

ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1805 West Alabama Street | Houston, Texas 77098



THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST HOLY EUCHARIST

June 26, 2022

10:30 A.M.

This Liturgy is taken from *Enriching Our Worship*.

WELCOME TO ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH!

We are glad you are with us! St. Stephen's is an inclusive, nurturing, and healing community that seeks and invites all to practice the transformational and empowering work of Jesus Christ among us and in the world. We welcome everyone to join us for worship and life together—no exceptions!

NEW TO ST. STEPHEN'S?

Follow this QR code to our website and complete the online welcome card.



ALL ARE WELCOME TO WORSHIP WITH US!

During worship, all are invited to come forward for Holy Communion. If you would like to receive Communion but cannot come to the altar, please let an usher know so the sacrament can be brought to you.

In addition to bread, you may now receive wine as well. You may intinct (dip your wafer into the chalice) or drink from the chalice directly. You may choose to receive the bread only. If you prefer, indicate by crossing your arms in front of you that you wish to receive a blessing instead. After church services, please join us for hospitality!

CHILDREN

Children are welcome in the church at any time. We encourage adult caregivers to join their children in the front chapel area as they engage seasonal lessons and materials.

RESTROOMS

Restrooms are available adjacent to the Gathering Area. All are welcome to use the restroom consistent with their gender identity. Diaper-changing facilities are available in both restrooms and in the nursery.

PARKING

Parking is available off West Alabama in the lot in front of the church. Additional lots are available on the other side of the block at Woodhead and on both sides of Sul Ross.

NEW SUMMER FORMATION OPPORTUNITY

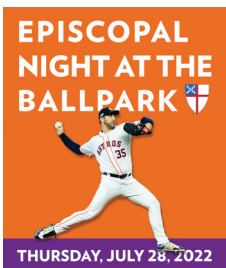


MAKING ONLINE CHURCH ACCESSIBLE
This summer St. Stephen's will offer a hybrid (in-person and online) formation class called Making Online Church Accessible (MOCA) at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays. We will think deeply about what a post-pandemic church will look like. Lines of inquiry will include: What did we learn during the pandemic that we want to retain and grow? What do we want to let go of? How do we best create community by using in-person, virtual, and hybrid ministries?

EPISCOPAL NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK

We will participate in this year's Episcopal Night at the Ballpark. The Astros will play the Seattle Mariners on Thursday, July 28. At 5 pm, we will meet at Christ Church Cathedral (1117 Texas St.).

Tickets, which cost \$11 per person, can be purchased at <https://fevo.me/episcopal> or by scanning the QR code on the right.



EYEGLASS DONATIONS

As part of Gensler's Global Give Back Month, St. Stephens is collecting eyeglasses for those in need. They are asking for readers, prescription glasses, & sunglasses. You can place your donations in the box right outside the Nave.

COVID PROTOCOLS IN CHURCH

St. Stephen's has a culture of care. We are focused on keeping everyone safe in church, especially our unvaccinated children.

- Masking outdoors on campus is optional.
- Masks are required indoors for everyone (except for children 2 and under) at both the 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services.

ST. STEPHEN'S FEATURED IN HOUSTON CHRONICLE ARTICLE ABOUT PRIDE

In a recent article entitled, "Pride is a year-round celebration for Houston-area churches," Lisa Hunt was quoted extensively about St. Stephen's support of Pride. Below is an excerpt:

Members at St. Stephen's Episcopal agree that Pride is not limited to June. The congregation is involved in advocacy, testifying during legislative sessions, as well as educational efforts. The church also recently launched a podcast called "Faith From the Margins," focusing on race and sexuality.

"Reaching out to the queer community has been part of St. Stephen's ministry for many years," Hunt said. "The Episcopal church has a history of realizing the gifts and talents of all its members."

Still, she sees a need for more justice.

"I've been a priest for 33 years, and I've always been amazed and so thankful for the faithfulness of the gay community," she said. "They are a witness of forgiveness and perseverance."

