

## St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

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ssechurch@gmail.com

www.saintstephenswhiting.org

### A parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey

The Rt. Rev. William H. (Chip) Stokes, Bishop

The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr., Rector

Sandra Gaskill, Treasurer

Gerianne Murphy Assistant Treasurer

Pam Unger, Organist & Choir Director

Colleen Clover, Parish Administrator

Tom O'Brien, Sexton

Janet Spieth, Rector's Warden

### Wardens and Vestry 2018

Janet Spieth, Rector's Warden

Richard Smithson, Property Warden

William Bodine, Carol Cavanaugh, Randy Walton

Jack Brown, Laura Gural, Tom Larson

Lillian Fink, Dottie Kaster, Peter Quigley

Jo Ann Smithson, Clerk

### Mission Statement

To proclaim the faith that our years have engendered: to use the diversity of our Episcopal experience while working toward a common goal; to teach the young about Jesus and to reach out and affect the lives of those in the community.

*"Wherefore by their fruits you shall know them." Matthew 7:20*

### Welcome to St. Stephen's Church!

We thank you for joining us for worship today. Please stay for coffee hour, and sign our guest book at the podium in the Narthex. If you are looking for a church home, you have just found it. We would love to have you at St. Stephen's. Arrangements for weddings and baptisms can be made by speaking directly with the Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr., Rector.

### To Report Illness, Hospitalization, etc.

Please notify the church office 732/350-2121 of any illnesses or hospitalizations.

If it is an emergency you may also reach Janet Spieth, Rector's Warden at 732/716-1656 or

Father Paul at his home 609-268-2864.



**JESUS OFFERED UP PRAYERS AND  
SUPPLICATIONS, WITH LOUD  
CRIES AND TEARS,  
TO THE ONE WHO WAS ABLE TO SAVE  
HIM FROM DEATH ...**

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT****HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I****Hymnal****The Word of God**495 Processional Hymn: *“Hail, thou once despised Jesus”*

Opening Acclamation

Confession

S91 Kyrie

Collect of the Day

First Lesson: *Book of Jeremiah 31:31-34***Psalm 51**Second Lesson: *Letter to the Hebrews 5:5-10*Gradual: *“Word of God, Speak”*

Verse

Gospel: *John 12:20-33*

Sermon — The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.

The Nicene Creed

Prayers of the People

The Peace

Announcements

Offertory

Doxology: *“All things come of thee O Lord”***HOLY COMMUNION**

Eucharistic Prayer II

S112 Sursum Corda

S113 Sanctus

The Lord’s Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

S157 Agnus Dei

Communion Hymns:

474 *“When I survey the wondrous cross”*479 *“Glory be to Jesus, who in bitter pain”*337 Post Communion Hymn: *“And now, O Father, mindful of the love”*

Post Communion Prayer

Blessing

441 Recessional: *“In the Cross of Christ I glory”*

Dismissal

**MARCH 18, 2018****8 am & 10 am****BCP**

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Lenten Booklet

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Lenten Booklet

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**Fifth Sunday in Lent****March 18, 2018**

Serving in the Liturgy today:

Lector 8:00 AM

Greta Pearl

LEM 8:00 AM

Jo Ann Smithson

Altar Guild 8:00 AM

Mary Storey, Betty Corino

Ushers 8:00 AM

Mary Storey, Glenn Mortimer, Bill Bodine

Lector 10:00 AM

Bernice Neuman

LEMs 10:00 AM

Stefanie Rotsaert, Bill Bodine

Altar Guild 10:00 AM

Barbara Lavinio, Margaret Poper

Ushers 10:00 AM

Joe Orsita, Bob Axon

**CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF:****March 18,-March 24, 2018**

Today

Holy Eucharist  
AA Meeting8 am & 10 am  
8:00 pm

Monday

***Adult Bible Study******6:00 pm***

Tuesday

***Adult Bible Study***  
Closed AA Meeting***1:00 pm***  
2:00 pm

Wednesday

Closed AA Meeting  
Chime Practice3:00 pm  
7:00 pm

Thursday

Healing Service  
Choir Practice10:00 am  
2:00 pm

Friday

Pineland Symphonic Band

9:30 am

Saturday

AA Meeting  
AA Meeting3:00 pm  
8:00 pm**Everyone is welcome to come to the coffee hour after worship**

All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion at our Lord’s Table; regardless of your church affiliation. We encourage you to share with us in this sacrament.





4 Against you only have I sinned \*  
and done what is evil in your sight.

5 And so you are justified when you speak \*  
and upright in your judgment.

6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, \*  
a sinner from my mother's womb.

7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \*  
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \*  
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.

9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, \*  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.

10 Hide your face from my sins \*  
and blot out all my iniquities.

11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, \*  
and renew a right spirit within me.

