



St Stephen

THE MARTYR ANGLICAN CHURCH, BURNABY



November 6, 2016

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (sung) with Children's Ministry

We Gather as the People of God

Welcome!

Here in this place, there are no foreigners,
for all are welcome in God's house.
Here in this worship, there is only acceptance,
for love is the language of faith.
Here in our lives, there are no divisions,
for God dwells in each of us.
Come, let us worship in unity and love.

~ Adapted from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2012.



Flowers on the altar today are given by,
to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for all the blessings she has been given.

Congregation participates when words are in **bold** print.

Our hymn book is the **Blue** Common Praise (CP).
Additional songs are printed in the end of the bulletin.

 = hymn to sing.

Please stand, sit or kneel as you wish.

Please retrieve your name badge before the service begins and put it on.
Believe it or not, there are people in the congregation who do not know your name,
and that includes our new Priest!

Serving Today:

Ministers: Congregation of St. Stephen's
Presider: The Rev. Dr. April Stanley

Sidespeople:

Readers:

Prayer Leader:

Lay Administrators:

Sacristan/Server:

Altar Guild:

Coffee Hosts:

Counters:

The Gathering of the Community

Welcome

A moment of silence as we prepare for worship.



Gathering Hymn

Let All Creation Bless the Lord

CP 419

Presider: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Presider: Almighty God,

**All: to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
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.**



Gloria

CP 702

**All: Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly king,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

Young Peoples' time

Angels Water Blessing

Think of the most joyful, loving thoughts possible.

As a child of God, we ask God's blessing of this water that it may nourish our souls, remind us of our baptism, and enrich and heal our bodies.

Jesus Loves Me

Verse: **Jesus loves me! This I know,
For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong;
They are weak, but He is strong.**

Refrain: **Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.**

Collect of the Day

Let us pray: **Eternal God, who caused all holy scriptures to be written for our learning, grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Proclamation of the Word

First Reading

In the second year of King Darius, in the seventh month, on the twenty-first day of the month, the word of the Lord came by the prophet Haggai, saying: Speak now to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, and say, Who is left among you that saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Is it not in your sight as nothing? Yet now take courage, O Zerubbabel, says the Lord; take courage, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; take courage, all you people of the land, says the Lord; work, for I am with you, says the Lord of hosts, according to the promise that I made you when you came out of Egypt. My spirit abides among you; do not fear. For thus says the Lord of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations shall come, and I will fill this house with splendour, says the Lord of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord of hosts. The latter splendour of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity, says the Lord of hosts.

Haggai 1:15b – 2:9

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People. **All: Thanks be to God!**

Psalm 145:1-5, 18-22

Cantor sings the refrain first, then everyone repeats it. Cantor sings the verses.



I will exalt You, O God my King,
and bless Your Name for ever and ever.
Every day will I bless You
and praise Your Name for ever and ever.
Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;
there is no end to His greatness.

One generation shall praise Your works to another
and shall declare Your power.
I will ponder the glorious splendour of Your majesty
and all Your marvelous works. **Refrain**

The Lord is righteous in all His ways
and loving in all His works.
The Lord is near to those who call upon Him,
to all who call upon Him faithfully.
He fulfills the desire of those who fear Him;
He hears their cry and helps them.

The Lord preserves all those who love Him,
but He destroys all the wicked.
My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord;
let all flesh bless His holy name for ever and ever. **Refrain**

Second Reading

As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. Let no one deceive you in any way; for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?

But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit

and through belief in the truth. For this purpose he called you through our proclamation of the good news, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

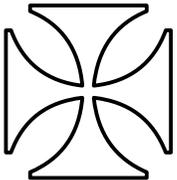
Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

2 Thess 2:1-5, 13-17

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People. **All: Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Reading

 **Gradual Hymn** *Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus* **CP 88 (verses 1-2)**



The Lord be with you. **ALL: And also with you.**
The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
ALL: Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to him and asked him a question, 'Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. Now there were seven brothers; the first married, and died childless; then the second and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. Finally the woman also died. In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her.'

Jesus said to them, 'Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage; but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. Indeed they cannot die any more, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive.'

Luke 20:27-38

The Gospel of Christ **ALL: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

 **Gradual Hymn** *Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus* **CP 88 (verses 3-4)**

Sermon *The Rev. Dr. April Stanley*

Reflection

Affirmation of Faith – Apostles Creed

President: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

**All: 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.**

Prayers of the People

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost (November 6)

St. Martin, North Vancouver – The Reverend Robin Ruder-Celiz

Diocese of Jabalpur (North India) – The Right Reverend Dr Prem Singh

The Lusitanian Church (Portugal) – The Right Reverend José Jorge De Pina Cabral

We pray for Bishop Melissa Skelton; Archbishop John Privett, our Metropolitan; and Archbishop Fred Hiltz, our Primate. We pray for our visiting clergy, leading our worship this fall. We also pray for Bishop Greg Mohr and Bishop Susan Johnson of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. We pray for our Companion Diocese, the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Philippines, and their bishop, The Right Reverend Brent Alawas. We also pray for our priest-in-charge, April Stanley.

