

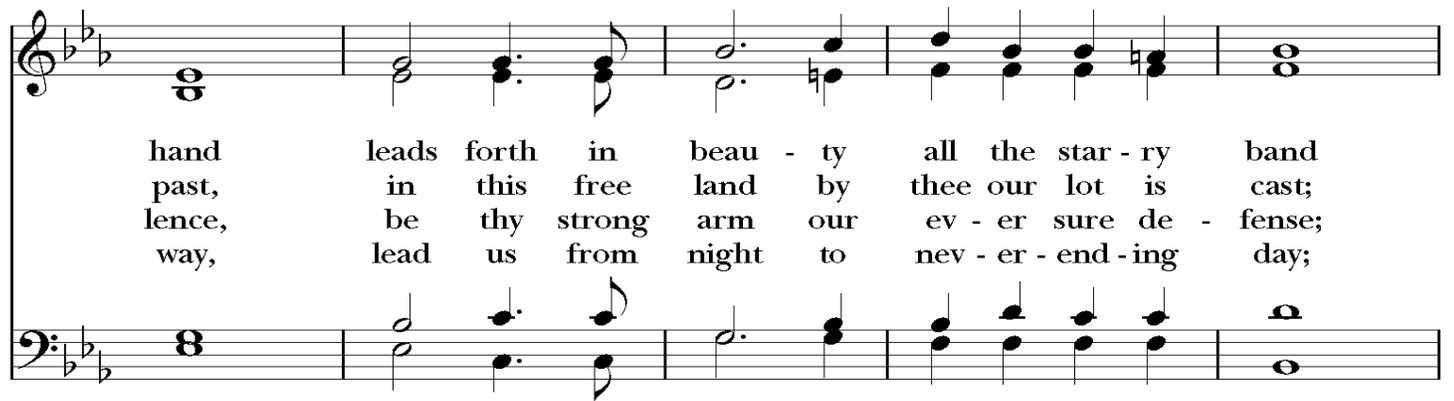
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

July 4, 2021 6 Pentecost

The Hymnal 1982 - #718 God of our fathers, whose almighty hand



1 God of our fa - thers, whose al - might - y
2 Thy love di - vine hath led us in the
3 From war's a - larms, from dead - ly pes - ti -
4 Re - fresh thy peo - ple on their toil - some



hand leads forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band
past, in this free land by thee our lot is cast;
lence, be thy strong arm our ev - er sure de - fense;
way, lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day;



of shin - ing worlds in splen - dor through the skies,
be thou our ru - ler, guard - ian, guide, and stay
thy true re - li - gion in our hearts in - crease,
fill all our lives with love and grace di - vine,



our grate - ful songs be - fore thy throne a - rise.
thy word our law, thy paths our cho - sen way.
thy bount - eous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.
and glo - ry, laud, and praise be ev - er thine.

Important Information:

We will all keep our masks on during the entire service.

Throughout the service everyone must maintain social distancing and be 6 ft apart from each other unless you are with family members or who you came with.

We will not sing today, however, we will have a soloist or we will say the songs.

There will be no Offertory, there is a collection box in the Narthex for your pledge or donation

Please stay in place and wave or air hug for the passing of the peace.

The ushers will send you up to Erika for Communion.

***Please sanitize your hands before and after communion.

After the service we will follow social distancing guidelines and depart as the ushers tell us. Please put your bulletin in the recycling bin on your way out, and exit through the parish hall.

There will be no coffee hour today.

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever.

Amen.

The Collect for Purity

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.*

Gloria in Excelsis (WLP)

*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 Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; 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 for the Lessons

A Reading from Ezekiel 2:1-5

The Lord said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the Lord God." Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Psalm 123 (Please say in unison)

To you I lift up my eyes,
to you enthroned in the heavens.

As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters,
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,

So our eyes look to the LORD our God,
until he show us his mercy.

Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy

For we have had more than enough of contempt,
Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich,
and of the derision of the proud.

A Reading from 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows— was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

The Hymnal 1982 - #530 Spread, O spread, thou mighty word

1 Spread, O spread, thou might - y word, spread the king - dom of the Lord,
2 word of how the Fa - ther's will made the world, and keeps it, still;
3 word of how the Sa - vior's love earth's sore bur - den doth re - move;
4 word of how the Spi - rit came bring - ing peace in Je - sus' name;
5 Word of life, most pure and strong, word for which the na - tions long,

1 that to earth's re - mot - est bound all may heed the joy - ful sound;
2 how his on - ly Son he gave, earth from sin and death to save;
3 how for - ev - er, in its need, through his death the world is freed;
4 how his nev - er - fail - ing love guides us on to heaven a - bove.
5 spread a - broad, un - til from night all the world a - wakes to light.

Words: Jonathan Friedrich Bahmaier (1774-1841); tr. Arthur William Farlander (1898-1952) and Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), alt. St. 4, F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984) Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music: *Gott sei Dank*, melody from *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1704; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 6:1-13

Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Christ

Sermon

Let us stand and confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

The Nicene Creed

*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

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

We pray for the special needs and concerns of this congregation, for the victims of gun violence, for the people of India, overwhelmed with Covid-19 infections and deaths; for the congregation of Faith Christian Church of India and their loved ones who have died, or are in danger of getting Covid.

And those we now name in our hearts.

May your love comfort all

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin

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.

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.*

The Sharing of the Peace

The Peace is exchanged by waving or air hugs.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Birthdays:

Michele Hammond Williams, Karen Robards

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements: There are a number of weeks coming up that we don't have anyone signed up for flowers. If you would like to sign up please contact Carol in the office

Offertory -Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer A

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 him 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:

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music - #128 The Holy Eucharist II, Holy, holy, holy Lord: *Sanctus*

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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 say,

*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.*

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:
Therefore, let us keep the feast.

The Gifts of God for the People of God

The Hymnal 1982 - #635 If thou but trust in God to guide thee

Unison or harmony

1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee, and hope in him through
 2 Sing, pray, and keep his ways un - swerv - ing; so do thine own part

all thy ways, he'll give thee strength what - e'er be - tide thee,
 faith - ful - ly, and trust his word, though un - de - serv - ing;

and bear thee through the e - vil days. Who trusts in God's un -
 thou yet shalt find it true for thee; God nev - er yet for -

chang - ing love builds on a rock that nought can move.
 sook in need the soul that trust - ed him in - deed.

Words: Georg Neumark (1621-1681); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: *Wer nur lieben Gott*, Georg Neumark (1621-1681)

David will play music during Communion

Let us pray.

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.*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

"Alleluia, Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!
Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia!"



The flowers are given in the glory of God
By the Herzog family in thanksgiving for Carol Fette

The Hymnal 1982 - #657 Love divine, all loves excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to
 2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy
 3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.