

**July 26, 2026
10:00 AM**

**The Ninth Sunday
after Pentecost**

Morning Prayer



St. Stephen's in-the-Field Episcopal Church

7269 Santa Teresa Boulevard
San Jose, CA 95139
(408) 629-1836
www.ssitf.org

**We the people of Saint Stephen's in-the-Field
seek to know Christ, to share Christ, and to serve Christ,
recognizing his presence in all people,
and reaching out in love to each other and to the world around us.**

Opening Hymn

Opening Sentence

Officiant: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Confession

Officiant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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**

Absolution

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

Opening Versicle (stand)

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Invitatory Psalm

Officiant: The mercy of the Lord is everlasting:

People: Come let us adore him.

Venite Psalm 95:1-7

Officiant and people

Come, let us sing to the Lord:*

Let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving*

And raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God,*

And a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth,*

And the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it,*

And his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,*

And kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.*

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Psalm:

Psalm 105:1-11, 45b

1 Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.

2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works.

3 Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

4 Search for the LORD and his strength; *
continually seek his face.

5 Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,

6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, *
O children of Jacob his chosen.

7 He is the LORD our God; *
his judgments prevail in all the world.
8 He has always been mindful of his covenant, *
the promise he made for a thousand generations:
9 The covenant he made with Abraham, *
the oath that he swore to Isaac,
10 Which he established as a statute for Jacob, *
an everlasting covenant for Israel,
11 Saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan *
to be your allotted inheritance."
45b Hallelujah!

Officiant and people

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Lessons (please be seated)

First Reading

Genesis 29:15-28

Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

A reading from the Book of Genesis

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Romans 8:26-39

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans.

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Gospel Gradual

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Sermon



The Apostles' Creed (please stand as you are able)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Suffrages

Leader: Show us your mercy, O Lord;
People: **And grant us your salvation.**
Leader: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
People: **Let your people sing with joy.**
Leader: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
People: **For only in you can we live in safety.**
Leader: Lord, keep this nation under your care;
People: **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
Leader: Let your way be known upon earth;
People: **Your saving health among all nations.**
Leader: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
People: **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
Leader: Create in us clean hearts, O God;
People: **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

Collect of the Day

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayers of the People (Form III)

Lector: Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
People: **That we all may be one.**
Lector: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
People: **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**
Lector: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
People: **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**
Lector: For Camp St. Andrew's 2026 campers and leaders (7/26-8/1). All who minister to children and youth; For the Tutoring Program at Iglesia San Pablo Apóstol, Seaside.
People: **That your presence may accompany them always.**
Lector: We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
People: **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Lector: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
People: **That our works may find favor in your sight.**
Lector: Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
People: **That they may be delivered from their distress.**
Lector: Give to the departed eternal rest;
People: **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**
Lector: We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
People: **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**
Lector: Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The People may add their own petitions:

Presider Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth:
Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do
your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Officiant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

Exchange peace.

Offertory:

Doxology (Old 100th):

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A - men.

The General Thanksgiving

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

**Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make
our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-
beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you
will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as
may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in
the age to come life everlasting. Amen.**

Announcements (please be seated)

Prayers for Celebrations

**Loving Creator, You are the source of life and the source of love. We thank
you for all who celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, and special events today.
Watch over them as their days increase, bless and guide them wherever they
may be. May your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of
their lives, and may your love for the world shine through them and the deep
relationships they cherish, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Please stand

Concluding Versicle and Response

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Concluding Sentence

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

Mission Song:

Mark Your Calendar

- Wednesday Book Group at St. John's, 10:00 am
- Sunday, August 2nd – Holy Eucharist 10:00 am, Fr. Ken Presiding
- Sunday, August 9th – Morning Prayer 10:00 am
- Sunday, August 16th – Holy Eucharist 10:00 am, Rev. Peggy Presiding
- Sunday, August 23rd – Morning Prayer 10:00 am

Vestry Members

Janet Thorsrud, *Senior Warden* • Anthony Francis • Andy Lief, *Treasurer/Finance*