

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

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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.



He was transfigured before them ...
and his clothes became dazzling white ...

Mark 9:2-3, NRSV

Last Sunday after the Epiphany

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

Hymnal The Word of God

- 427 Processional Hymn: *“When morning gilds the skies”*
- Opening Acclamation
- S102 Trisagion
- Collect of the Day
- Gathering the Children: ***Children’s Story***
- Gradual: *“Word of God Speak”*
- Gospel: ***Mark 9:2-9***
- Sermon — The Rev. Paul Van Sant
- The Nicene Creed
- Prayers of the People form
- The Peace
- Announcements
- Offertory Anthem
- Doxology: *“All things come of thee O Lord”*

HOLY COMMUNION

- Eucharistic Prayer B
- S120 Sursum Corda
- S125 Sanctus
- The Lord’s Prayer
- S152 Breaking of the Bread
- Communion Hymns:
 - “Let us break bread together”*
 - “Jesu, Jesu”*
- Closing Hymn: *“Jesus loves me”*
- Blessing
- Dismissal

February 11, 2018

10 AM

BCP

355

Insert

Insert

326

367

364

337

Insert

Insert

Insert

366

Last Sunday after the Epiphany

Serving in the Liturgy today:

- Lector 8:00 AM Mary Storey
- LEM 8:00 AM Bill Bodine
- Altar Guild 8:00 AM Mary Storey, Betty Corino
- Ushers 8:00 AM Mary Storey, Glenn Mortimer, Bill Bodine
- Lector 10:00 AM Sandra Gaskill
- LEMs 10:00 AM Lillian Fink, Stefanie Rotsaert
- Altar Guild 10:00 AM Barbara Lavinio, Margaret Poper
- Ushers 10:00 AM Al Thompson, John Brown

February 11, 2018

10 AM

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF:

February 11–February 17, 2018

Today	Holy Eucharist <i>Fellowship and Fundraising meeting</i> AA Meeting	8 & 10 am <i>(following 10 am service)</i> 8:00 am
Monday	<i>Adult Bible Study</i>	6:00 pm
Tuesday	<i>Adult Bible Study</i> Closed AA Meeting	1: 00 pm 2:00 pm
Wednesday	Closed AA Meeting Chime Practice	3:00 pm 7:00 pm
Thursday	Healing Service Choir Practice	10:00 am 2:00 pm
Friday	Pineland Symphonic Band	9:30 am
Saturday	AA Meeting AA Meeting	3:00 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.





*Fellowship and Fundraising Committee
will be meeting THIS Sunday after the
10:00 Service.*



MADE FOR MISSION *“Way of Saint Paul” meeting~*
THE WAY OF ST PAUL *February 21st at 3:30 PM*



*“...but just as w have been approved by God to be entrusted with the
gospel, so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who*

examines our hearts”

1 Thessalonians 2:4

**Last Sunday after the Epiphany
Collect of the Day**

**February 11, 2018
10 AM**

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Reading

Second Book of Kings 2:1-12

Now when the LORD was about to take Eli'jah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Eli'jah and Eli'sha were on their way from Gilgal. And Eli'jah said to Eli'sha, "Tarry here, I pray you; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Eli'sha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. And the sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came out to Eli'sha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take away your master from over you?" And he said, "Yes, I know it; hold your peace." Eli'jah said to him, "Eli'sha, tarry here, I pray you; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The sons of the prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Eli'sha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take away your master from over you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know it; hold your peace." Then Eli'jah said to him, "Tarry here, I pray you; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the sons of the prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Eli'jah took his mantle, and rolled it up, and struck the water, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, till the two of them could go over on dry ground. When they had crossed, Eli'jah said to Eli'sha, "Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you." And Eli'sha said, "I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit." And he said, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if you do not see me, it shall not be so." And as they still went on and talked, behold, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Eli'jah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Eli'sha saw it and he cried, "My father, my father! the chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" And he saw him no more. Then he took hold of his own clothes and rent them in two pieces.

Psalm 50

- 1 The LORD, the God of gods, has spoken; *
he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- 2 Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, *
God reveals himself in glory.
- 3 Our God will come and will not keep silence; *
before him there is a consuming flame,
and round about him a raging storm.
- 4 He calls the heavens and the earth from above *
to witness the judgment of his people.
- 5 "Gather before me my loyal followers, *
those who have made a covenant with me
and sealed it with sacrifice."
- 6 Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; *
for God himself is judge.



