St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

The Church on Main Street...
where love begets love

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 18, 2026

Holy Eucharist, Rite II at 10:00am

Welcome to St. Stephen's Church. We are delighted that you are here.

All of what you need to join us is in this bulletin or in one of two hymnals:

Hymnal 1982 (the blue book)
"H" followed by a number indicates hymns.
"S" followed by a number indicates selections that appear in the front section of the blue hymnal.

St. Stephen's Hymnal (the red spiral bound book):
"SSH" followed by a number indicates hymns.

PRELUDE

Gather

We come together to praise God.

Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING HYMN

Blessed be the God of Israel *Nyland*



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Tune: NYLAND Finnish folk melody

WELCOME

Word

We hear and respond to the story of God's liberating acts.

Blessed are you, holy and living One.
You come to your people and set them free.

THE GLORIA

S 280 Glory to God in the highest *Robert Powell*


1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

God be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah. 49:1-7

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away.

And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God." And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength-- he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE RESPONSE

Psalm 40:1-12 , *The Saint Helena Psalter*

I waited patiently for you, O God;
you stooped to me and heard my cry.
You lifted me out of the desolate pit, our of the mire and clay;
you set my feet upon a high cliff and made my footing sure.

You put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God;
many shall see, and stand in awe,
and put their trust in you.
Happy are they who trust in you;
they do no resort to evil spirits or turn to false gods.
Great things are they that you have done, O God;
how great your wonders and plans for us;
there is none who can be compared with you.
Oh, that I could make them known and tell them,
but they are more than I can count.
In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure
(you have given me ears to hear you);
Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required,
and so I said, "Behold, I come.
In the roll of the book it is written concerning me:
'I love to do your will, O my God;
your law is deep in my heart"'
I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation;
behold, I did not restrain my lips,
and that, O God, you know.
Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart;
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance;
I have not concealed your love and faithfulness from
the great congregation.
You are the Holy One;
do not withhold your compassion from me;
let your love and faithfulness keep me safe for ever.

THE SECOND LESSON

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Corinth. 1:1-9

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

SEQUENCE HYMN

H 550 Jesus calls us o'er the tumult *Restoration*



THE GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John. 1:29-42

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

THE SERMON *The Rev. Paula J. Toland*

Please stand as you are able.

THE NICENE CREED *Enriching Our Worship*

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 *Form III, BCP*

God, we pray for your holy catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; Bless all who lead and teach Christians in this community; for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Carlye, our Diocesan Bishop; Paula, our Rector; Karen, our Deacon; Maryalice and Roger, our Wardens; our Vestry and delegates;
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; Guide Donald, our President; J.D., our Vice-President; Philip, our Governor and Frank, our Mayor, that they would lead with compassion and mercy;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Bring healing and peace, to all who have been harmed, live in fear, or experience anxiety because of the words and actions of leaders anywhere;
That they would live an awareness of your unconditional love for all people.

Give courage to allies and advocates everywhere that they may continue the fight to uphold the dignity and worth of every human being as they walk alongside those who have experienced dehumanizing or demoralizing treatment of any kind;
That they will continue to have the strength and courage to do this holy work.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake; we pray for our partners in ministry: Apostles' House, Cross Roads, Family Promise, North Jersey Pride, and North Porch. We pray for our sister congregations in the Evelyn Underhill Region: Calvary, Summit; Christ Church in Short Hills; Grace, Madison; St. George's, Maplewood; and St. Paul's, Chatham.
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble, including those on our parish prayer list:

Gina del Russo	Kyle McManus	Kayt and Adam Zielinski
Mary Loucas	Martha Lipowski	Inge Bass Mill
Evie Larson	Keith Taber	Victor Calantoni
Donna Riggi	Maryann Ekberg	Jenna Mitchell
Mary Ruth Stone	Lizzie Ekberg	Daniel F.

Anne Burg	Boyd Hunnaman	Marvin
Kris Hunt	James K.	Brian Nusom
Aldaiza DaSilva	Walter	Melissa Biren
Antonio DaSilva	Ron G.	Karen Eberhardt

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy, especially Rob Agree;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

We give you thanks for St. Stephen's Staff and Preschool.

The Presider offers a concluding collect

Hasten, O God, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of 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

The peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

Table

We offer our gifts, give thanks, and we gather at Christ's banquet.

