

# ST. STEPHEN'S

---

## PROPER 22A

October 4, 2020

---

Welcome! We are excited to share in this service with you. You can see in our order of worship that you too can participate through presence and response.

To learn more about St. Stephen's, visit [ststephensth.org](http://ststephensth.org). For pastoral assistance, please call 812-232-5165.

---

## The Word of God

*Presider* Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

*All* **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

*Presider* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

### The Collect of the Day

*One* The Lord be with you.

*All* **And also with you.**

*One* Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*All* **Amen.**

### First Reading

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 19:7-13

7 The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; \*

**the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.**

8 The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; \*

**the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; \*

**the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.**

10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, \*

**sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

11 By them also is your servant enlightened, \*

**and in keeping them there is great reward.**

12 Who can tell how often he offends? \*

**cleanse me from my secret faults.**

13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;

let them not get dominion over me; \*

**then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.**

## The Gospel

*Standing*

Matthew

21:33-46

*One*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
*All*             **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.'" So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:  
    'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;  
    this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'?"

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

*One*            The Gospel of the Lord.  
*All*             **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## The Response

The Rev. Drew Downs

### The Nicene Creed

*All*             We believe in one God,  
                  the Father, the Almighty,  
                  maker of heaven and earth,  
                  of all that is, seen and unseen.  
                  We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
                  the only Son of God,  
                  eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
    he came down from heaven,  
    was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
    and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
    who proceeds from the Father,  
    who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
    who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## **Prayers of the People**

*Leader*      Let us offer prayers to God for the vineyard of the Lord of hosts  
and for all in every danger and need.

For this holy gathering,  
St. Francis-in-the-Fields, Zionsville,  
the Dioceses of Brasilia, Haiti, and South Sudan,  
the Anglican Church of Tanzania,  
and for the people of God in every place,  
God of love,

*People*      **Hear our prayer.**

For all peoples and their leaders, for candidates for office,  
and for justice and righteousness in the world,

God of love,  
**Hear our prayer.**

For all who work, and for tenants and landlords,  
God of love,  
**Hear our prayer.**

For good weather, and for all who harvest and offer the fruits of the earth,  
God of love,  
**Hear our prayer.**

For all domestic and wild animals,  
God of love,  
**Hear our prayer.**

For the sick and the suffering,  
    especially persons affected by Covid-19,  
for travelers and refugees, prisoners and their families,  
and the dying and dead,  
God of love,  
**Hear our prayer.**

For those who have asked our prayers:  
    Sheila Carl, Sally Newlin, Ray Snyder, Linda Hegedus,  
    Robin Rolt, Megan (MEE-gun) Price, Richard Hillier,  
    Jonnee Western, Terry Persinger, John Bonner, Lane Clark,  
    Martha Hafner, Ellie Thomas, Joe Kuhn, Justin Mendoza,  
    Aaron Campbell, Kay Griswold, Joan Hubbard, David Mier,  
    the Orndorff family, and Patrick Murphy,  
God of love,  
**Hear our prayer.**

For our city and those who live in it,  
    and for our families, companions, and all we love:  
    Remember those celebrating birthdays,  
        especially Orbie Bryan (10/4),  
    and our postulant Joanna Benskin,  
God of love,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Lifting our voices with all creation,  
with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Francis, and all the saints,  
let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

*People*        **To you, O Lord.**

*Presider*     O Lord our God, who sent your Son to save the whole world, hear the prayers we offer this day and strengthen us to press on toward the heavenly goal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*People*        **Amen.**

### **Prayer for Pets**

*Presider*     Almighty and everlasting God, Creator of all things and giver of all life, let your blessing be upon all these animals. May our relationships with them mirror your love, and our care for them be an example of your bountiful mercy. Grant the animals health and peace. Strengthen us to love and care for them as we strive to imitate the love of Jesus Christ our brother and God's servant Francis.

*All*            **Amen.**

### **Confession of Sin**

*One*            Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*All*            **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*One*            Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

### **The Peace** *Standing*

*One*            The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*All*            **And also with you.**

## Holy Communion

We will commune with the bread we have brought as an offering to God. Please hold up the bread you have brought. If you do not have bread, you may take some of the bread from the basket provided.

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

## Sanctus

*All* Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

## The Mystery of Faith

*All* Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.

*Celebrant* ...through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

*All* **AMEN.**

## Lord's Prayer

*One* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

*All* **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

## Post-communion Prayer *Said by all*

*One* God of abundance,

*All* **you have fed us  
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;  
you have united us  
with Christ and one another;  
and you have made us one  
with all your people in heaven and on earth.  
Now send us forth**

**in the power of your Spirit,  
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
and continue for ever  
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

**Blessing** *The Celebrant blesses the people*

God's Blessing be with you,  
Christ's peace be with you,  
the Spirit's outpouring be with you,  
now and always. Amen.

(source: Celtic)

**Dismissal**

*One* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

*All* **Thanks be to God!**

Francis of Assisi was born into wealth and compelled to adventure. It was from this place of adventure, he discovered a zealous love for service and deep devotion. He transformed his life from wealth to a vow of poverty and from adventure to service. His zeal for Christ and the depth of his devotion make him a favorite saint, but one rarely imitated, as the depths of his poverty and willingness to confront power are often seen as too aspirational.



**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church**

215 North Seventh Street  
Terre Haute, Indiana 47807-3103

812-232-5165

[www.ststephensth.org](http://www.ststephensth.org)

Worship Online: Sunday 10 am | Thursday 12 Noon