12 Cast me not away from your presence \*  
and take not your holy Spirit from me.

13 Give me the joy of your saving help again \*  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.



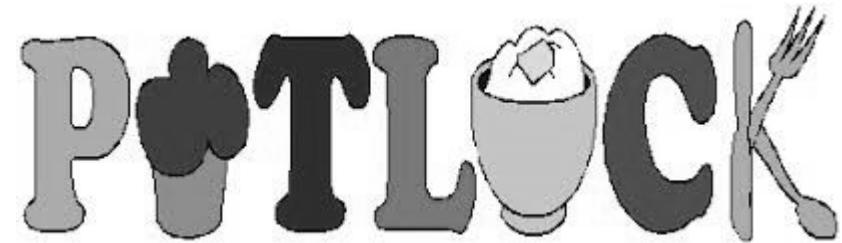
CHIME CHOIR PRACTICE-Wednesdays 7:00PM-8:30PM

CHOIRE PRACTICE Thursdays @ 2:00 PM

EWC MEETINGS 2018:June 7th-Sept 6th-Dec 6th

ORDER OF SAINT LUKE: 2nd Thurs. after healing service.

PINELAND SYMPHONIC BAND Practice Fridays 9:30 am



*Parish Potluck Brunch*

*April 15, 2018*

*Following the 10AM service*

*Bring your favorite dish*

*Join us for fun and fellowship!*

**MUSIC**

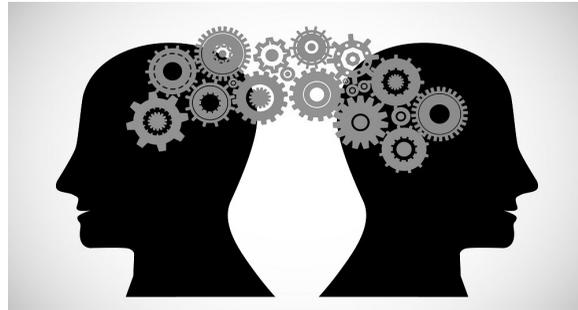


**LOOK**  
*For the sign-up  
Sheet in the Narthex*



**FUN**

**Stewardship**-It is a rewarding experience allowing us to give back to God for the abundance He has graced us with. As active church stewards we find fun, unique methods with which to raise funds and continue to foster our working relationship with the community. We welcome all to join us in a combined effort to fund-raise and facilitate onward, upward growth of our thriving parish. To participate in our next brain-storming session, please call the parish office at 732-350-2121



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***Bible Study sessions will continue***

***On Mondays @ 6PM***

***Tuesdays @ 1PM***

***Wednesdays @ 1PM at The Pines***

***We are studying "24 Hours that Changed the World" part 6***



## ***Second Reading***

***Letter to the Hebrews 5:5-10***

So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, "Thou art my Son, today I have begotten thee"; as he says also in another place, "Thou art a priest for ever, after the order of Melchiz'edek." In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard for his godly fear. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and being made perfect he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchiz'edek.

## ***Holy Gospel***

***John 12:20-33***

Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. So these came to Philip, who was from Beth-sa'ida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew went with Philip and they told Jesus. And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of man to be glorified. Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If any one serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there shall my servant be also; if any one serves me, the Father will honor him. "Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, for this purpose I have come to this hour. Father, glorify thy name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing by heard it and said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world, now shall the ruler of this world be cast out; and I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself." He said this to show by what death he was to die.

## Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Each year on the first four Sundays of Lent we hear Old Testament readings which recall the most important events in "salvation history". On the fifth Sunday each year, we hear one of the prophetic passages which foresee the greater and ultimate saving event to come in Jesus' dying and rising. This year, the reading is Jeremiah's message that God will at some time in the future establish a new covenant with the people which will transcend the old covenant of the Exodus. The most significant thing about this new covenant is that it will be expressed in an interior relationship with God rather than an exterior law.

The second reading today describes Jesus' suffering as the manifestation of his priestly ministry (using the image of the mysterious Old Testament priest Melchizedek, who in Hebrew tradition was thought greater than the priests of Israel and one who was, in some sense, immortal). This is part of this epistle's argument that Jesus has supplanted the priesthood and worship of Israel. The Gospel reading also relates Jesus' dying to his glorification and our salvation and as the means of calling the whole world into the Kingdom.

As we near the end of our Lenten pilgrimage, these readings underscore the primary result of our worship and especially of Baptism and Eucharist: we have been made part of Christ's Body in Baptism and a part of his priesthood; that is, we are part of what he does, we express our share in his sacrifice and his mediation between humanity and God in our celebration of the liturgy. Thus, indeed, is this new Covenant written on our hearts and we truly each know God as Jeremiah foretold. Pray for those who will join that new Covenant when they are baptized at Easter.

From *The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year*.

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### Announcements

March 18, 2018

#### **Prayer to send out LEMs with the Sacrament:**

**Celebrant:** N. we send you out to share Communion this week with those who have been entrusted to your care.

**People:** May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this Sacrament of Christ's presence.

**Celebrant:** Continues with a closing prayer.

*The Sanctuary Candle is given to the glory of God*

*Sans Memorial*



*The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God*

*By a parishioner*

#### **ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNION SERVICES**

The Pines	1st Sunday of each month	at 9:30 am
AristaCare	1st Monday of each month	at 2:00 pm
The Arbors	2nd Monday of each month	at 2:00 pm
The Pines	3rd Monday of each month	at 2:00 pm
Crestwood Manor	4th Monday of each month	at 2:00 pm