

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

Gerianne Murphy Treasurer

Sandra Gaskill, Assistant Treasurer

Pam Unger, Organist & Choir Director

Colleen Clover, Parish Administrator

Tom O'Brien, Sexton

Dottie Kaster, Rector's Warden

Wardens and Vestry 2019

Dottie Kaster, Rector's Warden

Richard Smithson, Property Warden

Jack Brown, Laura Gural, Tom Larson

Lillian Fink, Marge Pomykala, Peter Quigley

Bruce Lukasewicz, Pat Russo, Randy Walton

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!

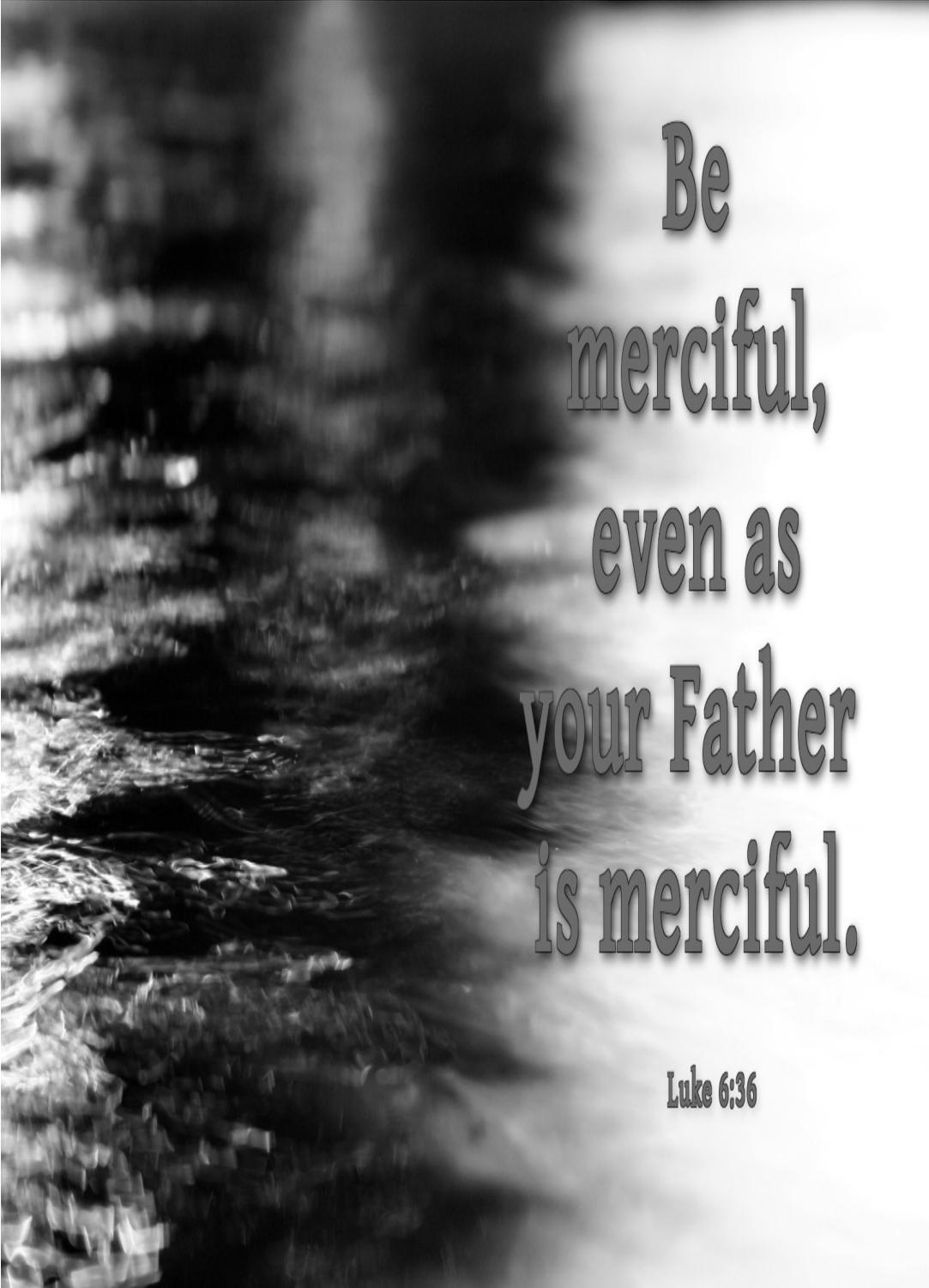
We thank you for joining us for worship today. Please stay for coffee hour, and sign our guest book at the podium in the Narthex. If you are looking for a church home, you have just found it. We would love to have you at St. Stephen's. Arrangements for weddings and baptisms can be made by speaking directly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

To Report Illness, Hospitalization, etc.

