

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!

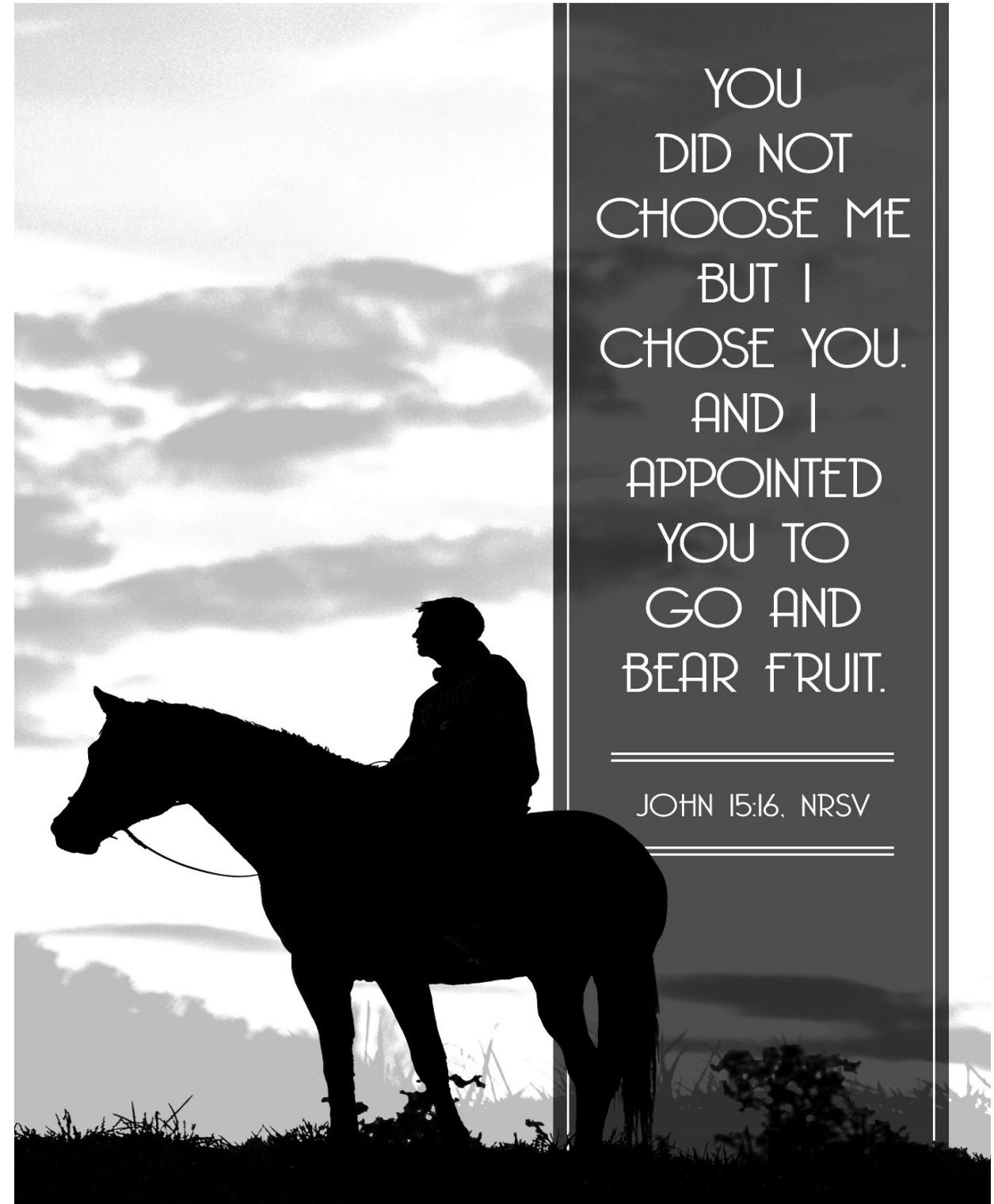
We thank you for joining us for worship today. Please stay for coffee hour, and sign our guest book at the podium in the Narthex. If you are looking for a church home, you have just found it. We would love to have you at St. Stephen's. Arrangements for weddings and baptisms can be made by speaking directly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



YOU
DID NOT
CHOOSE ME
BUT I
CHOSE YOU.
AND I
APPOINTED
YOU TO
GO AND
BEAR FRUIT.

JOHN 15:16. NRSV

**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II**

Hymnal The Word of God

400	Processional Hymn: “ <i>All creatures of our God and King</i> ”	
	Easter Acclamation	355
S280	Gloria	
	Collect of the Day	Insert
	First Lesson: <i>Acts of the Apostles 10:44-48</i>	Insert
	Psalm 98	Insert
	Second Lesson: <i>First Letter of John 5:1-6</i>	Insert
	Gradual: “ <i>Word of God, speak</i> ”	
	Gospel: John 15:9-17	Insert
	Sermon — The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.	
	The Nicene Creed	358
	Prayers of the People Form VI	392
	Confession and Absolution	393
	The Peace	
	Announcements	
	Offertory Anthem	
	Doxology: “All things come of thee O Lord”	
HOLY COMMUNION		
	Eucharistic Prayer B	367
S120	Sursum Corda	
S125	Sanctus	
S140	Memorial Acclamation	368
	The Lord’s Prayer	364
	Breaking of the Bread	
S152	Fraction Anthem	
	Communion Hymns:	
405	“ <i>All things bright and beautiful</i> ”	
593	“ <i>Lord, make us servants of your peace</i> ”	
344	Post Communion Hymn “ <i>Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing</i> ”	
	Post Communion Prayer	365
	Blessing	
705	Recessional: “ <i>As those of old their first fruits brought</i> ”	
	Dismissal	