We pray for those who are sick or who have asked for our prayers: Annie Kerns, Dave Williamson, Nancy Miller, Bonica Thomas, Mike Lum.

We remember all who have passed into God's hands. Especially we remember...

Intercessor: Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord.

All: And let light perpetual shine upon them.

We pray for our parish family, especially remembering: Edward Kind, Gail & Mike Koombes, Valerie Krause, Betty Kusiak, Graham Lawrence, Shindee Lau.

We pray for St. Stephen's Community, especially remembering the Counters, and the various groups using our facility, especially Blue Ocean.

Parish Prayer

All: Holy and Living God, we give thanks for all the members of our parish and all of the time and energy they give to the ministries of St. Stephen. Help us continue to create here a place where people can connect to your gracious love and presence. We especially pray for all the members of our Canonical Committee. Help them discern wisely as they begin the process of creating the parish profile that will help us find the Rector to lead us into the future. We ask this in the name of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ, Amen

Confession and Absolution

Presider: Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table.
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence

Presider: Most merciful God,
**All: 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 neighbours 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.**

Presider: Almighty God have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All: Amen.

Exchange of Peace

Presider: May the Peace of Christ be always with you.
All: And also with you.

The Holy Communion

Procession and Presentation of the Gifts

 Offertory Hymn

O Worship the King

CP 380

Preparation and Prayer over the Gifts

Let us pray:

Gracious God, your word to us is food indeed. Receive all we offer you this day, and let your loving-kindness be our comfort, for the sake of Jesus Christ, your living Word. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: Let us give thanks to God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Presider: Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of heaven and earth;
you are the source of light and life for all your creation,
you made us in your own image,
and call us to new life in Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices to proclaim the glory of your name:

 Sanctus

CP 719

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

Presider: We give thanks to you, Lord our God,
for the goodness and love
you have made known to us in creation;
in calling Israel to be your people;

in your Word spoken through the prophets;
and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son.

For in these last days you sent him
to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.
In him, you have delivered us from evil,
and made us worthy to stand before you.
In him, you have brought us
out of error into truth,
out of sin into righteousness,
out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death,
a death he freely accepted,
our Lord Jesus Christ took bread;
and when he had given thanks to you,
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
“Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine;
and when he had given thanks, gave it to them,
and said, “Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, Father, according to his command,
we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;
and we offer our sacrifice
of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all;
presenting to you, from your creation,
this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God,
to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts,
that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ
and his blood of the new covenant.
Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice,
that we, made acceptable in him,
may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time,
reconcile all things in Christ,

and make them new,
and bring us to that city of light
where you dwell with all your sons and daughters;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
the firstborn of all creation,
the head of the Church and the author of our salvation.

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father,
now and for ever.

All: Amen.

 **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,
**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen**

The Breaking the Bread:

Presider: "I am the bread of life," says the Lord.
"Whoever comes to me will never be hungry;
whoever believes in me will never thirst."

**All: Taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are they who trust in him!**

Presider: These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

 **Jesus, Lamb of God**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world;
Have mercy on us.
Jesus, Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world;
Grant to us Your peace.**

Communion



All who seek God and are drawn to Christ are welcome at this table.

If it is your practice to dip the bread into the wine,
please ask the Presider for a wafer.

If you are unable to go to the altar rail for communion, please inform the
sidesperson, who will let the Sacristan know.
Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.



Communion Hymns

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

CP 48

Draw Near and Take

CP 49

As We Gather at Your Table

CP 61

The Sending Forth of the Community

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Living God, in the Eucharist you fill us with new hope. May the power of your love, which we have known in word and sacrament, continue your saving work among us, and bring us to the joy you promise. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Doxology:

Presider: Glory to God,

**All: 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.**

+ Blessing

Announcements



Sending Hymn *Let Us with a Gladsome Mind*

CP 398

Dismissal

Sacristan: Let us bless the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Please join us after the service for refreshments and fellowship.
Everyone's welcome!**

Next Week's Readings: 26th Sunday after Pentecost (November 13)

Isaiah 65:17-25

Isaiah 12

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Luke 21:5-19

Announcements:

The Rev. April will be in the office most Wednesdays and Fridays. Feel welcome to contact her to arrange a time if you would like to meet with her. In case of a pastoral emergency, please contact the office, or the Rev. April at 604-940-4741.

Events This Week:

November 8	7:00 pm	Canonical Committee Meeting
November 9	7:00 pm	Bible Study
November 10	7:00 pm	Stewardship Committee Meeting
November 12	10:00 am	Scrapbooking at Janet's
November 12	1:00 pm	Cooking with Faiza
November 13	11:00 am	Refugee Team Meeting

Church Office Closed

November 9 – 11

Pastoral Care Meeting

Sunday, November 20th after the service
Everyone welcome!

