

ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

All Are Welcome!

The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 10, 2024, 8:00 and 10:30 am Worship Services



The Widow's Mite

WELCOME TO ST. STEPHEN'S!

It is a joy to have you worship with us today. We believe everyone who worships with us is sent to us by God. So, welcome.

As we gather for worship, we want to remind everyone of a few important items:

- Please turn off or silence your electronic devices.
- We strongly encourage you to enter the sanctuary in silence as you prepare for worship.
- Before worship begins, we encourage you to speak to God. During worship, be ready for God to speak to you.
- After worship, we invite you to fellowship with one another, especially those God has brought to us — our visitors.

WHY ARE YOU HERE?

As you come in this morning and settle into your seat, I invite you to think about the following:

- ❖ Wherever we go, we have a reason for going there. What is your reason for being here today?
- ❖ God is merciful and kind to us each and every day. What thanksgiving do you bring to God today?
- ❖ Because each day brings many challenges, what concern(s) do you bring to God?
- ❖ As your Rector, I have come with thanksgiving for God's grace and mercy and to worship Him; because today is a reminder to me that another week has ended and a new week has begun. It is my hope that you have come to do the same. I encourage you to join me as we call upon our God and worship Him.

Canon Wilmot—a son of God

Broad Shoulders

What is the Broad Shoulders Birthday Fund? Several years ago, the Vestry approved that funds donated to Broad Shoulders will be used for unbudgeted needs of St. Stephen's for buildings, grounds, or special projects. At the beginning of 2004, Father Merchant challenged everyone to contribute \$1.00 for each year of life—or whatever one could afford—to the Broad Shoulders/Birthday Fund. A contributor has the opportunity to provide a special remembrance, memorial, and has the choice of having their message in the Sunday bulletin. If you would like to contribute, the green sheets in the narthex (for altar flowers, roses, etc.) can be used for this purpose.



The Flag for November is raised,

“In honor of family members who served during WWII. My cousin, Duncan McLaren, (purple heart & bronze medal); my cousin, Leslie White, (bronze medal) who served in the U.S. Army against the Nazis; my cousin, Ensign Martin McLaren, U.S. Navy who served in the Pacific in command of a mine sweeper, and my brother, Howard, who served in the Army in one of the first occupation forces in Japan.”

Hazen McLaren

Prelude

Sonata I, “Adagio”

F. Mendelssohn

✝ *This symbol represents the point at which we sign ourselves with the sign of the cross during worship.*

The Word of God

Please stand

Come, thou fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace!
Streams of mercy never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! Oh, fix me on it,
mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I find my greatest treasure;
hither, by thy help, I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee:
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, oh, take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.

The People standing, the Deacon says:

The hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him.

John 4:23

The Deacon and People say

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. Amen.

Song of Praise, all standing

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Hymnal 376

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living,
ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother:
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.

The Collect for the Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Deacon The Lord be with you.

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

Deacon Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People ***Amen.***

The Lessons

May we hear the Word of God through these words.

A Reading from the Book of Ruth 3: 1–5; 4:13–17

Naomi her mother-in-law said to Ruth, “My daughter, I need to seek some security for you, so that it may be well with you. Now here is our kinsman Boaz, with whose young women you have been working. See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. Now wash and anoint yourself, and put on your best clothes and go down to the threshing floor; but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. When he lies down, observe the place where he lies; then, go and uncover his feet and lie down; and he will tell you what to do.” She said to her, “All that you tell me I will do.”

So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When they came together, the LORD made her conceive, and she bore a son. Then the women said to Naomi, “Blessed be the LORD, who has not left you this day without next-of-kin; and may his name be renowned in Israel! He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age; for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has borne him.” Then Naomi took the child and laid him in her bosom, and became his nurse. The women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying,

“A son has been born to Naomi.” They named him Obed; he became the father of Jesse, the father of David.

The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 127

To be read responsively by the Lay Reader and the Congregation.

L Unless the LORD builds the house, *
their labor is in vain who build it.

