

# ST. STEPHEN'S

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## PROPER 17A

August 30, 2020

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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.

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## The Word of God

### Prelude

*When Israel was in Egypt land*

Afro-American spiritual  
Public Domain

*One* Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.  
*All* **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

### Hymn of Praise: The God of Abraham praise

Words: Thomas Olivers (1725–1799), alt.  
Music: *Leoni*, Hebrew melody; harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, alt.  
Text and Music are in the Public Domain

**The God of Abraham praise, who reigns enthroned above;  
Ancient of everlasting days, and God of love;  
the Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven confessed:  
we bow and bless the sacred Name for ever blest.**

**The God who reigns on high the great archangels sing,  
and "Holy, holy, holy," cry, "Almighty King!  
Who was, and is, the same, and evermore shall be:  
eternal Father, great I AM, we worship thee."**

## The Collect of the Day

*One* The Lord be with you.

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

*One* Let us pray.

Grant, Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

*All* **Amen.**

## First Reading

Exodus 3:1-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain." But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,  
and this my title for all generations.

Here what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

**Thanks be to God.**

# Psalm

45c

Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26,

- 1 Give thanks to God and call upon the Name; \*  
make known God's deeds among the peoples.
- 2 Sing to God, sing praises, \*  
and speak of all the marvelous works.
- 3 Glory in the holy Name; \*  
let the hearts of those who seek God rejoice.
- 4 Search for God and God's strength; \*  
continually seek God's face.
- 5 Remember the marvels done, \*  
the wonders and the judgments of God's mouth,
- 6 O offspring of Abraham, the servant, \*  
O children of Jacob, the chosen.
- 23 Israel came into Egypt, \*  
and Jacob became a sojourner in the land of Ham.
- 24 God made the people exceedingly fruitful; \*  
and made them stronger than their enemies;
- 25 Whose heart he turned, so that they hated his people, \*  
and dealt unjustly with his servants.
- 26 God sent Moses, the servant, \*  
and Aaron, the chosen. Hallelujah!

# Hymn

Cantor

*Zimbabwe Alleluia*

Andrew Miller,

*sing 3 times*



Al- le- lu- ia,      Al- le-lu- ia.      Al- le-lu- ia,      Al- le- lu-ia.

**The Gospel**      *Standing*  
16:21-28

Matthew

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

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

*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* Just as we feed the hungry and give drink to the thirsty,  
let us give prayers for all in danger and need.

*Leader* For Michael our presiding bishop, Jennifer our bishop,  
Drew our presbyter, Deby our deacon,  
for this holy gathering,  
St. Christopher's, Carmel,  
the United Church of South India,  
and for the people of God in every place,  
God of love,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

For our leaders, and for mercy, peace, and justice among all peoples,  
God of love,  
**Hear our prayer.**

For all persons involved in education:  
Remember especially our parish students and teachers in public schools,  
our college students, faculty, and staff,  
and all campus ministries,  
God of love,  
**Hear our prayer.**

For abundant fruits of the earth, and for safety from violent storms,  
God of love,

**Hear our prayer.**

For the sick and the suffering, especially persons affected by Covid-19,  
travelers by land, by water, and by air,  
prisoners, captives, and their families, and all those in desperate need,  
God of love,

**Hear our prayer.**

For those who have asked our prayers:

Sheila Carl, Sally Newlin, Ray Snyder, Linda Hegedus,  
Robin Rolt, Megan Price, Richard Hillier, Jonnee Western,  
Terry Persinger, John Bonner, Lane Clark, Martha Hafner,  
Ellie Thomas, Mike Hayden, Jason Paradowski, Ashley Richey,  
Joe Kuhn, Justin Mendoza, Aaron Campbell, Kay Griswold,  
Bill Allen, Jim Mania (MAN-ee-uh), and Kim Wagley,

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 Bill Allen (9/2)  
and our postulant Joanna Benskin,

God of love,

**Hear our prayer.**

For those who rest in Christ and for all the dead,  
God of love,

**Hear our prayer.**

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

*People*

**To you, O Lord.**

*Presider*

God of glory, who calls us to take up our cross and follow Jesus, hear the prayers we offer this day and so transform the peoples of this earth that they may know your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*People*

**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.**

### **Hymn 439**

Words: American folk hymn, ca. 1835

Music: Wondrous Love, from The Southern Harmony, 1835.

Text and Melody are in the Public Domain

Harmonization: DD

**What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!**

**What wondrous love is this, O my soul!**

**What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss**

**to lay aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,**

**to lay aside his crown for my soul.**

**To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,**

**to God and to the Lamb, I will sing.**

**To God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM,**

**while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,**

**while millions join the theme I will sing.**

**And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on**

**and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.**

And when from death I'm free I'll sing and joyful be,  
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,  
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on.

## Spiritual Communion

*One* Let us pray as one:

*All* **My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim your resurrection.**

**I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.**

– From Washington National Cathedral; material adapted from Prayer of St. Alphonsus de Liguori (1696-1787) and *A Prayer Book for the Armed Services 2007*

## 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* Lord of the Feast,

*All* **we thank you for gathering us as your people. We call to remembrance the many times we have been fed at your table and we lament our distance now. Be present Lord Jesus as you were present with your disciples, be known to us in the breaking of the bread, and may your Holy Spirit sustain us and all your Church until we can gather together again. We ask this for the sake of your love. 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  
All

Alleluia, Alleluia, Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!  
**Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia!**



## *St. Stephen's Episcopal Church*

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Worship Online: Sunday 10 am | Thursday 12 Noon