**November 22, 2026**
**10:00 AM**

**Last 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 100***

1 Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands; *
serve the LORD with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.

2 Know this: The LORD himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

4 For the LORD is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

*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*** ***Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24***

A reading from the Prophet Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

The Word of the Lord.

***All:*** **Thanks be to God.**

***Second Reading*** ***Ephesians 1:15-23***

A reading from Paul's letter to the Ephesians.

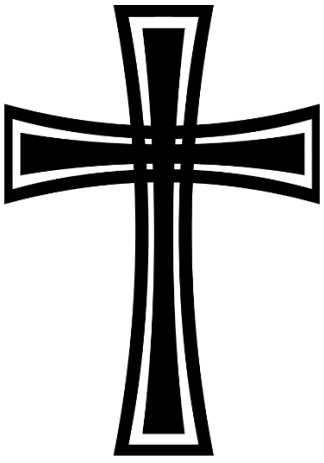
I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord.

***All:*** **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

## *Gospel Gradual*



## *Gospel Reading* **Matthew 25:31-46**

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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*

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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 all who work for social and racial justice: Santa Maria Urban Ministry/San Jose; COPA/Pacific Grove; PACT/San Jose; Storied Pilgrimage with Race; the Social Justice Committee. For the ongoing work of collaboration, partnership and the sharing of resources in the name or a more just and peaceful kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.
*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*

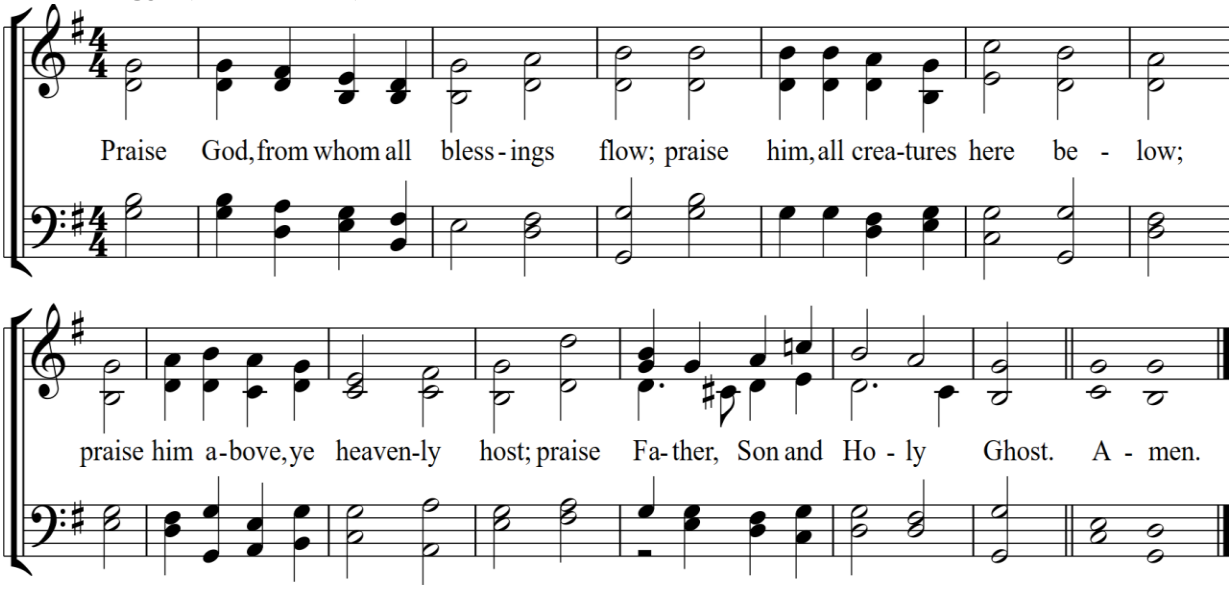
*Officiant:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

*Exchange peace.*

## *Offertory:*

## *Doxology (Old 100th):*




## *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, November 29th – New Creation Church
- Sunday, December 6th – Final Service, ***4:00 pm***

## Vestry Members

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