**C Unless the LORD watches over the city, *
in vain the watchman keeps his vigil.**

L It is in vain that you rise so early and go to bed so late; *
vain, too, to eat the bread of toil,
for he gives to his beloved sleep.

**C Children are a heritage from the LORD, *
and the fruit of the womb is a gift.**

L Like arrows in the hand of a warrior *
are the children of one's youth.

**C Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them! *
he shall not be put to shame
when he contends with his enemies in the gate.**

Deacon 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.**

May we hear the Word of God through these words.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Hebrews 9:24–28

Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn ***Lord, Make Us Servants***

Hymnal 593

Lord, make us servants of your peace:
 where there is hate, may we sow love;
where there is hurt, may we forgive;
 where there is strife, may we make one.

Where all is doubt, may we sow faith;
 where all is gloom, may we sow hope;
where all is night, may we sow light;
 where all is tears, may we sow joy.

Please stand.

When the Gospel is being announced, a cross is made,

✠ *(on the forehead) in my mind to understand it,*

✠ *(on the lips) on my lips to proclaim it, and*

✠ *(over the heart) in my heart to live it.*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 12: 38—44
People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

As Jesus taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

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

Sermon Hymn

Jesus, our Lord, may we not seek
to be consoled, but to console,
nor look to understanding hearts,
but look for hearts to understand.

May we not look for love’s return,
but seek to love unselfishly,
for in our giving we receive,
and in forgiving are forgiven.

❖ Sermon *Kim Hoop* ❖

Please use this time to silently reflect on what the Lord has spoken to you.

Please stand.

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and 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

(We bow for the two lines in bold.)

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.

Please sit or kneel for The Prayers of the People.

The Prayers of the People

The Prayer Leader and People pray responsively.

Leader The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Leader Let us pray.

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;

People *That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People *That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Sean our Presiding Bishop, Ruth our Bishop, Wilmot our priest, Kim our Deacon, and for all bishops and other ministers;

People *That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world, for Joseph our President, Henry our Governor, and Marilyn our Mayor;

People *That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People *That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

People *That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest;

People *Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

People *May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of our loved ones and others, for the men and women who are serving in the armed forces, and all others who serve to preserve and protect lives, and those who have asked us to remember them in our prayers, especially our families, friends, and loved ones.

Lord in your mercy

People *Hear our prayer.*

Let us pray for the people in disaster and troubled areas and those affected by acts of violence here at home and all around the world. Let us also pray for the many volunteers who are working to assist our brothers and sisters in those areas that have been devastated either by man-made or natural disaster.

Lord, in your mercy.

People Hear our prayer.

Let us pray for God's people throughout the world, especially the Anglican Communion, The Episcopal Church, and The Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina. Today we are praying for: St. Anne's Episcopal Church, Conway, The Rev. Kevin Sparrow, Rector, and *The Church of South India (United)*.

Lord, in your mercy.

People Hear our prayer.

**Additional Prayers*

LET US GIVE THANKS FOR OUR VISITORS.

LET US PRAY FOR OUR TRAVELERS.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: Dick Warner (11/10), Lynn Simmonds (11/11), Abraham White II (11/12), Mary Dobson (11/13), Jenna Hinson (11/13), John Simpson (11/13), Darleen Smith (11/13), Mary Christensen (11/15), Denny Mills (11/15), Sandy Adams (11/16), Bill Simpson (11/16).

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO: Michele & Jim Hennessy (11/11), Dick & Carole Hunter (11/14).

LET US PRAY FOR OUR PARISH FAMILY.

INTERCESSORY AND THANKSGIVING PRAYER. As we continue to hold one another up in prayer in this parish, this week we are praying for: **Tom & Sandy** Richmond, **Dave** Rossi, **Liz** Rotherham, **Roberta** Rowland-Raybold, **Carmen** Royall, **Lois** Ruth, **Don & Joyce** Saftner, **Steve** Saftner, **Jim & Nancy** Salters, **Patrice** Sams.

Deacon and People

Gracious and most loving God, we join them in committing to you whatever concerns they may have, asking you to let your will be done for them. We also join them in giving you thanks, for your many blessings bestowed upon them and their loved ones. We praise you and thank you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confession of Sin

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Deacon and people

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.

