



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church Annual Parish Memorial Service

All Are Welcome!

November 1, 2026, 4:30 pm Worship Service



*All of us go down to the dust;
yet even at the grave we make our
song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

The Book of Common Prayer

A CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST
In Thanksgiving for all the Faithful Departed

Prelude

Processional

For All the Saints

Hymnal 287

For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
 who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy Name, O Jesus, be for ever blessed.
 Alleluia, alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
 thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness drear, the one true Light.
 Alleluia, alleluia!

O may thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold, fight
 as the saints who nobly fought of old,
and win, with them, the victor's crown of gold.
 Alleluia, alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
 We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
 Alleluia, alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
 steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.
 Alleluia, alleluia!

But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day; the
 saints triumphant rise in bright array;
the King of glory passes on his way.
 Alleluia, alleluia!

THE REMEMBRANCE OF THE DEAD

Celebrant In the midst of life we are in death; from whom can we seek help?
From you alone, O Lord, who by our sins are justly angered.

People Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and merciful Savior, deliver us not into the bitterness of eternal death.

Celebrant Lord, you know the secrets of our hearts; shut not your ears to our prayers, but spare us, O Lord.

People Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and merciful Savior, deliver us not into the bitterness of eternal death.

Celebrant O worthy and eternal Judge, do not let the pains of death turn us away from you at our last hour.

People Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and merciful Savior, deliver us not into the bitterness of eternal death.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

THE COLLECT FOR THE DEPARTED

BCP 253

Almighty God, we remember before you today your faithful servants; and we pray that, having opened to *them* the gates of larger life, you will receive *them* more and more into your joyful service, that, with all who have faithfully served you in the past, *they* may share in the eternal victory of Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People *Amen.*

THE LESSONS

May we hear the Word of God through these words.

A Reading from Ecclesiasticus 2:1-11

My child, when you come to serve the Lord, prepare yourself for testing. Set your heart right and be steadfast, and do not be impetuous in time of calamity. Cling to him and do not depart, so that your last days may be prosperous. Accept whatever befalls you, and in times of humiliation be patient. For gold is tested in the fire, and those found acceptable, in the furnace of humiliation. Trust in him, and he will help you; make your ways straight, and hope in him. You who fear the Lord, wait for his mercy; do not stray, or else you may fall. You who fear the Lord, trust in him, and your reward will not be lost. You who fear the Lord, hope for good things, for lasting joy and mercy. Consider the generations of old and see: has anyone trusted in the Lord and been disappointed? Or has anyone persevered in the fear of the Lord and been forsaken? Or has anyone called upon him and been neglected? For the Lord is compassionate and merciful; he forgives sins and saves in time of distress.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 149 (to be said in unison)

- 1 Hallelujah! Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.**
- 2 Let Israel rejoice in his Maker; *let the children of Zion be
joyful in their King.**
- 3 Let them praise his Name in the dance; *let them sing praise to
him with timbrel and harp.**
- 4 For the Lord takes pleasure in his people *
and adorns the poor with victory.**
- 5 Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; *
let them be joyful on their beds.**

- 6 Let the praises of God be in their throat *
and a two-edged sword in their hand;**
- 7 To wreak vengeance on the nations *
and punishment on the peoples;**
- 8 To bind their kings in chains *
and their nobles with links of iron;**
- 9 To inflict on them the judgment decreed; *
this is glory for all his faithful people.
Hallelujah!**

At the end of the Psalms is said

**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.**

*May we hear the Word of God through these words.
A Reading from the Letter to the Ephesians 1:11-23*

In Christ we have obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory. I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right

hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

I Love To Tell the Story

LEVAS 64

I love to tell the story Of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and His glory, Of Jesus and His love.
I love to tell the story, Because I know it's true;
It satisfies my longings As nothing else would do.

*I love to tell the story; Twill be my theme in glory.
To tell the old, old story Of Jesus and His love.*

Please remain standing for the Gospel.

When the Gospel is being announced, a cross is made,
✝ (on the forehead) in my mind to understand it,
✝ (on the lips) on my lips to proclaim it, and
✝ (over the heart) in my heart to live it.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *Luke*
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus looked up at his disciples and said: “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets. “But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon Hymn

I love to tell the story, For those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting To hear it, like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
'Twill be the old, old story That I have loved so long.

*I love to tell the story; Twill be my theme in glory.
To tell the old, old story Of Jesus and His love.*

❖ **Reflective Meditation** The Rev. Sarah Quinney ❖

Please use this time to silently reflect on what the Lord has spoken to you.

Please stand.

Apostles' Creed *Celebrant and People say.*

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.

Please sit or kneel for The Prayers of the People.

Prayer of Intercession

Leader The Lord be with You.

People *And also with You.*

Leader In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Almighty God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord: Grant, we beseech thee, to thy whole Church in paradise and on earth, thy light and thy peace.

People *Amen.*

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life, and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection.

People *Amen.*

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that thy Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days.

People *Amen.*

Grant to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind.

People *Amen.*

Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting.

People *Amen.*

Celebrant

Grant us, with all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, to have our consummation and bliss in thy eternal and everlasting glory, and, with all our departed loved ones and all thy saints, to receive the crown of life which thou dost promise to all who share in the victory of thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

At the conclusion of the Peace,

Celebrant God is Good!

People All the Time!

Offertory

Amazing Grace

Arr: Tomlin and Giglio

Will Bridges ~ saxophone



Doxology—to be sung

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; praise

Him, all creatures here below;

O Praise Him! Alleluia!

