

**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

Dottie Kaster, Rector's Warden

**Wardens and Vestry 2018**

Dottie Kaster, Rector's Warden

Richard Smithson, Property Warden

William Bodine, Carol Cavanaugh, Randy Walton

Jack Brown, Laura Gural, Tom Larson

Lillian Fink, Marge Pomykala, 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.**

**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.

**"MANY WHO ARE  
FIRST WILL  
BE LAST,**



**AND THE LAST  
WILL BE FIRST."**

**MARK 10:31, NRSV**





Will be held on Tuesday October 16, 2018 at the Ocean County Mall in Tom's River

A ticket is \$5.00 available in the Church office or from Stefanie Rotsaert

Shop and receive 25% off items in the store and more.

See Stefanie for details and tickets.



Come Join us on Sunday, October 21st at 1:30 along with our friends at Christ Lutheran Church for our Annual Crop Walk

**NOISY SUNDAY**

**WILL BE ON SUNDAY,**

**OCTOBER 21ST!**

**BRING YOUR EXTRA CHANGE AND LETS MAKE SOME**

**NOISE!**



**Twenty-first Sunday After Pentecost  
Proper 23**

**October 14, 2018  
10 AM**

***Collect of the Day***

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

***First Reading***

***Job 23:1-9, 16-17***

Then Job answered: "Today also my complaint is bitter, his hand is heavy in spite of my groaning. Oh, that I knew where I might find him, that I might come even to his seat! I would lay my case before him and fill my mouth with arguments. I would learn what he would answer me, and understand what he would say to me. Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power? No; he would give heed to me. There an upright man could reason with him, and I should be acquitted for ever by my judge. "Behold, I go forward, but he is not there; and backward, but I cannot perceive him; on the left hand I seek him, but I cannot behold him; I turn to the right hand, but I cannot see him. God has made my heart faint; the Almighty has terrified me; for I am hemmed in by darkness, and thick darkness covers my face.



*The need is great this year. Now is the perfect time to gather much needed items to fill the shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.*

*School supplies, toiletries, and toys fill the shoe boxes provided by Good Samaritan's Purse organization that are in the Narthex.*

*Share your good fortune by sharing with children in need of every day kid things; sure to bring much joy!  
See Pat Russo for details and fill a box today!*



**Come Get a Shoebox and Make a Difference**



## Psalm 22

- 1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? \*  
and are so far from my cry  
and from the words of my distress?
- 2 O my God, I cry in the daytime, but  
you do not answer; \*  
by night as well, but I find no rest.
- 3 Yet you are the Holy One, \*  
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
- 4 Our forefathers put their trust in you; \*  
they trusted, and you delivered them.
- 5 They cried out to you and were delivered; \*  
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.
- 6 But as for me, I am a worm and no man, \*  
scorned by all and despised by the people.
- 7 All who see me laugh me to scorn; \*  
they curl their lips and wag their heads,  
saying,
- 8 "He trusted in the LORD; let him deliver him; \*  
let him rescue him, if he delights in him."
- 9 Yet you are he who took me out of the womb, \*  
and kept me safe upon my mother's breast.
- 10 I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; \*  
you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.
- 11 Be not far from me, for trouble is near, \*  
and there is none to help.
- 12 Many young bulls encircle me; \*  
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.
- 13 They open wide their jaws at me, \*  
like a ravening and a roaring lion.
- 14 I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint; \*  
my heart within my breast is melting wax.
- 15 My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherd;  
my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; \*  
and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.



### Sport Shot Singles

### Spectacular

Saturday, November 24 @ 10 AM

\$45.00 per bowler

5 Game Block

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will be awarded.

Not sanctioned

See you at Playdrome in

Tomes River

Please  
note!  
This is a  
new date!



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

In honor of Bishop's visitation on  
Sunday, November 4, 2018 we will have a

9 AM service only

followed by a Brunch potluck.

Sign up sheets are in the Narthex



ORDER OF SAINT LUKE: 2nd Thurs. after healing service.  
PINELAND SYMPHONIC BAND Practice Fridays @ 9:30 am  
EWC's NEXT MEETINGS 2018: Dec 3rd– Please check your  
calendar as this is a change of date for this event.

Please NOTE: St. Stephen's Vestry Meeting has been moved  
from October 15th to the following Monday October 22nd @  
10 AM



St. Stephen's and AAA will be raffling off a \$1000.00 voucher towards  
AAA services and products!

Each chance is \$10.00

Purchase tickets through October  
27th when the winner will be announced at our Annual Vendor Fair!

See one of our Vestry Members or  
come see us in the Church office  
Mon.-Thurs between 9am-2pm

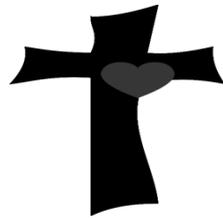


**HEALING PRAYERS** The Order of St. Luke provides prayers of healing to anyone after Holy Communion on the last Sunday of the month at each service. Members are also available every Sunday after the services. Look for a member near the baptismal font if you would like a prayer of healing after any service.



*Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden,  
and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you,  
and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart;  
and you shall find rest for your souls.  
For My yoke is easy and My load is light.*

*Matthew 11:28-30*



**This week's guests**

*Conceicao Sutherland* –8 AM

*Cathy Myers* --10 AM

*Anna Van Sant* will treat the congregation to an encore solo performance @ 10 am service.

**Stewardship**

“But who am I, and what is my people,  
that we should be able thus to offer  
willingly?

For all things come from you, and of  
your own have we given you.

*1 Chronicles 29:14*



**Love. Grow. Serve.**

***Second Reading***

***Letter to the Hebrews 4:12-16***

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are open and laid bare to the eyes of him with whom we have to do. Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

***Holy Gospel***

***Mark 10:17-31***

And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not kill, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.'" And he said to him, "Teacher, all these I have observed from my youth." And Jesus looking upon him loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." At that saying his countenance fell, and he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions. And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "With men it is impossible, but not with God; for all things are possible with God." Peter began to say to him, "Lo, we have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life. But many that are first will be last, and the last first."

## Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

In the themes of the Sundays in this part of the year, we face some of the strongest challenges presented by our faith. We have reached the portion of the Gospel of Mark in which Jesus, nearing the final conflict, is preparing his followers for what lies ahead, not only for him, but also for them in the remainder of their lives. So today's Gospel is the account of the rich young man who discovers that there is more to salvation than following the Law. Jesus calls for a complete submission to God, even to the point of giving up everything. Only then can we gain what we really need.

We continue to read the Book of Job. This good man has suffered tragedy, severe illness, and busybody friends full of useless advice. He has not lost his faith but is complaining that he can't find God to ask why these things are happening. He believes that if he could understand God, he could understand.

We are reading through the Epistle to the Hebrews during this period. This letter to early Christians presents Jesus as Savior, as high priest, and as the model for Christian living. In today's passage the writer tells us that although God's judgment lays all our failure open to God, we know that God's response is that of the merciful high priest and therefore we may approach God with confidence.

Today's liturgy is filled with challenge and with hope. We are faced with the demands of the Gospel and also with its promise of salvation to those who persevere. We are called to enter into the painful yet joyful project of God in bringing the Kingdom into the lives of all people in our time.

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

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### *The Sanctuary Candle is given to the glory of God Sans Memorial*



*In Memory of Philip Gaskill*

*By his sister Sandy*

*And*

*In Memory of Robert Struck*

*By Krupa, Roger, and Stefanie*

### **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