The Deacon stands and says

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.

People Amen.

Please stand.

The Peace

Jesus said, *Peace I leave with you; my Peace I give to you . . .* John 14:27

Deacon The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

At the conclusion of the peace the Deacon says:

Deacon God is Good!

People ***All the Time.***



The Holy Communion

Offertory ***One Faith, One Hope, One Lord***

C. Courtney

Doxology—to be sung

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;

praise Him, all creatures here below;

O Praise Him! Alleluia!

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

O Praise Him! O Praise Him!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.

Please remain standing

Officiant The Lord be with you.

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

Let us sing in thanksgiving the prayer our Savior Christ taught us,

Deacon and People

**Our Father, which 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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever. Amen.**



The Deacon says the following Invitation
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith,
with thanksgiving.

*This is the Lord's table, not of the church, but of the Lord.
It is made ready for those who love Him
and for those who want to love Him more.
So come, you who have much faith and you who have little;
You who have been here often and you who have not been here long;
You who have tried to follow and you who have failed;
Come, because it is the Lord who invites you.
It is His will that those who want Him should meet Him here.*

Please join in singing our Communion Hymns.

Spirit Song

LEVAS 118

Oh, let the Son of God enfold you,
with His Spirit and His love,
Let Him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.

Oh, let Him have the things that hold you,
and His Spirit like a dove,
Will descend upon your life,
and make you whole.

Jesus. Oh, Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

Jesus. Oh, Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

Oh, come and sing this song with gladness,
as your hearts are filled with joy,
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to His name.

Oh, give Him all your tears and sadness,
give Him all your years of pain,
And you'll enter into life
in Jesus' name.

Refrain

Have Thine Own Way

LEVAS 145

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Thou art the potter, I am the clay!
Mold me and make me after thy will,
While I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Search me and try me, Master, today!
Purer than snow, Lord, wash me just now,
As in thy presence humbly I bow.

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Wounded and weary, help me, I pray!
Power all power surely is thine!
Touch me and heal me, Savior divine!

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Hold o'er my being absolute sway!
Fill with thy Spirit 'til all shall see
Christ only, always, living in me!

Softly & Tenderly Jesus is Calling

LEVAS 101

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
Calling for you and for me;
See, on the portals He's waiting and watching,
Watching for you and for me.

*Come home, Come home,
Ye who are weary, come home!
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
Calling, O sinner, come home!*

Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,
Pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not His mercies,
Mercies for you and for me?

Refrain

Oh! For the wonderful love He has promised,
Promised for you and for me;
Though we have sinned, He has mercy and pardon,
Pardon for you and for me.

Refrain

After Communion, the Deacon says: Let us pray.

The People join in saying this prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Then the Deacon says:

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever.

People *Amen.*

Benediction *To be sung—please stand.*

**God be with you till we meet again;
By His counsels guide, uphold you,
With His sheep securely fold you,
God be with you till we meet again.**



Ye holy angels bright,
 who wait at God's right hand,
or through the realms of light
 fly at your Lord's command,
assist our song,
 for else the theme
too high doth seem
 for mortal tongue.

Ye blessèd souls at rest,
 who ran this earthly race
and now, from sin released,
 behold the Savior's face,
God's praises sound,
 as in his sight
with sweet delight
 ye do abound.

Ye saints, who toil below,
 adore your heavenly King,
and onward as ye go
 some joyful anthem sing;
take what he gives
 and praise him still,
through good or ill,
 who ever lives!

My soul, bear thou thy part,
 triumph in God above:
and with a well-tuned heart
 sing thou the songs of love!
Let all thy days
 till life shall end,
whate'er he send,
 be filled with praise.

Deacon We are called to be one with God and each other in Christ.
People ***By living the Gospel with love and compassion.***

Deacon Alleluia. Alleluia. Let us go in peace to love and serve God and one another.

