



SAINT STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
MORNING PRAYER: *ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP*  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2020  
PROPER 29  
LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE PENTECOST

---



*"Shepherdess with Her Flock" by Eugène-Joseph Verboeckhoven*

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 Officiant alone says*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all your 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 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.

*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.

### **A Reading from the Book of Ezekiel (34:11-16, 20-24)**

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.

*Reader*        Here ends the Reading

### **Canticle 18 – A Song to the Lamb**

Splendor and honor and royal power \*  
    are yours by right, O God Most High,  
For you created everything that is, \*  
    and by your will they were created and have their being;  
And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain, \*  
    for with your blood you have redeemed for God,  
From every family, language, people, and nation, \*  
    a royal priesthood to serve our God.  
And so, to the One who sits upon the throne, \*  
    and to Christ the Lamb,  
Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor, \*  
    for ever and for evermore.

### **The Gospel according to Matthew (25:31-46)**

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.”

*Reader*        Here ends the Reading

### **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*        The Lord be with you.

*People*            And also with you.

*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 of Bermuda and The Right Reverend Nicholas Dill, Bishop of Bermuda.

In the Diocese of Montana, we pray for St. Paul's, Hamilton.

In our St. Stephen's community, we ask for your prayers for Chris and Linda, Dorothy, Echo, Jan, Kim, Lisa, Lynn, Miles, Reed, Susan, and Tim.

*Collect for Guidance*

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*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.*

**General Thanksgiving**

*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.*

*Then may be said*

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

**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](mailto:ststephensmt@gmail.com)

Visit us on the web at [ststephensbillings.org](http://ststephensbillings.org)