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

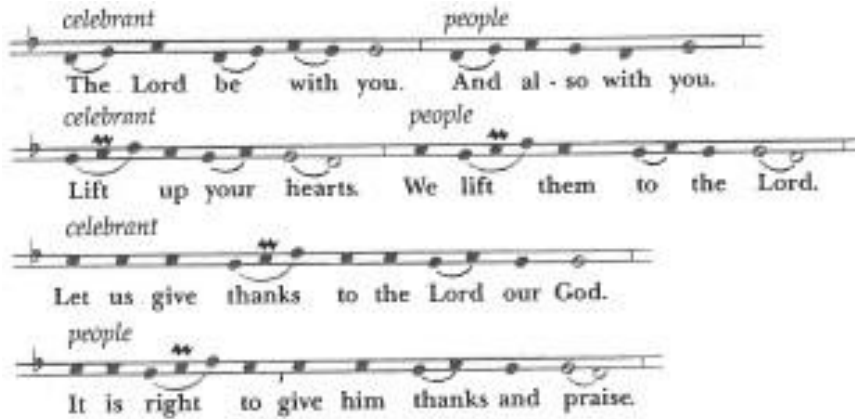
O Praise Him! O Praise Him!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving & Sanctus

People remain standing



The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For in the multitude of your saints, you have surrounded us with a great cloud of witnesses, that we might rejoice in their fellowship, and run with endurance the race that is set before us; and, together with them, receive the crown of glory that never fades away.

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

S125

Bow during the underlined text

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

**God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

+ Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Please sit, kneel or remain standing.

The Celebrant continues

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;**

The Celebrant continues

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.

People Amen.

And now let us sing in thanksgiving the prayer our Savior Christ taught us,

Celebrant and People

Our Father, which 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 debts,

as we forgive our debtors.

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.*

The Breaking of the Bread
Celebrant and People—to be sung

S154

Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.
Christ our Pass-o-ver is sac-ri-ficed for us;
There-fore let us keep the feast.
Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

The Celebrant says the following Invitation

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.

*This is the Lord's 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.*

Please join in singing our Communion Hymn.

My Faith Looks up to Thee

LEVAS 88

My faith looks up to thee, Thou lamb of Calvary,

Savior divine! Now hear me while I pray,
Take all my guilt away; O let me from this day
Be wholly thine.

May thy rich grace impart Strength to my fainting heart,
My zeal inspire; As thou hast died for me,
O may my love to thee Pure, warm, and changeless be A
living fire.

While life's dark maze I tread, And griefs around me spread, Be
thou my guide; Bid darkness turn today,
Wipe sorrow's tears away; Pure, warm, and changeless be A
living fire.

When ends life's transient dream, When death's cold, sullen stream
Shall o'er me roll; Blest Savior, then in love, Fear
and distrust remove, O bear me safe above,
A ransomed soul.

Post Communion Thanksgiving & Commendation

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction, and a pledge of our Inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

***People* Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn in Procession

When We All Get to Heaven

LEVAS 20

Sing the wondrous love of Jesus,
Sing His mercy and His grace;
In the mansion bright and blessed,
He'll prepare for us a place.

*When we all get to heaven, What a day of rejoicing that will be!
When we all see Jesus, We'll sing and shout the victory.*

While we walk the pilgrim pathway,
Clouds will overspread the sky; But
when trav'ling days are over,
Not a shadow, not a sigh.

Refrain

Let us then be true and faithful,
Trusting, serving ev'ry day;
Just one glimpse of Him in glory
Will the toils of life repay;

Refrain

Onward to the prize before us!
Soon His beauty we'll behold;
Soon the pearly gates will open;
We shall tread the streets of gold.

Refrain

At the Columbarium

The Lighting of the Votive Candles

*After the following anthem is said, and
the congregation is invited to light the votive candles.*

Everyone the Father gives to me will come to me; I
will never turn away anyone who believes in me.
He who raised Jesus Christ from the dead
Will also give new life to our mortal bodies
Through his indwelling spirit.
My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
My body also shall rest in hope.
You will show me the path of life;
In your presence there is fullness of joy,
And in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

After the candles are lit, the bell is tolled; then the Celebrant says these words:

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God the souls of all our departed loved ones. The Lord bless them and keep them, the Lord make his face to shine upon them and be gracious unto them, the Lord lift up his countenance upon them and give them peace.

People Amen.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**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.***

Then the Celebrant says

O God, whose days are without end, and whose mercies cannot be numbered: Make us, we pray, deeply sensible of the shortness and uncertainty of life; and let your Holy Spirit lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days; that, when we shall have served you in our generation, we may be gathered to our ancestors, having the testimony of a good conscience; in the communion of the Universal Church; in the confidence of a certain faith; in the comfort of a religious, and holy hope; in favor with you our God, and in perfect charity with the world. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People* *Amen.

Celebrant Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord:

People* *And let light perpetual shine upon them.

Celebrant May their souls, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

People* *Amen.

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever.

People Amen.

THE CHRISTIAN ASSURANCE

(from the Book of Common Prayer)

The liturgy for the dead is an Easter liturgy.

It finds all its meaning in the resurrection.

Because Jesus was raised from the dead we, too, shall be raised.

The liturgy, therefore, is characterized by joy,
in the certainty that “neither death, nor life, nor angels,
nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

This joy, however, does not make human grief unchristian.

The very love we have for each other in Christ
brings deep sorrow when we are parted by death.

Jesus himself wept at the grave of his friend.

So, while we rejoice that one we love
has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord,
we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn.

For we know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Romans 6:9-11



Our Mission

is to be one with God
and humanity in Christ
by living the Gospel with
love and compassion.



Our Vision

is to become comfortable
with Jesus Christ and
boldly proclaim Him.

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