Too often, churches have hurt and pushed out members of the LGBTQ community, Hunt said.

"And yet they've never abandoned God and remain open to possibility," she said.

To read the full article, scan the QR code.



THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE

Prelude in A Minor, BWV 543

J. S. Bach

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN *Please stand.*

Danby

1. When comes the time, when comes the place where - in the
2. I come to plunge in - to the flood of doubt and
3. For Is - rael tra - veled here be - fore, passed through the
4. O God, the Source of all I am, the Hope with -

world's il - lu - sions fade, Then do we seek that ___ Mys - te -
faith, bold - ly em - brace The death of fear and ___ van - i -
sea to ___ free - dom find, And Je - sus bathed in ___ Jor - dan's
in, the Breath, the Fire, The sav - ing, heal - ing ___ balm of

ry, the Truth un - known, the Pow'r not made.
ty in wa - ters charged with heav'n - ly grace.
stream to show the way for hu - man - kind.
Love, pos - sess my life, my self en - tire.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

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

HYMN OF PRAISE

Paul M. Vasile

1. Glo - ry to God, _____ whose good - ness shines on us,
2. World with - out end, _____ 7 with - out end. A - men.

and to the Son, _____ whose grace has par - doned us,
World with - out end, _____ 7 with - out end. A - men.

and to the Spi - rit, _____ whose love has set us free.
World with - out end, _____ 7 with - out end. A - men.

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men. _____

Text: Trad. liturgical text; adapt. Paul M. Vasile, 2008.
Music: GLORY TO GOD, Paul M. Vasile, 2008.
Text Adapt. and Music © 2008 Paul M. Vasile.

THE COLLECT OF THE AY

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS *Please be seated.*

FIRST READING: 2 KINGS 2:1-2, 6-14

A reading from the book of Second Kings.

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, "Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?" When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM: PSALM 77:1-2, 11-20 *The Psalm is read responsively by half-verse.*

1 I will cry aloud to God; *

I will cry aloud, and he will hear me.

2 In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord; *

my hands were stretched out by night and did not tire;

I refused to be comforted.

11 I will remember the works of the LORD, *

and call to mind your wonders of old time.

12 I will meditate on all your acts *

and ponder your mighty deeds.

13 Your way, O God, is holy; *

who is so great a god as our God?

14 You are the God who works wonders *
and have declared your power among the peoples.

15 By your strength you have redeemed your people, *
the children of Jacob and Joseph.

16 The waters saw you, O God;
the waters saw you and trembled; *
the very depths were shaken.

17 The clouds poured out water;
the skies thundered; *
your arrows flashed to and fro;

18 The sound of your thunder was in the whirlwind;
your lightnings lit up the world; *
the earth trembled and shook.

19 Your way was in the sea,
and your paths in the great waters, *
yet your footsteps were not seen.

20 You led your people like a flock *
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

SECOND READING: GALATIANS 5:1,13-25

A reading from the letter to the Galatians.

