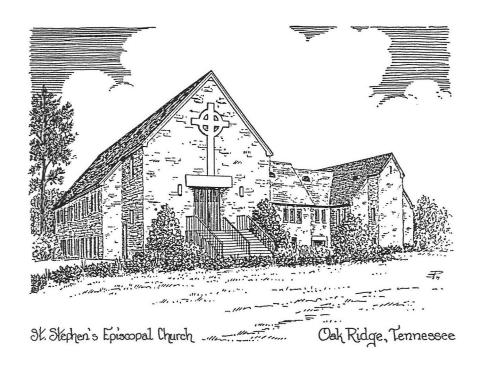
## The Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

## HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I

February 23, 2025 8:00 A.M.



## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## **OPENING ACCLAMATION**

**BCP 323** 

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

#### COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

## Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

GLORIA BCP 324

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. *Amen*.

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Presider Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day, Old Testament, Psalm, Epistle, and Gospel readings can be found in the insert.

#### COLLECT OF THE DAY

## A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS.

GENESIS 45:3-11,15

Lector The Word of the Lord. People Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 37 (SAID IN UNISON)

**INSERT** 

A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER TO THE CORINTHIANS. 1 CORINTHIANS 15:35-38,42-50

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL LUKE 6:27-38

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE SERMON

PASTOR LAURA HENRIK

THE NICENE CREED BCP 326

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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

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 and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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

**BCP 328** 

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers especially Stephen, the Archbishop of York; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Brian, our Bishop; Jonathan, Bishop of our companion Diocese of South Dakota; Bailey, Steve and Laura, our clergy; and Adam, our seminarian, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Donald, our President, and Bill, our Governor, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

In the Diocese of East Tennessee we pray for Christ Church, South Pittsburg.

In the Diocese of South Dakota we pray for St. John's, Deadwood, our sister parish and for Calvary Church, Oakreek; Trinity, Winner.

In the Diocese of Haiti, we pray for St. John the Evangelist Church and Medical Clinic.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Anglican Episcopal Church of Brazil.

We pray for those in assisted living and rehab: Jo Ann Baker, Dianne Davis, Roger Derby, Allan Reiss, Mary Rhoades.

We pray for the following parish members: Shari Carter, Elizabeth; Allen and Sandy Cate; Adam and Rebecca Cavender, William, Tate and Ellis; Scott and Kathy Chippendale; Tom and Deborah Clary; Jeff and Kelly Cooper, Emily.

We pray for the women and men who are currently serving in the armed forces at home and abroad, especially Brian Bustle, Courtenay Clary, Nick Corrigan, Reid Hartman, Seth Kosko, Alex Mol, Kyle Zirkel.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, especially Elwood Gift, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Stephen, St. Alban, and all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen.

Presider Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

## CONFESSION OF SIN BCP 331

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

The Presider, stands and says

ABSOLUTION BCP 332

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon

you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

The Presider will then say one or more of the following sentences

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11:28* God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16* 

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. 1 Timothy 1:15

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world. 1 John 2:1-2

## BLESSINGS FOR BIRTHDAYS AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

THE PEACE BCP 332

All stand. The Presider says to the people

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you

People And with thy spirit.

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

## **OFFERTORY**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER II

BCP 340

The people remain standing. The Presider, faces them and says

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up unto the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People It is meet and right so to do.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Presider proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

## A Proper preface is said

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS BCP 341

Holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory, Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The people kneel or stand. Then the Presider continues

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Presider is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me." Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.** 

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER BCP 336

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,

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then may be sung or said

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread.

and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

FRACTION ANTHEM

BCP 337

- O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
- O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
- O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

## PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

**BCP 337** 

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen*.

Facing the people, the Presider says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

#### THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All baptized are welcome to receive communion. All are welcome to come forward to the rail to receive a blessing from the priest.

After communion, the Presider says

Let us pray.

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

**BCP 339** 

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen*.

## SENDING FORTH THE EUCHARISTIC VISITOR

Presider In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go, may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body

and Blood.

*People* Though we are many, we are one, because we share one bread and one cup.

## THE BLESSING

## THE DISMISSAL

Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

## The Altar Flowers and Ambry Candle are given to the glory of God

## THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY - FEBRUARY 23

8:00 A.M. 10:30 A.M.

