

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost  
August 23, 2020

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church  
Richmond, Virginia

WELCOME

*Bob Dibble, St. Stephen's vestry member*

OPENING HYMN

Hymn 690: Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, *Cwm Rhondda*  
*St. Stephen's Virtual Choir*  
*Brent te Velde, organ*

OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

*Steve Long*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Meg Eckman*

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE FIRST LESSON

Romans 12:1-8

*The Rev. Gary D. Jones*

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God-- what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

## SEQUENCE

Anthem: *Tu es Petrus* by Maurice Duruflé  
*St. Stephen's Virtual Choir*

## THE GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13-20  
*Kathleen Burden*

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

## THE HOMILY

*The Rev. Claudia W. Merritt*

## MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

*Decatur* (Hymn 51, We the Lord's people)  
*Brent te Velde, piano*

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Iona Community  
*Rob Cabaniss, Beth Thomas, Austin Pearce*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Mary Clare Abbott*

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Form VI  
*Kim Schmidt, Reed Henderson, Eliza Bullock, Jeffry Burden, the Rev. William S. Stanley*

## CLOSING HYMN

Hymn 382: King of Glory, King of Peace, *General Seminary*  
*St. Stephen's Virtual Choir*  
*Brent te Velde, organ*

## THE PEACE

*Skip Bottom*

## CLOSING WORDS

*Read by the Rev. Cate Anthony*

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Opening hymn: Hymn 690, Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, *Cwm Rhondda*; words by William Williams, music by John Hughes; from The Hymnal 1982

Sequence anthem: *Tu es Petrus* from *Quatre Motets*, Op. 10, Maurice Duruflé; published by Durand Salabert Eschig; used with permission.

Music for Meditation: *Decatur Place* by Richard Wayne Dirksen (tune to Hymn 51, We the Lord's people) from The Hymnal 1982; Brent te Velde, piano

Closing hymn: Hymn 382, King of Glory, King of Peace, *General Seminary*; words: George Herbert; music: David Charles Walker; from The Hymnal 1982

Closing words from the Gospel read by the Rev. Cate Anthony; closing images: photo of stained glass window by Doug Buerlein for St. Stephen's Church; additional images in public domain: Icon of the Holy Face; Supper at Emmaus, Carravagio; Jésus et la Samaritaine, Jean-François de Troy; Christ Pantocrator

Final music: *Nettleton*, tune for Hymn 686, Come thou fount of every blessing, from The Hymnal 1982; Boo Reiners, banjo and guitar

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