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

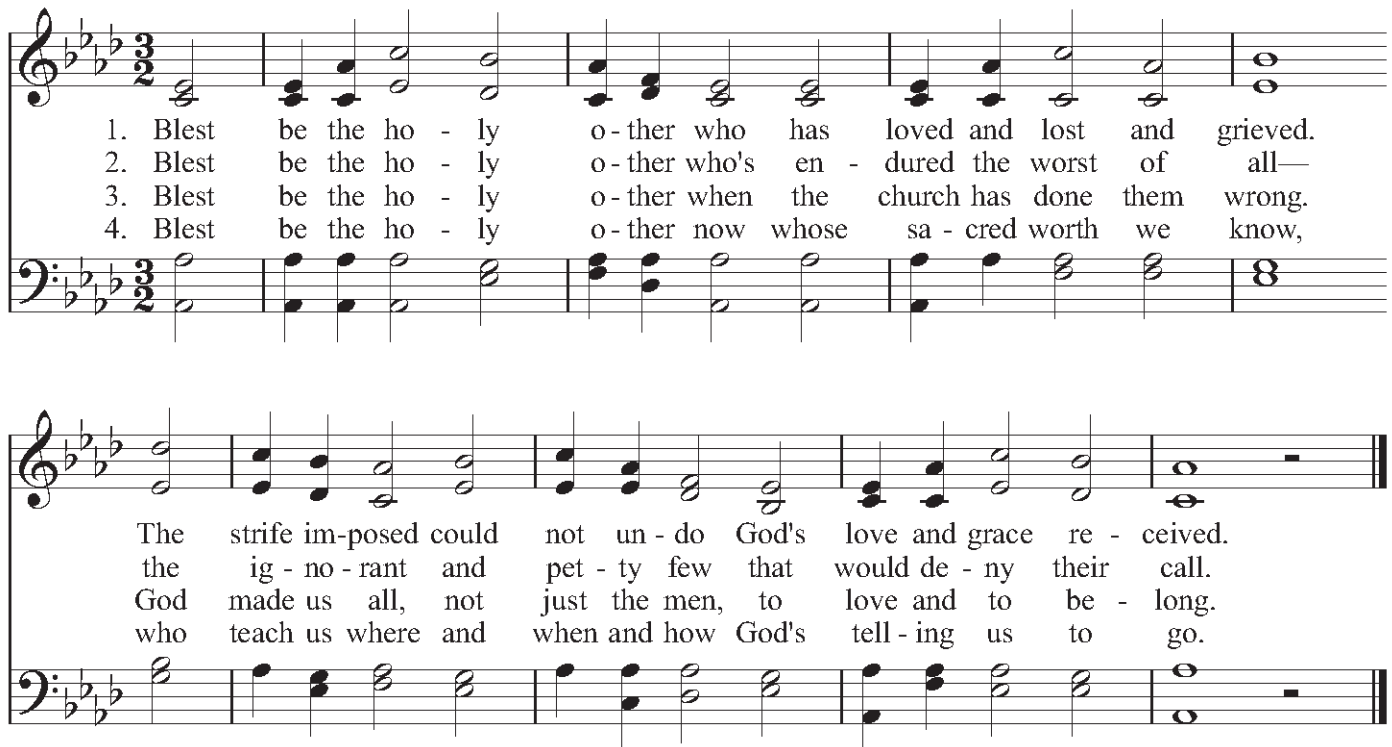
By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

Reader	Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People	Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S LESSON *All children are invited to come up to the chancel for the lesson.*

HYMN

Evan



1. Blest be the ho - ly o - ther who has loved and lost and grieved.
2. Blest be the ho - ly o - ther who's en - dured the worst of all—
3. Blest be the ho - ly o - ther when the church has done them wrong.
4. Blest be the ho - ly o - ther now whose sa - cred worth we know,

The strife im - posed could not un - do God's love and grace re - ceived.
the ig - no - rant and pet - ty few that would de - ny their call.
God made us all, not just the men, to love and to be - long.
who teach us where and when and how God's tell - ing us to go.

GOSPEL: LUKE 9:51-62 *Please stand.*

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When the days drew near for Jesus to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village.

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." But Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home." Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON *Please be seated.*

THE NICENE CREED *Please stand.*

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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
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 and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM VI

Litanist: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

People: For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

Litanist: For this community, the nation, and the world;

People: For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Litanist: For the just and proper use of your creation;

People: For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

Litanist: For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

People: For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

Litanist: For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

People: For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

Litanist: For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Andy, Kai, Jeff, and Hector our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers;

People: For all who serve God in God's Church.

Litanist: For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

The People may add their own petitions.

Litanist: Hear us, Lord;

People: For your mercy is great.

Litanist: We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

The People may add their own thanksgivings.

Litanist: We will exalt you, O God our King;

People: And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Litanist: We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

The People may add their own petitions.

Litanist: Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

People: Who put their trust in you.

The celebrant adds a concluding collect.

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins to God.

God of all mercy,

we confess that we have sinned against you,

opposing your will in our lives.

