

CELTIC EVENSONG AND COMMUNION

at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost ☩ August 8, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.



Welcome. To prepare for worship and allow for private prayer, please observe silence upon entering and exiting. We know that many who attend this service come from other faith traditions, or none at all; it is our honor to welcome you. This is a community we cherish and we are very glad you are here.

Prelude *The Last Rose of Summer*

arr. Philip Keverin

Please stand at the sound of the bell.

Opening *The Summer Day*

Mary Oliver

Who made the world?
Who made the swan, and the black bear?
Who made the grasshopper?
This grasshopper, I mean-
the one who has flung herself out of the grass,
the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,
who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down-
who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.
Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.
Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.
I don't know exactly what a prayer is.
I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down
into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,
how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields,
which is what I have been doing all day.
Tell me, what else should I have done?
Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?
Tell me, what is it you plan to do
with your one wild and precious life? *Silence is kept.*

Hymn *Humbly I adore thee*

Adoro devote



1. Hum-bly I a-dore thee, ve-ri-ty un-seen, who thy glo-ry hid-den
2. Taste and touch and vi-sion to dis-cern thee fail; faith, that comes by hear-ing
3. O me-mor-ri-als won-drous of the Lord's own death; liv-ing Bread that giv-eth
4. Je-sus, whom now hid-den, I by faith be-hold, what my soul doth long for,



'neath these sha-dows mean; lo, to thee sur-ren-dered, my whole heart is bowed,
pierc-es through the veil. I be-lieve what-e'er the-Son of God hath told;
all thy crea-tures breath, grant my spi-rit ev-er by thy life may live,
that thy word fore-told: face to face thy splen-dor, I at last shall see,



tranced as it be-holds thee, shrined with-in the cloud.
what the Truth hath spo-ken, that for truth I hold.
to my taste thy sweet-ness nev-er fail-ing give.
in the glo-ri-ous vi-sion, bless-ed Lord, of thee.

A Prayer for the Evening

We seek the grace of healing, O God.
At the heart of the brokenness around us
and in the hidden depths of our own souls
we seek your touch of healing, O God,
for there you reside.
In the hidden depths of life, O God,
there you reside. **Amen.**

The Reading John 6:35, 41-51 *Please sit.*

Reader A Reading from the Gospel according to John.

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."

Silence is observed after the reading.

Reflection Susan Wilkes

Two minutes of silence follow.

Music for Meditation *The Lark*

arr. Doreen Smith

The Prayers of the People *Please stand as you are able.*

Celebrant Let us pray for the church and the world.

Leader In the work we do this day,
People **May the risen Christ teach us.**

Leader In the challenges we face this day,
People **May the risen Christ guide us.**

Leader Through the people we meet this day,
People **May the risen Christ renew us.**

Leader As we respond to the hungers and hurts of this world,
People **May the risen Christ strengthen us.**

Leader O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day all who have died.

Silence

Leader Give us grace to see in death the gate of eternal life,
All **so that in quiet confidence**
we may continue our course on earth,
until, by your call,
we are reunited with those who have gone before.

Celebrant May our lips praise you, O God, our hearts bless you, and our lives glorify you,
through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Additional Prayers of Intercession and Thanksgiving *Please sit.*

During the music that follows, and any time thereafter, you may proceed to any station of votives and light a candle as a symbol of your prayers.

Music for Meditation *I heard the voice of Jesus say*
Rondeau

arr. David Cherwien
Henry Purcell

Hymn I heard the voice of Jesus say

Kingsfold

1. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest:
2. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
3. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;
and in your wea - ri - ness lay down your head up - on my breast."
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirs - ty one, stoop down and drink, and live."
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."
I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my Sun;
I found in him a rest - ing place, and he has made me glad.
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
and in that light of life I'll walk till pil - grim days are done.

The Grace

Luke 6:35-38a

Love your enemies, and do good, expecting nothing in return. Be merciful, just as God is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. **Amen.**

The Peace

Christ, the Good Shepherd, bind us with a bond of love that cannot be broken. My sisters and brothers, the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements

Please be seated.

The Holy Communion

For your offerings, alms basins are located at each entrance to the church.

At the Offertory *Largo*

Henry Eccles

Eucharistic Prayer *Please stand.*

Canon G

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant O God of mystery and promise, you invite us to discover you in the intimate places of ourselves and our lives. You invite us to discover you within the complexities of our humanity, in passionate and tender loving, in struggle and pain, in confusion and unknowing, in flashes of insight and wisdom. You also call us beyond ourselves to places of imagination, beyond the silent stars, in the deep rhythms of the ocean, in the unending cycles of day and night, seasons of life and death. With saints and ancestors, with the seas and earth and sky, with animals and birds, with our friends and those unknown to us, with all creation we join in the song of your unending glory:

Sanctus

Sung by all.

Land of Rest

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav'n and earth are
full of your glo-ry, Ho - san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is the one who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high-est, Ho - san-na in the high-est.