Please be seated.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O Jesus, joy of of loving hearts — *Plainsong, Mode 2; arr. Beverly Ward*
Senior Choir

Please stand as you are able.

THE DOXOLOGY

Praise we bring to God the Father — *Hyfrydol*

Praise we bring to God the Father,
Praise we bring to God the Son,
Praise to God the Holy Spirit,
Praise to you, the three in one.
Trinity of love inspire us,
may we always strive to be
one in love and one in worship
-- children of eternity.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER — *EOW 2*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.
And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

SANCTUS

S 125 Holy, holy, holy Lord — *Proulx*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing

servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, 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. Again, he gave thanks to you, 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."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with St. Stephen and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. 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

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, our Mother, 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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD & THE INVITATION

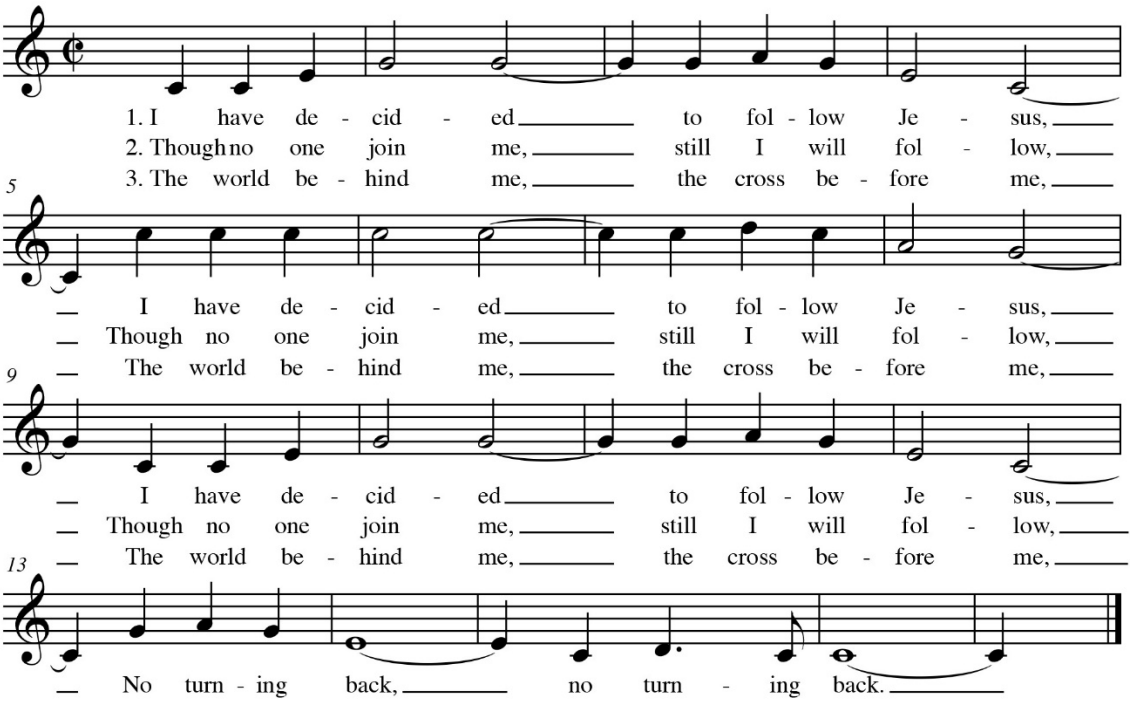
We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.
We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Whoever you are, where ever you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome at Christ's table.

All are welcome at God's table to receive Communion or a blessing. Gluten-free hosts are available.
Please use the hand sanitizer available in the pew before coming forward.

COMMUNION HYMN

I have decided to follow Jesus *Indian folk melody*



Words: Ascribed to an Indian Prince; as sung in Garo, Assam
Music: Indian Folk Melody

Please stand as you are able.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy God, let us not leave your Table unchanged, but as people committed to loving one another as we are loved by you. Let Jesus' birth remind us to look for your image in all people, especially the most vulnerable among us. May the light of the guiding star illuminate our path as we move out into the world to share your love with others. And may the peace and promise of the Christ-child dwell within us and around us in ways that touch the lives of others and honor your creation. Amen.

Sending

We go forth as Christ's body in the world.

