



SAINT STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
EVENING PRAYER: RITE I  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 2022

OBSERVING TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE PENTECOST – PROPER 17



*“Christ Teaches Humility” by Robert Scott Lauder, 1847*

I will bless the Lord who giveth me counsel; my heart teacheth me, night after night. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall. *Psalm 16:7, 8*

**The Invitatory and Psalter**

*Officiant*      O God, make speed to save us.

*People*        O Lord, make haste to help us.

*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.

**Psalm 81:1, 10-16**

1 Sing with joy to God our strength \*  
and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.

10 I am the Lord your God,  
who brought you out of the land of Egypt and said, \*  
"Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it."

11 And yet my people did not hear my voice, \*  
and Israel would not obey me.

12 So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their hearts, \*  
to follow their own devices.

13 Oh, that my people would listen to me! \*  
that Israel would walk in my ways!

14 I should soon subdue their enemies \*  
and turn my hand against their foes.

15 Those who hate the Lord would cringe before him, \*  
and their punishment would last for ever.

16 But Israel would I feed with the finest wheat \*  
and satisfy him with honey from the rock.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

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.

**A Reading from the Prophet Jeremiah (2:4 – 13),**

Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel.

Thus says the Lord:

What wrong did your ancestors find in me  
that they went far from me,

and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves?

They did not say, "Where is the Lord  
who brought us up from the land of Egypt,

who led us in the wilderness,  
in a land of deserts and pits,  
in a land of drought and deep darkness,  
in a land that no one passes through,  
where no one lives?"

I brought you into a plentiful land  
to eat its fruits and its good things.  
But when you entered you defiled my land,  
and made my heritage an abomination.  
The priests did not say, "Where is the Lord?"  
Those who handle the law did not know me;  
the rulers transgressed against me;  
the prophets prophesied by Baal,  
and went after things that do not profit.

Therefore, once more I accuse you, says the Lord,  
and I accuse your children's children.  
Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look,  
send to Kedar and examine with care;  
see if there has ever been such a thing.  
Has a nation changed its gods,  
even though they are no gods?  
But my people have changed their glory  
for something that does not profit.  
Be appalled, O heavens, at this,  
be shocked, be utterly desolate,  
says the Lord,  
for my people have committed two evils:  
they have forsaken me,  
the fountain of living water,  
and dug out cisterns for themselves,  
cracked cisterns  
that can hold no water.

*Reader*        Here endeth the Lesson

**A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews (13:1 – 8, 15 - 16),**

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison,

as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So, we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;  
I will not be afraid.  
What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

### **Canticle 5 – The Song of Simeon**

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,  
according to thy word;  
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,  
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles,  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

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 Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (14:1, 7 - 14),**

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest

place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

*Reader*            Here endeth the Reading

## **Sermon**

**The Apostles' Creed** (Rite II language)

*Officiant and People together*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
                  creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

                  He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
                                  and born of the Virgin Mary.

                  He 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,  
                                  and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

                  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 with thy spirit.

*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.    O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

R.    And grant us thy salvation.

V.    Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

R.    And make thy chosen people joyful.

V.    Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R.    For only in thee can we live in safety.

V.    Lord, keep this nation under thy care;

R.    And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

V.    Let thy way be known upon earth;

R.    Thy saving health among all nations.

V.    Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R.    Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

V.    Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R.    And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.

On the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand, and Polynesia.

In the Diocese of Montana, we pray for All Saint's, Columbia Falls and the Rev. Charlie Knuth, Rector. We also pray for Camp Marshall.

In our St. Stephen's community, we pray for Dannielle, David, Dorothy, Richard, and Warren. We also pray for our adopted unit at The Billings Clinic hospital.

*Collect of the Day*

Lord of all power and might, who art the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of thy Name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*A Prayer for the Human Family*

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Prayer for Mission*

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give thine angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for thy love's sake.

*Amen.*

*Intercessions and thanksgivings may follow*

**General Thanksgiving**

*Officiant and People*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we thine unworthy servants  
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks  
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all men.

We bless thee for our creation, preservation,

and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for thine inestimable 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 beseech thee,  
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,  
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;  
and that we show forth thy praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to thy service,  
and by walking before thee  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,  
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

*Then may be said*

*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 Ghost, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

---

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)



*Donate via PayPal*