People ***Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.***

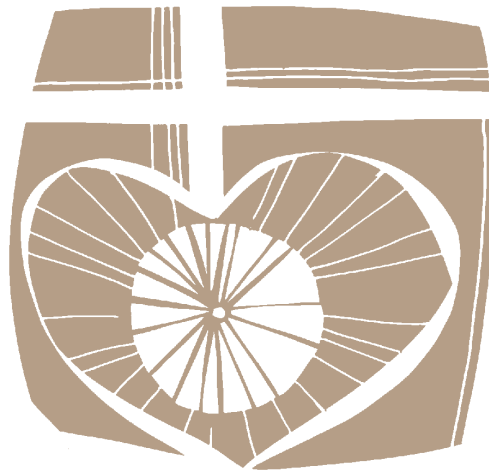
Postlude

Fanfare

J. Lemmens

THE WORSHIP HAS ENDED. LET THE SERVICE BEGIN.

“... what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” (Micah 6:8)



The Flowers on the Altar today are given by

Barb & Bill DiMartini

“In honor of our 38th Wedding Anniversary.”



Cover Brooklyn Museum: “*The Widow’s Mite*,” 1886–1894,
James Tissot, (1836–1902).

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This Week



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church 2024 Holiday Rummage Sale!!!

Friday, November 15, 9:00 am—3:00 pm
and Saturday, November 16, 9:00 am—1:00 pm

801 11th Avenue North, North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582
(843) 249-7865 www.ststephensnmb.com

Mark your calendar and join us for awesome shopping and festivities.

Christmas decorations ✦ Household items
Gift Baskets ✦ Furniture
Decorative Greenery ✦ Clothing

Visit with Santa!



Join our Group at Facebook Marketplace

[https://www.facebook.com/
groups/1236855626468748/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1236855626468748/)

Thank you for your ongoing support!

- **Monday, Veterans Day Holiday—Office Closed.**
- Monday, 7:00—9:30 pm, Church in use.
- Tuesday, CANCELLED, Prayer Time.
- Tuesday, 4:00—5:00 pm, Church in use.
- Wednesday, 10:00 am, Christian Education Book Study, Church.
- Wednesday, 12:00 noon, Public Service of Healing and Holy Eucharist.
- Wednesday, 4:00 pm, Christian Education Book Study, Church.
- Wednesday, 5:00 pm, Chancel Choir Rehearsal.
- Wednesday, 7:00—9:30 pm, Church in use.
- Thursday, 10:00 am, Alzheimer's Support Group, Choir Room.
- Thursday and Friday, Fall Rummage Sale
- Saturday, Parish Life Coffee Hour Prep, Kitchen.



Our Mission
is to be one with God and
humanity in Christ
by living the Gospel
with love and compassion.



Our Vision
is to become comfortable
with Jesus Christ
and boldly proclaim Him.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE CELEBRATION AT ST. STEPHEN'S

Ministers: The Congregants of St. Stephen's, Family, Friends and Visitors
Celebrant: The Very Rev. Canon Dr. Wilmot T. Merchant II
Deacon: The Rev. Kim Hoop
Director of Music: Roberta Rowland-Raybold
Vergers: Cathy Fellows and Robert Dunn

MINISTERS and LAYLEADERS

The Most Rev. Sean Rowe, Presiding Bishop, The Episcopal Church
The Right Rev. Ruth Woodliff-Stanley, Bishop, The Diocese of SC
The Very Rev. Canon Dr. Wilmot T. Merchant, II, Rector

Vestry Members

❖ Will Bridges, Senior Warden (2025) ❖ Richard B. Martin, Jr. (2024)
❖ Mike Raley (2024) ❖ Bill Simpson, Jr. (2024) ❖ Veronica Brown (2025)
❖ Marrjo Shattuck (2025) ❖ Sue Crouch (2026) ❖ Robert Dunn (2026)
❖ Wayne Mumford (2026).

Associate Vestry Members

❖ Barbara DiMartini (2024) ❖ Bud Nelson (2024)

Vestry Officers

❖ Bill Mann, Treasurer ❖ Cheri Spence, Assistant Treasurer
❖ Jane Buckner, Parish/Vestry Clerk, Vickie Arrington, Asst Parish/Vestry Clerk

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