We have denied your goodness in each other,

in ourselves, and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us,

the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.

Forgive, restore, and strengthen us

through our Savior Jesus Christ,

that we may abide in your love

and serve only your will. Amen.

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

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

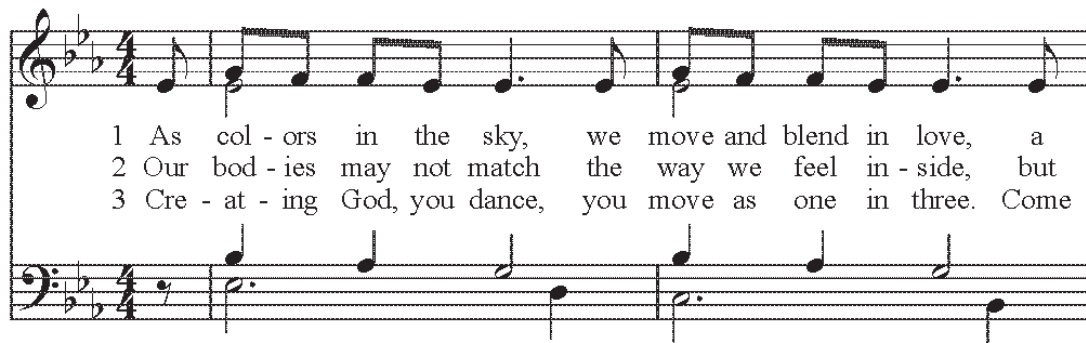
People **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

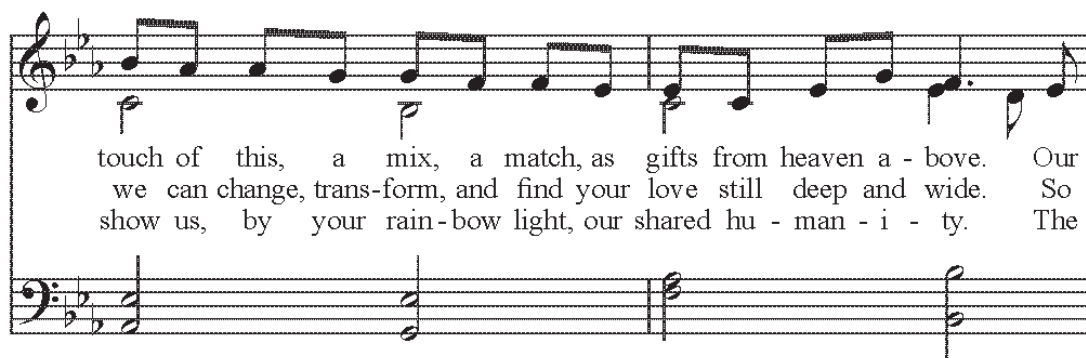
OFFERTORY

HYMN


Colors in the Sky



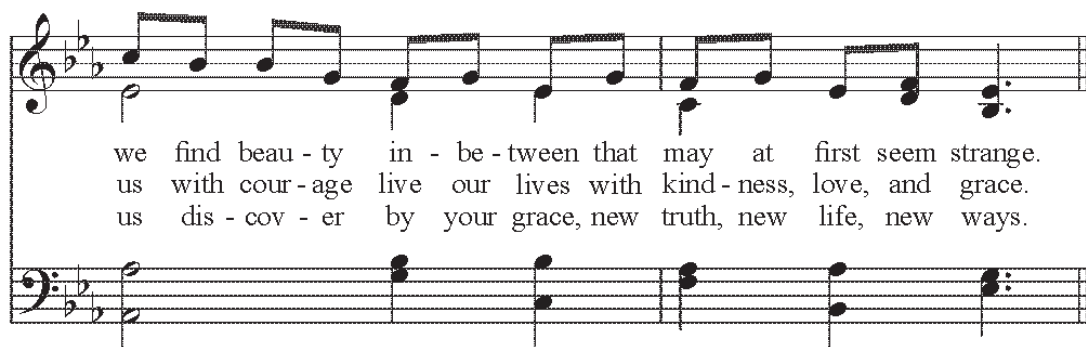
1 As col - ors in the sky, we move and blend in love, a
2 Our bod - ies may not match the way we feel in - side, but
3 Cre - at - ing God, you dance, you move as one in three. Come