Greta Pearl for prayer requests: 732-350-7584

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

If it is an emergency you may also reach Dottie Kaster, Rector's Warden at 732-647-5065 or Father Paul at his home 609-268-2864.



Be
merciful,
even as
your Father
is merciful.

Luke 6:36

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

Hymnal

The Word of God

390	Processional Hymn: <i>“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”</i>	
	Patriotic Hymn: 717 V4	
	Opening Acclamation	355
S102	Trisagion	356
	Collect of the Day	Insert
	First Lesson: Genesis 45:3-11,15	Insert
	Psalm 37	Insert
	Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38,42-50	Insert
	Gradual: <i>“Word of God, Speak”</i>	Insert
	Gospel: Luke 6:27-38	Insert
	Sermon — The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.	
	The Nicene Creed	358
	Prayers of the People Form VI	392
	Confession and Absolution	360
	The Peace	
	Announcements	
	Offertory Anthem	
	Doxology: <i>“All things come of thee O Lord”</i>	
	HOLY COMMUNION	
	The Great Thanksgiving	
	Eucharistic Prayer B	367
S120	Sursum Corda	
S125	Sanctus	
	Memorial Acclamation	368
	The Lord’s Prayer	364
	Breaking of the Bread	
S152	Fraction Anthem	
	Communion Hymns:	
581	<i>“Where charity and love prevail”</i>	
657	<i>“Love divine, all loves excelling”</i>	
593	Post Communion Hymn: <i>“Lord, make us servants of your peace”</i>	
	Post Communion Prayer	365
	Blessing	
391	Recessional: <i>“Before the Lord’s eternal throne”</i>	
	Dismissal	

FEBRUARY 24, 2019

8 am & 10 am

BCP

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

Serving in the Liturgy today:

Lector 8:00 AM	Greta Pearl
LEM 8:00 AM	Richard Woods
Altar Guild 8:00 AM	Mary Storey, Betty Carino
Ushers 8:00 AM	Mary Storey, Glenn Mortimer, Bill Bodine, Peter Quigley
Lector 10:00 AM	Richard Woods
LEMs 10:00 AM	Stefanie Rosaert, Richard Woods
Altar Guild 10:00 AM	Pat Russo, June Coles
Ushers 10:00 AM	Valerie Thompson, Al Thompson

FEBRUARY 24, 2019

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF

February 24, 2019– March 2, 2019

Today	Holy Eucharist	8:00 & 10:00 am
	Ordination Celebration Today!	
	AA Meeting	8:00 pm
Monday	Office Open	9:00 am-2:00 pm
Tuesday		
Wednesday	Closed AA Meeting	3:00 pm
	Chime Practice	7:00 pm
Thursday	Healing Service	10:00 am
	Choir Practice	2:00 pm
Friday	Pineland Symphonic Band	9:30 am
Saturday	AA Meeting	3:00 pm
	AA Meeting	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.



*In the spirit of the upcoming Lent
Season, we will hold our
Shrove Pancake dinner
Tuesday, March 5th
From 4:00 pm-6:00 pm*



*extraORDINARY
celebration*

TODAY! We will celebrate

Father Paul's 30 year anniversary of Ordination

We will gather in the parish hall after each service for
cake and refreshments to congratulate our Rector on
this auspicious occasion.

STEWARDSHIP

Way of Saint Paul

“And He looked up and saw the rich
putting their gifts into the treasury.
And He saw a poor widow putting in
two small copper coins, and he said,
‘Truly I say to you, this poor widow
put in more than all of them.’”

Luke 21:1-4



Love. Grow. Serve.