Celebrant We praise you that in Jesus you make known to us the wonder and richness of our humanity. We give thanks for his life-giving love, for his healing touch, for his vulnerability and for his gentleness. Before he gave up his life, he shared his humanity, his flesh and blood with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks for it, broke it and gave it to them saying:

All “This is my own body given for you. Do this to remember me.”

Celebrant So too after they had eaten, he took wine, gave thanks for it and gave it to them saying:

All “This is my blood, poured out in love for you. Do this to remember me.”

Celebrant So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Celebrant Come now, Spirit of God, and as we eat and drink these material things, make us one body, food for the world, one blood to be poured out for the life of all. Touch us with your gentle creativity and fire us with longing for the new age of justice and peace. We ask this through Jesus who gave his body that we might be one and his blood that we might find new life. With him, and through him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, be to you, O God, all honor and glory forever.
AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

Cantor
As our Sa - vior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

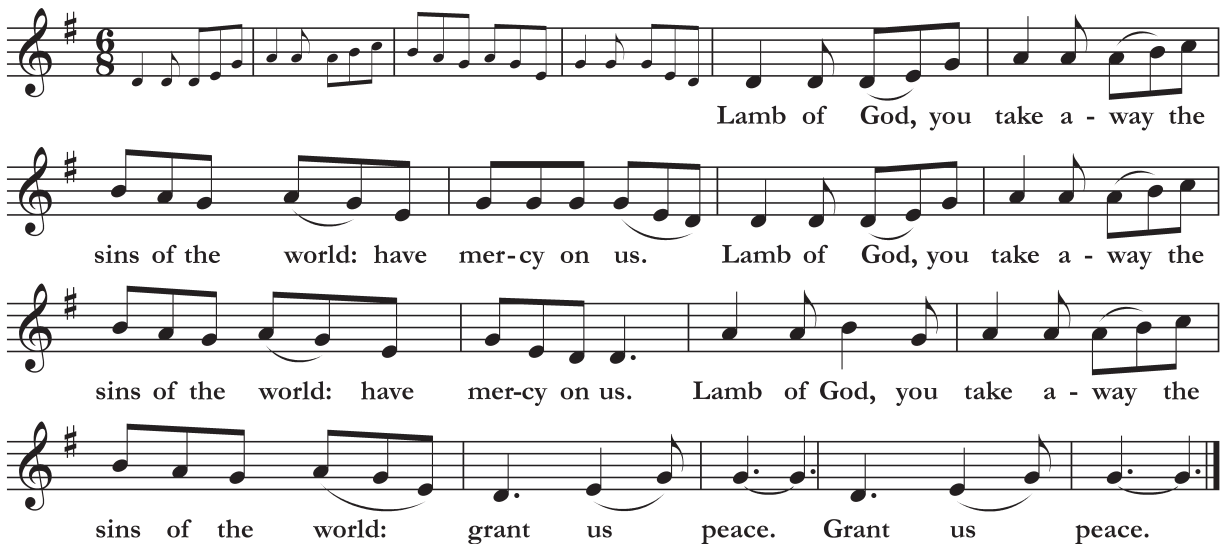
All
Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.
Save us from the time of tri - al, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.
For the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours,
now and for ev - er. A - men.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Lamb of God

Blarney Pilgrim



Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: grant us peace. Grant us peace.

The Invitation

Celebrant This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is the Lord who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

At the Communion of the People

All are welcome to receive the bread at the chancel steps. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, please tell the minister.

Music for Communion *Let us ever walk with Jesus* arr. Paul Manz
I heard the voice of Jesus say arr. Anne Krentz Organ
Let Erin remember arr. Phillip Keverin
Mary from Dungloe arr. Phil Coulter

After Communion *Please stand.*

Celebrant Let us pray.
All Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
May we who share Christ's body
live his risen life;
we who drink his cup
bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights
give light to the world. Amen.

The Blessing

E. Carson Brisson

Celebrant May joy and nothing less find you on the way.
May you be blessed and a blessing.
And may light guide you, and countless others, all the way home.
And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn Lord God, you now have set your servant free

Song I

Lord God, you now have set your ser- vant free to go in peace as
pro- mised in your word; my eyes have seen the Sa- vior, Christ the Lord,
pre- pared by you for all the world to see, to shine on na- tions
trapped in dark- est night, the glo- ry of your peo- ple, and their light.

Dismissal

Deacon Go out into the world in peace, have courage, hold on to what is good, return no one evil for evil, strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, help the suffering, honor everyone, love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God.

Please sit for the Music for Meditation.

Music for Meditation *Let us now depart*

New Mexican folksong

Postlude *Danny Boy*

arr. Phil Coulter

Please feel free to depart in silence during the Postlude, as you wish.



Following the Service

Please join us for the Sunday Community Supper after the service. This meal is lovingly prepared for any and all who come, using locally-sourced ingredients, many from our farmers market, natural and organic whenever possible. We consider this supper an extension of God's generous provision for all at the altar in Holy Communion. Please come—your presence is the most important thing—and contribute only as you are able, if at all; like all our ministries at St. Stephen's, the Community Supper is sustained by donations from those able to give.

If you would like to know more about this church and how you might become more involved, we would love to tell you. We're glad you're here and hope you will come back often.