Mark Your Calendars!

Some of the upcoming events at St. Stephen's include:

November 19, 10 am – 2 pm	Thrift Sale
December 3, 10 am – 3 pm	Fall Fair
December 10, 10 am – 2 pm	Thrift Sale
December 17, 3 pm	Parish Christmas Supper – more details to follow

New Interim Priest

Bishop Melissa has appointed The Rev. Dr. April Stanley to serve as an interim priest-in-charge while we go through the Canonical Process. She will start her ministry here on November 1st. Here's a short message from April+:

I am very pleased to be coming on board this November as the Priest in Charge at St. Stephen Martyr. Your wardens have asked for a short paragraph about me.

I was ordained in Edmonton in 1991 and have been in this Diocese since 1994. I did my Mdiv at VST and have completed six units of chaplaincy training. For some people I am most well known for starting the Labyrinth Project at St. Paul's in the West End. I continue to do Labyrinth workshops. I have been doing interim work since 2004 and this will be my fifth interim. Most recently I was at a near neighbour of yours, St. Laurence, Coquitlam.

In 2005, I took a year to do my course work for a Doctor of Ministry at the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, California and then wrote my thesis on creativity as a spiritual practice. Even though these are difficult times for mainline churches, I think it is an exciting and dynamic time as well as we work toward connecting to the core of what it means to be a Christian in this 21st century. I am looking forward to meeting you all and being with your parish as you complete the Parish Profile and call a new Rector.

The Parish of St. Stephen Parish Purpose

As a caring Community of Believers in Jesus Christ;
To worship God, to learn His Word and to practice our belief
Through the power of the Holy Spirit.

One Great Act of Giving Birth by Richard Rohr

Humanity alone is called to assist God. Humankind is called to co-create. —Hildegard of Bingen

For of his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. —John 1:16, NASB

The Greek word here for “fullness” is *pleroma*, which Paul also uses in his writings (see Ephesians 1:23, 3:19; Colossians 2:9) to describe a historical unfolding. It is an early hint of what we now call evolutionary development, the idea that history, humanity, and yes, even God are somehow growing and coming to a divine fullness. And we are always in on the deal. What hope and meaning this gives to all life!

In his letter to the church in Rome, Paul writes: “From the beginning until now, the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth” (Romans 8:22, JB). This view of creation is very feminine, by the way; maybe that is why men historically were so opposed to it. Just that line should be enough to justify the theory of evolution for Christians. Wouldn't it make sense that God would give such autonomy and freedom and grace to creation to continue self-creating, just as any mother or father desires for their children?

Creation did not happen once by a flick of the divine hand and now it's slowly winding down toward Armageddon and tragic Apocalypse (which is the hopeless universe inside of which many fundamentalists live). Creation is in fact a life-generating process that's still happening and winding *up*! We now know the universe is still expanding—and at an ever faster rate, which means that we are a part of creating God's future. That is what Love always does for all that it loves (see Romans 8:28, in fact most of Romans 8). What a different future than one of a threatening courtroom scene or an eternal torture chamber for the bad guys (as if we are not bad guys too!).

Humanity is creation come to consciousness and freedom (although many humans are still quite unconscious). Animals “know,” even bread and wine “know” what they are, but we humans also *know that we know*, and that is a huge leap forward. The French Jesuit geologist and paleontologist, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955), shared these inspired words: “The world is still being created, and it is Christ who is reaching his fulfillment in it.’ When I heard and understood that saying, I looked around and I saw, as though in an ecstasy, that through all nature I was immersed in God.” That was full consciousness!

The common Christian understanding that Jesus came to save us by a cosmic evacuation plan is really very individualistic, petty, and even egocentric. It demands no solidarity with anything except oneself. We whittled the great Good News down into what Jesus could do for us personally and privately, rather than God inviting us to participate in God's universal creative work.

Instead of believing that Jesus came to personally fulfill you privately, how about trusting that you are here to fulfill Christ? To take your small but wonderful part in what Thomas Merton calls “The General Dance.” That more than enough fulfills you without even trying to “get fulfilled.” You are a part of this movement of an ever-growing Cosmic Christ that is coming to be in this “one great act of giving birth.”

Gateway to Silence

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR

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Parish Office hours: Tuesday – Friday, 9:30 am – 1:30 pm

Priest-in-charge: The Rev. Dr. April Stanley

Bishop's Warden: Mr. David Nash

People's Warden: Ms. Sharon Mack

Music Director: Ms. Angela Zhang

Office Administrator: Ms. Elina Singh

St. Stephen the Martyr Anglican Church

I would like:

- a) to talk to the parish priest
 by telephone in the office
 in my home

b) a set of envelopes

c) add to parish list

d) name tag

e) a hospital/pastoral visit

f) Please Print
(name) _____

(address) _____

(phone) _____

(email) _____

**Please fill out your request and put it on the offertory plate
or give it to a sidesperson.**