CHIME CHOIR PRACTICE-Wednesdays 7:00PM-8:30PM
CHOIRE PRACTICE Thursdays @ 2:00 PM
EWC MEETINGS 2018:Jan 4th-June 7th-Sept 6th-Dec 6th
ORDER OF SAINT LUKE: 2nd Thurs. after healing service.
PINELAND SYMPHONIC BAND Practice Fridays 9:30 am
Shrove Pancake Supper Tuesday February 13
Fellowship and Fundraising Committee Meeting2/11/18
 @ noon-following Sunday 10 AM service
Way of St. Paul Meeting-Wednesday-2/21/18@3:30PM



CHAPEL CLOTHES LINE sells well to groups meeting at our church. Now accepting **LADIES Fall/Winter** clothes **ONLY** in **TOP** condition, (clean, with no missing buttons, tears or stains). Also, continue to use the **FOUR BINS** in our parking lot for *out of season clothing, all men's wear,* and other items. We are very appreciative of your kind donations and purchases from this fundraising project.

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEEDED There is an **URGENT** call out for Lay Eucharistic Ministers for our 10:00 a.m. service. Two LEMs are needed at this service.

ST. STEPHEN'S PRAYER CHAIN is in need of additional members. The Prayer Chain is a dedicated group of parishioners who will pray for any who are in need. If you are interested or would like further information, please contact Greta Pearl at 732/350-7584 for details. Greta is the contact when placing, on the Prayer Chain, your name or the names of family, neighbors, or friends who would like prayers for healing, comfort, or any other purpose.



CARE GIVERS VOLUNTEERS
 JoAnn Smithson is the Congregational Coordinator for Care Givers Volunteers here at St. Stephen's. Please continue to use the mailbox in the Office to put in your hours. JoAnn's phone number is 609/268-0821.

HEALING PRAYERS The Order of St. Luke provides prayers of healing to anyone after Holy Communion on the last Sunday of the month at each service. Members are also available every Sunday after the services. Look for a member near the baptismal font if you would like a prayer of healing after any service.

YOUR PERSONAL ESTATE PLANNING Prayerfully consider making an endowment gift to St. Stephen's as part of your estate plan.

RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND Thank you to all who have donated. There are parishioners as well as other members in our community who benefit greatly from this valued fund. If you wish to contribute, please use the basket on the back table.

**THE ECW HAS BEGUN IT'S FIRST FUNDRAISER OF THE YEAR!
WE HAVE PLACE DONATION ENVELOPES IN THE PEWS .
INSTEAD OF BAKING, MAKE A CONTRIBUTION AND PLACE IT IN THE ENVELOPE AND PLACE THE ENVELOPE IN THE COLLECTION PLATE.**

Thank you kindly for your consideration

Bible Study sessions will continue

on Mondays @ 6PM-

Tuesdays @ 1PM

We are studying

“24 Hours that Changed the World”



Second Reading

Second Letter to the Corinthians 4:3-6

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the likeness of God. For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

Holy Gospel

Mark 9:2-9

And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves; and he was transfigured before them, and his garments became glistening, intensely white, as no fuller on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Eli'jah with Moses; and they were talking to Jesus. And Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is well that we are here; let us make three booths, one for you and one for Moses and one for Eli'jah." For he did not know what to say, for they were exceedingly afraid. And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him." And suddenly looking around they no longer saw any one with them but Jesus only. And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of man should have risen from the dead.

Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

On this final Sunday after the Epiphany the Transfiguration of Christ is the central theme. This event was the most striking manifestation of Jesus' divine identity during the days of his ministry. It was also in this event that Jesus made his first clear reference to his approaching death and resurrection, which is the reason we commemorate it on the Sunday before Lent. The two greatest men of God from the past, Moses and Elijah, joined him, representing the law and the prophets, God's primary means of self-revelation prior to Jesus, and discussed with him what lay ahead.

The Old Testament reading is the account of the prophet Elijah's departure into heaven leaving his ministry to his disciple Elisha. Jewish belief in the days of Jesus was that this, the greatest of the old prophets, would one day reappear to signal the coming of the Messiah.

In the second reading, Paul describes the presence of Jesus in our lives as the light of God. We are to be transfigured by Jesus that his light may shine forth from us.

It is in the liturgy of the Eucharist, above all, that God's people continue to meet and know the Lord. We become eyewitnesses to Christ's continuing work of redemption in our lives, and we are called to manifest his love for all people in lives transfigured by our own relationship to him.

Today is the final Sunday we use the liturgical word "Alleluia" until Easter. Thus, its renewal at Easter will signal its unique joy. In many congregations the final hymn is the ancient "farewell to Alleluia" (*Hymnal 1982*, #122 and #123). It uses the Old Testament Babylonian captivity as an image of our lives in this world, and our hope for an eternal Easter in God's Kingdom.

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

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Announcements

February 11, 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 Altar 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