touch of this, a mix, a match, as gifts from heaven a - bove. Our
we can change, trans-form, and find your love still deep and wide. So
show us, by your rain-bow light, our shared hu - man - i - ty. The



gen - ders may seem fixed, but ev - en these may change as
if we break the mold trad - i - tions put in place, let
heav - ens and the earth are made new ev - ery day, help



we find beau - ty in - be - tween that may at first seem strange.
us with cour - age live our lives with kind - ness, love, and grace.
us dis - cov - er by your grace, new truth, new life, new ways.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *Please stand.*

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 our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing,

SANCTUS

Paul M. Vasile

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, God of pow - er and
God of might! Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na! Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na in the high - est!
Bless - ed, bless - ed, bless - ed is one who comes in the
name of God. Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na! Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na in the
high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - est!

Text: Trad. liturgical text.
Music: Paul M. Vasile, 2008
Music © 2008 Paul M. Vasile

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with Stephen and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

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. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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 forever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

FRACTION ANTHEM

Paul M. Vasile



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu, Christ our Pass - o - ver's
sa - cri - ficed, sa - cri - ficed for us, there - fore let us keep the
feast. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

INVITATION

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

COMMUNION

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *Please stand.*

Let us pray.

**God of abundance, 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

HYMN

Freedom Over Me

1 Oh, free - dom, oh, free - dom,
 2 No more moan - ing, no more moan - ing,
 3 There'll be sing - ing, there'll be sing - ing,
 4 There'll be shout - ing, there'll be shout - ing,
 5 There'll be pray - ing, there'll be pray - ing,

oh, free - dom o - ver me,
 no more moan - ing o - ver me,
 there'll be sing - ing o - ver me,
 there'll be shout - ing o - ver me,
 there'll be pray - ing o - ver me,
 me, o - ver me,

Refrain

and be - fore I'd be a slave, I'll be bur - ied in my grave,

and go home to my Lord, and be free.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: FREEDOM OVER ME, African American spiritual; arr. Evelyn Davidson White

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
 People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Fugue in A Minor, BWV 543

J. S. Bach

ST. STEPHEN'S VESTRY

Judith Ambler
Steve Bretthauer
Cathlyne Camp-Murray
Marcie Hysinger
David Kelley
Christina Lovely
Emily Paul
Susan Raine, Sr. Warden
John Rovell
Owen Tredennick, Jr. Warden
Julia Wolf
Bill Wooton

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Jaime Espinoza
Ryan Hackney
Sam Marsh
Dan Maxwell
Paula Patterson
Esteban Tirado

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Main Campus Administrator: Sylvia Swain
assistant@ststephenshouston.org
Parish Accounting Administrator: Hugo Banda
hbanda@ststephenshouston.org

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Visit ststephenshouston.org/this-week/ or scan the QR code on the right for links to online content.



SUNDAY, JUNE 26

8:30 AM - Spoken Eucharist (Mask Required) (In-person & Online)

9:30 AM - Adult Formation (In-Person & Online) - Zoom Link

10:30 AM - Holy Eucharist (Mask Required) (In-person & Online)

2:00 PM - Presence Group meets in-person at Havens Center and via Zoom.

MONDAY, JUNE 27

12:00 PM - Bible Study (Online)

TUESDAY, JUNE 28

6:30 PM - In Person Bible Study in the Gathering Area.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29

6:30PM - Race & Land Series- Zoom Link

SATURDAY, JULY 2

8:00 AM - Rosary Group (Online)

SAVE THE DATE: GO CHURCH OUTING AT EPISCOPAL NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK (JULY 28).



1805 W. ALABAMA ST.
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77098

713.528.6665

WWW.STSTEPHENSHOUSTON.ORG