*“For I know the plans that I
have for you, declares the Lord,
plans for welfare and not for ca-
lamity to give you a future and a
hope.”*

Jeremiah 29:11



Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

February, 24 2019

Collect of the Day

O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing:
Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the
true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead
before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

First Reading

Genesis 45:3-11,15

And Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph; is my father still alive?” But his
brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence. So Joseph
said to his brothers, “Come near to me, I pray you.” And they came near. And he
said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be
distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me be-
fore you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and
there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. And God
sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you
many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; and he has made me
a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of
Egypt. Make haste and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Jo-
seph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not tarry; you shall
 dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and
 your children’s children, and your flocks, your herds, and all that you have; and
 there I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come; lest you
 and your household, and all that you have, come to poverty.’ And he kissed all his
 brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Psalm 37

- 1 Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; *
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
- 2 For they shall soon wither like the grass, *
and like the green grass fade away.
- 3 Put your trust in the LORD and do good; *
dwell in the land and feed on its riches.
- 4 Take delight in the LORD, *
and he shall give you your heart's desire.
- 5 Commit your way to the LORD and put your trust in him, *
and he will bring it to pass.
- 6 He will make your righteousness as clear as the light *
and your just dealing as the noonday.
- 7 Be still before the LORD *
and wait patiently for him.
- 8 Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, *
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
- 9 Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; *
do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.
- 10 For evildoers shall be cut off, *
but those who wait upon the LORD shall possess the land.
- 11 In a little while the wicked shall be no more; *
you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.
- 12 But the lowly shall possess the land; *
they will delight in abundance of peace.
- 41 But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the LORD; *
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.
- 42 The LORD will help them and rescue them; *
he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,
because they seek refuge in him.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

HEALING SERVICE Thursday 10:00 am
CHOIR PRACTICE: Thursdays 2:00 pm
ORDER OF ST. LUKE: 2nd Thursday of each month
after Healing Service
PINELAND SYMPHONIC BAND: Fridays 9:30 am

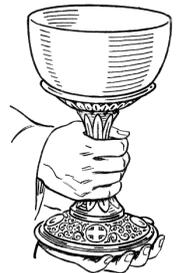


CHAPEL CLOTHES LINE sells well to groups and meeting at our church. Now accepting **LADIES Spring/Summer** clothes **ONLY** in **TOP** condition, (clean, with no missing buttons, tears or stains). Also, continue to use the **FOUR BINS** in our parking lot for *out of season clothing, all men's wear*,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

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEEDED There is an **URGENT** call out for Lay Eucharistic Ministers for our 10:00a.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.



World day of
Prayer
FRIDAY, March
1, 2019
At 2:00 PM at
Saint Stephen's
Episcopal
Church

The ECW would like to thank EVERYONE for their donations to our Bakeless Bake Sale Your help for our first fundraiser of the year is greatly appreciated and we value your continued support.

Stefanie Rotsasert
President



Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:35-38,42-50

But some one will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" You foolish man! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And what you sow is not the body which is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual which is first but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven. I tell you this, brethren: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Holy Gospel

Luke 6:27-38

"But I say to you that hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To him who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from him who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to every one who begs from you; and of him who takes away your goods do not ask them again. And as you wish that men would do to you, do so to them.

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner

Sponsored by the Men's Club

of Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church at Whiting

Saturday, March 9, 2019 at 3:00 pm

Donation.....\$15.00

Kids (under 12)..... \$7.00



Tickets are available in the
Church office

Questions please call:

732-350-2121

Mon.-Thurs. 9 am-2 pm



Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Again, the theme of Epiphany, the manifestation of Christ, is the focus of the liturgy. The "sermon on the plain" continues today with Jesus teaching about the way members of God's Kingdom relate to other people. Here our behavior is to reflect God's behavior toward us. We are to love, to forgive, and to be generous because God loves us, God forgives us, and God is generous to us.

In the first reading, a model of forgiveness and love are given in the story of Joseph and the ten brothers who had sold him into slavery. Joseph's forgiveness is unconditional and is the means by which God saved the people of Israel for their future vocation.

In this last portion of 1 Corinthians, Paul continues to explain the resurrection. Here he is confronting a notion held by some in that congregation that human beings are purely spiritual beings trapped in sinful, material bodies and that certain people with special spiritual gifts can escape their material existence. Paul's message is that human beings are material but are destined, through the resurrection of Christ, to be raised themselves with spiritual bodies. It is only through the dying and rising of Jesus, not through special knowledge or gifts, that this can take place.

It is always God whose actions come first. Jesus is the manifestation of God's generous love and forgiveness. Our response is to show forth that divine love and forgiveness in our own lives. We are to be epiphanies of God's love to the world. We find God's love revealed in the Eucharist and we in turn are sent forth to embody that love in our lives.

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

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Announcements

February 24, 2019

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

In love and celebration for the birthday of our grand daughter,

Allyson Hein (a leap year baby)

By Janet and Fred Spieth

And

In Memory of my husband Victor

By Patricia Mironowicz

ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNION SERVICES

The Pines	1st Sunday of each month at	9:30 am
Arista-Care	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