



SAINT STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
MORNING PRAYER: *ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP RITE*
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2020
PROPER 25
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE PENTECOST



"The Pharisees and the Sadducees Come to Tempt Jesus" by James Tissot, ~ 1886-1894

God is Spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and in truth. *John 4:24*

Confession of Sin

The Officiant says to the people

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together

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.

The Priest alone says

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

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise.

People And your glory all the day long.

Officiant and People

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and
will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17

1 Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.

2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born, *
from age to age you are God.

3 You turn us back to the dust and say, *
"Go back, O child of earth."

4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past *
and like a watch in the night.

5 You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.

6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
in the evening it is dried up and withered.

13 Return, O Lord; how long will you tarry? *
be gracious to your servants.

14 Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; *
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

15 Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us *
and the years in which we suffered adversity.

16 Show your servants your works *
and your splendor to their children.

17 May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us; *
prosper the work of our hands;
prosper our handiwork.

At the end of the Psalms is sung or said

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

A Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy (34:1-12)

Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. The Lord said to him, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, ‘I will give it to your descendants’; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.” Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord’s command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses.

Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

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

Canticle H – A Song of Hosea *Hosea 6:1-3*

Come, let us return to our God, *
 who has torn us and will heal us.
God has struck us and will bind up our wounds, *
 after two days revive us,
On the third day restore us, *
 that in God's presence we may live.
Let us humble ourselves, let us strive to know the Lord, *
 whose justice dawns like morning light,
 its dawning as sure as the sunrise.
God's justice will come to us like a shower, *
 like spring rains that water the earth.

The Gospel according to Matthew (22:34-46)

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,
 'The Lord said to my Lord,
 'Sit at my right hand,
 until I put your enemies under your feet'?"

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together

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 Hear our cry, O God.

People And listen to our prayer.

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

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

- V. Help us, O God our Savior;
R. Deliver us and forgive us our sins.
V. Look upon your congregation;
R. Give to your people the blessing of peace.
V. Declare your glory among the nations;
R. And your wonders among all peoples.
V. Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;
R. Never forget the lives of your poor.
V. Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;
R. And your favor to those who are true of heart.
V. Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;
R. So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

On the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Church in Wales and The Most Reverend John Davies, Archbishop of Wales & Bishop of Swansea & Brecon.

In the Diocese of Montana, we pray for St. Michael & All Angels, Eureka and the Rev. Pattiann Bennett, Rector.

In our St. Stephen's community, we pray for Chris and Linda, Dorothy, Jan, Kim, Lisa, Lynn, Miles, Reed, and Susan.

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United States in the election of officials and representatives; that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

General Thanksgiving (*from BCP, Rite II*)

Officiant and People

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.*

Concluding Sentence

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or
imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for
ever and ever. *Amen. Ephesians 3:20,21*

Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church is a part of the Episcopal Diocese of Montana

1241 Crawford Drive

Billings, Montana 59102

Office Phone: (406) 259-5017

Email: ststephensmt@gmail.com

Visit us on the web at ststephensbillings.org