**MAY 6, 2018
8 am & 10 am
BCP**

Sixth Sunday in Easter

Serving in the Liturgy today:

Lector	8:00 AM	Mary Storey
LEM	8:00 AM	Richard Smithson
Altar Guild	8:00 AM	Mary Storey, Betty Corino
Ushers	8:00 AM	Mary Storey, Glenn Mortimer, Bill Bodine
Lector	10:00 AM	Amanda Rutkowski
LEMs	10:00 AM	Susan Clarke, Lillian Fink
Altar Guild	10:00 AM	Carol Cavanaugh, June Coles
Ushers	10:00 AM	Al Thompson, Valerie Thompson

May 6, 2018

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF:

May 6, 2018-May 12, 2018

Today	Holy Eucharist 23rd Annual Blessing of the bikes AA Meeting	8 am & 10 am Noon-4 pm 8:00 pm
Monday	Office Hours	9:00 am-2:00 pm
Tuesday	Closed AA Meeting	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.



WAY OF SAINT PAUL

As Saint Paul says in *Acts 17:28* "In Him we live and move and have our being"

We all have jobs to do in our lives.

You may not be called to prominent work as Saul was, but you can do the job that God has called you to do, and in doing so, encourage others to heed their personal calling.

Many people in our town and church are hurting; take the time to step out, reach out to others with love and encouragement.

PRAYER

Dear Jesus— You are the Light of the world. Be a light to our path. Help us to shine like the stars with the light you gave us. Make us a beacon of love, light, and hope to others.

We love you Lord!

Amen



Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to you.

2 Timothy 1:14



Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 6, 2018
8 AM & 10 AM

Collect of the Day

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

First Reading

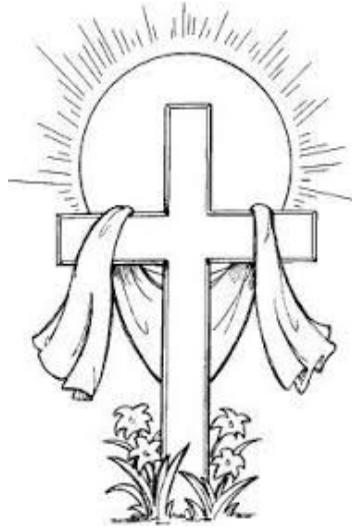
Acts of the Apostles 10:44-48

While Peter was still saying this, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. And the believers from among the circumcised who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, "Can any one forbid water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.



Psalm 98

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The LORD has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the
sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to
the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.



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

As Fred and I prepare to relocate to Seabrook Senior Living Community in Tinton Falls, New Jersey we wish all the best to you in keeping Saint Stephen's alive and active.

We hope all those who can, will step up to the plate to help where and when it is needed. We have a wonderful parish of hard-working people and we will miss working with all of you!

For now, we bid you a fond farewell, until we meet again!



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.

23rd Annual

BLESSING OF THE BIKES



Today!

**Right here @
Saint Stephens!**

Stefanie would like to thank all the hard-working volunteers who made our first English Tea so splendidly successful!

English Tea #2

Is Thursday May 17th

We will be setting up Wednesday morning

Hope to see you all there!



United Thank Offering

The blue UTO envelopes will be available in the pews for everyone's convenience for a few weeks.

Please make your checks out to:

ECW Diocese of New Jersey

In the memo:

"UTO" or "Cash"

The United Thank Offering In-gathering will be

Saturday, MAY 19, 2018



Second Reading

First Letter of John 5:1-6

Every one who believes that Jesus is the Christ is a child of God, and every one who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that overcomes the world, our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is he who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood.

Holy Gospel

John 15:9-17

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide; so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. This I command you, to love one another.

Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

In the last weeks of Eastertide, our liturgical readings explore the results of the dying and rising of Jesus. Both the Gospel reading and the reading from 1 John speak of the self-giving love of God, revealed in Jesus' Passover from death to life, as the primary characteristic of our lives in Christ.

In this Sunday's reading from Acts, Peter and some other Jewish Christians were astounded to see Gentiles in the household of Cornelius receive the Holy Spirit just as they had on the Day of Pentecost. Peter's last reservations about welcoming Gentiles into the Church are erased and he and the other joyfully lead them to the waters of Baptism.

This Sunday was once called Rogation Sunday because medieval Christians went in processions (rogating) around the parish praying for the newly planted crops during this week. This is a good time to seek more effective ways to care for our environment and to witness that God's love is not only for humanity but also for the entire creation.

Joined together by God's spirit in baptism, bound up in the dying and rising of Jesus, related by creation to all the earth, we the people of God bring all our lives and one another into the saving love of God in Eucharist.

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

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Announcements

May 6, 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