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

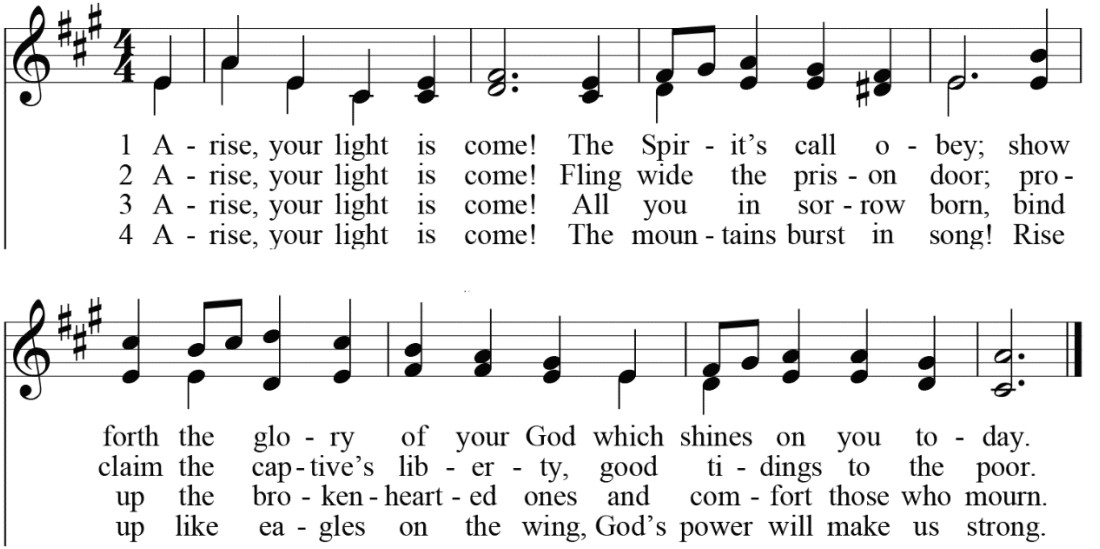
Please stand as you are able.

BENEDICTION

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Arise, your light is come! *Festal Song*



Words: Ruth Duck, 1947–
Music: William H. Walter, 1825–1893

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THE DISMISSAL

Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth in love to follow the Incarnate God.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

POSTLUDE

LITURGICAL STEWARDSHIP

Officiant:	The Rev. Paula J. Toland
Deacon:	The Rev. Deacon Karen Eberhardt
Minister of Music:	Kim Williams
Organist:	John Schucker
Crucifer/Chalicer:	Roger
Reader/Intercessor:	Barbara R.
Greeter/Usher:	Maryalice, Barbara R.
Altar Guild:	Julia, Nancy
Tech Verger:	Ron
Coffee Hour Hosts:	Linda S., Linda D.

Source for today's lectionary: The Revised Common Lectionary (RCL)
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Upcoming Events

Details can be found in the weekly e-newsletter, which is available on our website.

DATE	TIME	DESCRIPTION
1/18	10:00 AM	Sunday Worship
	11:30 AM	Vestry Meeting
	1:00 PM	AA Meeting
1/19	7:30 PM	MA Meeting
1/21	7:30 PM	Finance Committee Meeting
1/25	10:00 AM	Sunday Worship with Baptism
	1:00 PM	AA Meeting

ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

"A diverse Episcopal parish, a life-giving sanctuary, a place where love begets love. Seekers, doubters, and believers find a comfortable place in our midst."

119 Main Street, Millburn, NJ 07041 / 973-376-0688 / ststephensmillburn.org
Rector: The Rev. Paula J. Toland; Emergency Contact: 508-542-1327
Parish Administrator: Maria T. Card

Minister of Music: Kim Williams; Organist: John Schucker

Members of the Vestry
Maryalice Chech: Warden, People & Programs; Roger Riedel, Warden, Property & Preschool;
Ashley Morgan: Treasurer; Fran Taber; Kira Hanson; Linda Soughan; Steve Moran;
Tom Hillemeier; Barbara Riedel: Recording Secretary & Clerk

Sheelagh Clarke; Eugene Foley: Vestry Emeriti

If you wish to receive the weekly e-newsletter, please contact the parish office at 973-376-0688 or church@ststephensmillburn.org.