Vigil Candle

The Vigil Candle in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit is given in thanksgiving by Dana King.

Participants

Celebrant: Pat Wingo

Deacon: Claudia Merritt

Reflector: Susan Wilkes

Lay Reader and Intercessor: Guy Frank

Musicians: Stephanie Hill, *cantor*; Peter Greydanus, *cello*; Greg Vick, *piano*

Setup Team: Jessica Lange, JoAnn Pulliam, Synthia Waymack

The Parish Prayer List

Burns Ackerly, William Angus, Sr., Lucja Aniol, Anne Arrington, Beth Avery, Robert Baker, Jennifer Ryan Ball, Lash Barksdale, Sandra Barnhouse, Paul Brown, Caroline Brandt, Mary Holly Bigelow, Randy Berrios, Lewis Best, Hannah and Zachary Bevis, Liz Brengel, Cook and Joe Brogan, Turner Bruneau, Charles Bryan, Andrew Bryant, Nancy Burns, Bill Bynum, Percy Cochran, Stephanie and Ron Coleman and family, Caswell Cooke, Mary Cooke, Nancy Davis, Virginia Davis, Hoyt Ellis, *Joe Enders III*, Silas Generelly, George Ginn, Judy Halsey, Rodger Hardy, Marianne Harmuth, Pat Harp, Emily Hart, Pat Hartsock, Lolly Hetherington, Bob Hines, Tom Hodges, Virginia Hopper, Mary Hunter and Chuck Townsend, Judy and Bobby Jackson, Champ Johnson, Janice Johnson, Ann O. Jones, Amy Youngblood Karnolt, Gouthum Karadi, Donna Kessler, Gail Kirby, Marilyn Kirkpatrick, Judy Knauf, Caleb Lambert, Pauline Lawhorne, Helen Lewis, Ashley McFadden, Susan Minyard, Anne Natoli, Caroline Hughes Neal, Tolar Nolley, Lea O'Sullivan, Anne Owens, Gail Mayo Paredes, Ruth Partlow, Chrissie Payne, Brooke Pettitt, Jim and Sarah Cooke Picton, Wilde Poole and family, Ray Robertson, Linda Robinson, Paul Roper, Rosalia Ross, James Saunders, Jon Schmidt, Gordon Schmidt, Josie Schmidt, Jane Settle, Claire Shaffner, T. Logan Scott, Mary Frances Siersema, Jimmy Smith, Mike, Linda, and Jessica Soukup, Josh Spain, Reilly Starr, Graden Stewart, William Stewart, Lucy Stockdell, Arnold Strulson, Mary Taylor Walsh and Samuel Taylor Sosnowski, LaSheka Thomas, Carol Todd, Mark Trawizki, Durwood Usry, Grant von Demark, Peter Von Szilassy, Donny White, Calvin Winn, Gene Wrenne, Peggy Wright, Karen Young, Alex, Anthony and family, Christen, Colin and Allison, Dan, John, Martin, Paul, Stephen, Taylor, Tonya. **For those expecting a child**, especially Paul Willson and Maggie Hunter, Jeff and Kate Willson Donowitz, Brent and Jenny te Velde, and Stephe and Jimmy Meadows. **For all the blessings of this life. For those who have died**, including *Gary Cheeseman, Liz Pope, and Austin Tucker*. **For our missionaries**, Heidi Schmidt and Monica Vega, serving in Argentina. **In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer**, we pray for *the Church of South India (United)*. **For the women, men, and staff of the City Jail. For racial reconciliation and healing. For ReWork Richmond. For peace and reconciliation** in Iraq, Israel/Palestine, North Korea, South Sudan, Syria, and Ukraine, and at our borders. **For those serving overseas in the military or diplomatic service:** *Lt. Col. Matthew Bryce Dibble, Cooper Murphy, Captain David G. Shuford, Jr., USMC, and MASN Ian M. Witschey.*

Names in italics were added to the prayer list this week.

In order to keep our prayer list current and facilitate the intentionality and mindfulness with which we pray, we print names on the list for three months or less. If you would like for someone to remain on the list for more (or less) time, please call the office or email the Rev. Cate Anthony at canthony@ststephensrva.org.

Prayers and blessings adapted from the following sources: The Northumbria Community, *Celtic Daily Prayer: Prayers and Readings from the Northumbria Community*, Harper Collins, 2002; *Intercessions for the Christian People*, The Liturgical Press, ©1990; *A New Zealand Prayer Book*, Harper Collins, 1997; Philip Newell, *Celtic Benediction: Morning and Night Prayer*, William B. Eardmans Publishing Company, 2000; Iona Community, *Iona Community Worship Book*. Glasgow: Wild Goose, 1991; Wild Goose Worship Group, *A Wee Worship Book*, Glasgow: Wild Goose, 1999. The Rite Stuff, ©1998, by Church Publishing Incorporated, all rights reserved, used by permission. All copyrighted music by permission, under OneLicense #A710911. Opening: "The Summer Day" by Mary Oliver; from *New and Selected Poems*, 1992 Beacon Press, Boston, MA.