

**The
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 17
August 30, 2026**



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

1935 The Plaza

Parish Office: 1229 Baker Avenue

Schenectady, NY 12309

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A Congregation of the Episcopal Diocese of Albany

The Rt. Rev. Jeremiah Williamson, Bishop

The Rev. Lisa Busby, Rector

Susan Lohnas, Organist

Douglas Lohnas, Choir Director

If you or someone you know is in need, please call Mother Lisa at (518) 637-7736

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II

The Entrance Rite

The Prelude

Largo

Elizabeth Stirling (1819-1895)

English organist and composer Elizabeth Stirling gained success in an era when it was rare for women to be professional musicians. In 1856, she applied to Oxford for a degree in music. The examiners approved, but they refused to award her the degree when they learned she was a woman.

The Word of God

The Processional Hymn

Hymnal #388

The Opening Acclamation

Page #355

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

Page #355

The Gloria Hymnal S-280 *Hymn numbers beginning with S are found in the front of the Hymnal.*

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.

The Collect of the Day - Proper 17

Page #233

The Lessons

The First Lesson

Exodus 3:1-15

Lector: A reading from the book of Exodus.

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain." But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what

shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.
- 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works.
- 3 Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
- 4 Search for the Lord and his strength; *
continually seek his face.
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
- 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, *
O children of Jacob his chosen.
- 23 Israel came into Egypt, *
and Jacob became a sojourner in the land of Ham.
- 24 The Lord made his people exceedingly fruitful; *
he made them stronger than their enemies;
- 25 Whose heart he turned, so that they hated his people, *
and dealt unjustly with his servants.
- 26 He sent Moses his servant, *
and Aaron whom he had chosen.
- 45 Hallelujah!

The Second Lesson

Romans 12:9-21

Lector: A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Sequence Hymn

Hymnal #648

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 16:21-28

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Lisa Busby

The Nicene Creed

Page #358

All:

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

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
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.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
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.**

Prayers of the People – Proper 17

Prayers of the People

Celebrant: My sisters and brothers, be kindly affectioned one to another with love. And let us come before God, saying, "We glory in your holy name, and offer to you our prayer, O God."

Intercessor: Lord Jesus, you bid your disciples take up their cross and follow you: may your holy Church desire, above all, the things of God that we might overcome evil with good.

Silence

Intercessor: We glory in your holy name,
People: **And offer to you our prayer, O God.**

Intercessor: Lord God of our forebears, you know the sorrows of the afflicted: Deliver those who are being oppressed. And grant your peace to all the world.

Silence

Intercessor: We glory in your holy name,
People: **And offer to you our prayer, O God.**

Intercessor: Good Lord, you make known your wondrous works: reveal yourself in the works of your hands as you did to Moses our forebear on the holy mountain. (You are invited to add your petitions of thanksgivings, silently or aloud).

Silence

Intercessor: We glory in your holy name,
People: **And offer to you our prayer, O God.**

Intercessor: O Lord, grant that the people of our land be given to hospitality. May we abhor that which is evil and cleave to that which is good and, in so doing, may we live peaceably one with another.

Silence

Intercessor: We glory in your holy name,
People: **And offer to you our prayer, O God.**

Intercessor: Strong Lord, make us weep with those who weep. Reveal your strength to the weak and lowly that they may rejoice in all your marvelous works. (You are invited to add your petitions of intercession, silently or aloud).

Silence

Intercessor: We glory in your holy name,
People: **And offer to you our prayer, O God.**

Intercessor: Almighty God, you reward each one according to their works: Give to the dead rest from their labors and life everlasting.

Silence

Intercessor: We glory in your holy name,
People: **And offer to you our prayer, O God.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect. Celebrant:

All: **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: **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.**

Celebrant: 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.

People: **Amen.**

The Peace *Page #360* *During the exchange of the peace, you are welcome to greet those around you.*

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Sentence

The Offertory Anthem

Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior

Fanny Crosby (1820-1915) /
William H. Doane (1832-1915)

Douglas & Susan Lohnas

The Doxology

Hymnal #380, v.3

The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer B

Page #367

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

(Here a Proper Preface is said.)

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:

Sanctus Hymnal S-124 *Hymn numbers beginning with S are found in the front of the Hymnal.*

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic Prayer. The congregation joins in at the following prompt:

Celebrant: Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

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

The Celebrant continues with the remainder of the Eucharistic Prayer. At the conclusion, all say:

All: **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

Page #364

Celebrant: And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All: **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.

The Breaking of the Bread

Page #364

Celebrant: Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Agnus Dei Hymnal S-161 *Hymn numbers beginning with S are found in the front of the Hymnal.*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; grant us peace.

The Invitation to Communion

Page #364

The Communion Hymn

Hymnal #707

Post-Communion Prayer

Page #366

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Concluding Rite

The Announcements

The Blessing

Page #366

The Recessional Hymn

Hymnal #535

The Dismissal

Page #366

The Postlude

Maestoso

S. deRoulers / arr. Carlo Rossini (1890-1975)

Little is known about the composer S. deRoulers. Fr. Carlo Rossini published this arrangement in a volume of music he compiled for weddings. An Italian-born Roman Catholic priest, Fr. Rossini served for many years as organist/choirmaster at St. Paul's Cathedral, Pittsburgh.

The postlude sends us out into the world. You are welcome to exit quietly or stay for the entire piece. We hope you will join us for coffee hour and fellowship in the parish hall immediately following today's service.

* * * * *

Serving Today:

Celebrant:	The Rev. Lisa Busby
Altar Guild:	Mary Alexander
Ushers:	Bob Brockway Ron Stefanski
Eucharistic Minister:	Allison de Kanel
Acolyte:	Basil Dewdney
Lector:	George Woodzell
Intercessor:	Ruth Basantes
Counter:	Jean Stefanski
Coffee Hour:	Denise and Dave Crates

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St. Stephen's has been accepted into Luke 10 Congregations: Equipping Churches to Do Justice, a national cohort-based training program for Christian churches! Richey Woodzell, Chris Fink, Ruth Basantes, Kathy Condon, and Mother Lisa will represent our congregation in this 9-month program, which will begin with a retreat in Baltimore Sept. 11-13. The Luke 10 program equips congregations to engage in ministries to address poverty, racism, and Christian Nationalism and live out the gospel call for justice and abundant life for all people. Please keep Richey, Chris, Ruth, Kathy, and Mother Lisa in your prayers as they begin this process and help to lead our church into deeper understanding and engagement. They will also be seeking input and involvement from the whole congregation, so stay tuned for ways to learn more and get involved!