items for Brown Bag Food Giveaway! Please place donated items in the container at the Sanctuary entrance. The next Saint Stephen's Brown Bag Food Giveaway is scheduled for, today, **Sunday, September 28, 2025.** The distribution is always the fourth Sunday of the month. Thank You So Very Much!



*Supply Priest Schedule**

** Subject to change based upon scheduling changes and priest availability.*

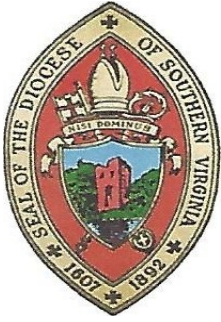
5 October – Sandra Garner

12 October – Rev. Boucher

19 October – Rev. Boucher

26 October – Rev. Waters

2 November – Clifton Dickens



Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church
228 Halifax Street
Petersburg, Virginia 23803
September 17, 2025



Phone: (804) 733-6228
Email: treasurer@ststephenspbgva.org

Dear Parishioners,

As St. Stephen's enters a new chapter of our church life, we continue to plan how the congregation will meet all the needs of the parish family. Stewardship of our time, talents, and financial giving is the cornerstone. These three components are exhibited through the four principles of Stewardship: Ownership, Responsibility, Accountability, and Reward.

Ownership: Own and protect what God has created and provided to us. Remember the legacy of our parishioners and their sacrifices.

Responsibility: Maintain and treat with respect all God's gifts given to each of us. God provides us with unique skills and talents for tasks. (Exodus 31 : 1-6)

Accountability: Use our talents, treasures, and financial resources efficiently and effectively for the church's life and mission.

Reward: Remain anchored in God, our foundation. God provides grace in abundance in all our work. (2Corinthians 9:8)

Let each of us enter into prayerful discernment in deciding our pledge for 2026, focusing on a future bi-vocational/shared clergy, care of our members and community, maintenance of our property and above all embracing our mission.

God has brought us this far; God will continue to bless us. We, St. Stephen's Christian Soldiers, are marching onward with the cross of Jesus. Triumph and Victory are ours.

In Service to Our Lord,

Deborah B. Young

St. Stephen's Finance Committee Chair



**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
2026 Offering Pledge
Return by: Sunday, October 26, 2025**

This financial commitment is my support of Our Mission and Our Vision.

General Operations Fund:

One-time \$ _____

Monthly \$ _____

Weekly \$ _____

Quarterly \$ _____

Annual Total \$ _____

Building Fund:

One-time \$ _____

Monthly \$ _____

Weekly \$ _____

Quarterly \$ _____

Annual Total \$ _____

I understand that my pledge may be adjusted at my discretion anytime during the 2026 year by notifying the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, or Finance Committee Chair. Pledge information is strictly confidential.

Signature(s) _____

Printed Name(s) _____

Address _____

Preferred Phone _____

Preferred Email _____

Please return your pledge form by Sunday, October 26, 2025. Please put in a sealed envelope, place in collection plate, or give to Finance Committee Member, or mail to church attention Finance Committee.



REGISTER FOR
The P.T. Taylor/DCU

WALK AGAINST HUNGER SATURDAY OCT 4TH



9AM - 12 NOON



HELP FEED OUR COMMUNITY



HOT DOGS



DRINKS



RAFFLE



Register Here

Free T-Shirt with \$20 Registration

dcuhopecenter.org

Please support the Downtown Churches United, Inc., 'P.T. Taylor Walk Against Hunger.'

Downtown Churches United, Inc.
827 Commerce Street
P.O. Box 1202
Petersburg, VA 23804
804-722-0321
A 501(c) (3) Corporation

August 27, 2025

Yvonne Coleman
St. Stephen's Episcopal
228 Halifax Street
Petersburg, VA 23803

Dear Members of St. Stephen's Episcopal,

It is time again for the POT. Taylor/DCU Walk Against Hunger. Once again, we are reaching out for your support.

As in years past, we warmly invite everyone to take part—by walking, donating, or cheering from afar. Your generosity continues to make a tremendous difference in our ability to serve those in need, especially now as we face reductions in federal funding.

Your donations, whether funds, food, time, clothing, or bedding—have touched countless lives. Every gift, whether one-time or recurring, directly strengthens our mission to serve our neighbors in need right here in our community.

We remain deeply grateful for your generosity and for your steadfast partnership in this important work. Together, we are making hope real.

Sincerely,



Scott Fisher, Executive Director

Contributions can be made in person, by check to P.O Box 1202, Petersburg, VA 23804, or online by visiting our website. The QR code to the right will take you directly to the website.



We need all the support you can offer

Mrs. Maxcine Walker, President — Mr. Waverly Brown, Vice President — Mr. Roger Cosey, Treasurer
Mr. James T. Jackson, Financial Secretary — Ms. Cindy Hamlin, Recording Secretary - Rev. Belinda Todd, Corresponding Secretary

Vestry

Cheryl Talley, 2025; Senior Warden
Clifton Dickens, 2026;
Sandra Garner, 2025
Kenneth Lewis, 2026
Jolisa Mills-Sheets, 2027;
Otha Myers, 2026;
Nancy Ross, 2025;
Marie Carol Jones, Register

Greeters

Anthony Lewis
Otha Myers

Lay Worship Leaders

Sandra Garner - Chair
Clifton Dickens, Sr.

Trustees

Judy Bland
Brandon Kimble
John Russell

HOPE Center

Feeding Committee

Yvonne Coleman, Chair
Judy Bland
Marie Carol Jones
Minnie Wallace
Bennie Wooten

Lectors

Jada Bing
Judy Bland
Anthony Lewis
Kenneth Lewis
Aleisha Manson
Nancy Ross
Minnie Wallace

Live-Streaming Committee

Clifton Dickens
Taylin Manson
Thomas R. E. Sidney

Finance Committee

Deborah B. Young - Chair
Bennie Wooten – Treasurer
Kenneth Lewis –
Assistant Treasurer
Joan Campbell - Emeritus
Michael Walker

Acolytes:

Acolyte Master:
Nancy S. Ross

Acolytes

Dwelaya Burns
Midori Sheets

Brown Bag Lunch Committee

Luke Berneking – Chair
Clifton Dickens – Asst. Chair
Autumn Berneking
Marie Carol Jones
Anthony Lewis
Otha Myers
Harriett Scruggs
Thomas R. E. Sidney
Ann Taylor

Please submit announcements you would like to have included in the next Sunday bulletin by the preceding Monday. Materials may be edited for content and length.

Notes

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.*

***We are not here to shine.
We are here to serve.***