**CRUCIFER** Diane Sams

ACOLYTES Jack Lee Tatum Tipton, Arwyn Welch

**LECTORS** Eph Klots Tatum Tipton

**EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS** Jamey Kennedy Cyril Meredith IV, Brittany Shassere

USHERSJim Rousey, John CoxTom Clary, Judith DelaneyGREETERSJim RouseyBeth Bailey, Ashley Hillis

**COUNTERS** Goldie Kennedy, Betsy Ellis

EUCHARISTIC VISITOR Carol Gardner

**ALTAR GUILD** Judith Delaney, Jo Kelley, Ruth Prince, Julie Webber

AV Tech Brad Hillis

**SOURCE MATERIAL** The source material for this service is the Book of Common Prayer, Year C

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2025

Please send any bulletin, e-news or calendar announcements by Wednesday, February 26. Fully edited pertinent information, including dates, times, location(s) should be sent to editor@ ststephensor.org. This email goes to both the Parish Office, and Rob Steele III, our E-News editor. Final content is at the discretion of clergy and staff.

## **COFFEE AND CONVERSATION**

TODAY

Coffee and conversation will continue today after both services in the Parish Hall.

## LOOSE PLATE OFFERING

This Month

The loose plate offering for the remainder of February will be designated for the Family Resource Center. Please see the E-News and the February Evangel for more details on this organization.

## House Blessings for Epiphany

During the season of Epiphany, it is very appropriate for the church to offer house blessings. House blessings go back to the ancient church in which the church actually met in people's homes before special places were consecrated for worship. Fr Bailey is delighted to come out and offer this blessing, both for the blessing itself and the opportunity to have fellowship with you in your home. It is appropriate for anyone, but it is especially fun for families with kids as we can include them in part of the service. If you are interested, please contact the church office or Fr Bailey directly at rector@ststephensor.org to schedule a time for the blessing.

# ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION Lectionary Class Instructed Eucharist

TODAY @ 9:30 A.M. Pollard Room Chapel

The Lectionary class at St. Stephen's is unique in that it is a discussion each Sunday about the Gospel that is in that Sunday's bulletin insert. It is also unique in that the class is led each Sunday by a member of the class. Recent leaders have been Roger Johnson, Steve Damos, Emily Doane, Gary Dreier, Mary Ellen Klots, Joseph Womble and Father Bailey. If you'd like a better understanding of the Bible (who doesn't), come to a Lectionary class on Sundays at 9:30 am in the Pollard library.

Fr. Bailey will also be offering an extended Instructed Eucharist class at 9:30 in the chapel. What is an Instructed Eucharist? In years past, St. Stephen's has offered an "extended" Eucharist during regular service in which the priest pauses to teach and explain certain parts of the service and why we do things the way we do. In this class, we will take a piece of the Eucharist service each week, carry it out together, and then talk about the origins and meaning behind each part. Toward the end of the class (closer to Lent), we will host a Eucharist one evening with a dinner following that will emphasize what we have learned.

This class is open to everyone, especially to those newer to the Episcopal tradition. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to Fr. Bailey at rector@ststephensor.org.

The Vestry is In Today

Your wardens and vestry want to be visible representatives of your parish. In order to be more connected with you, we are setting aside one Sunday a month as "The Vestry Is In" Sunday. Each month, a different vestry member will be present at both services and their coffee hours, chatting with people, and getting a feel for likes/dislikes/concerns, etc. Taking the "pulse" of the congregation, so to speak! They will then report back to Fr. Bailey, Sr. Warden Leah Bailey, or Jr. Warden Ben Shassere. This information will inform our agenda for the upcoming Vestry Meeting.

#### **BLESSING BOX IN ACTION!**

## **ITEMS NEEDED THIS WEEK**

Thank you to everyone who is supporting the Blessing Box! Please remember the Blessing Box when you shop. This week, we are requesting donations of canned soup and fruit, peanut butter and saltine/other crackers. Many of those in need do not have access to a can opener. If you are purchasing **canned items**, please check to see if your item can be bought with a pop-off lid. They can be placed in the little red wagon in the narthex.

## COMING IN MARCH

#### Laissez les bons temps rouler!

Our 3rd Annual Mardi Gras Family Fete will be March 1st in the Parish Hall from 5:30-8:00. Come and enjoy gumbo, jambalaya, étouffée, Kings Cake and other Creole/Cajun delights! You are welcome to bring your favorite New Orleans style dish as well. In order to insure that we have enough food, we ask that you sign up online. We don't want to run out of gumbo!!!

### **FUN RUN**

St. Stephen's parishioners are invited to support Oak Ridge Civic Music Association at their 2nd annual Spring Fun Run at A.K. Bissell Park on March 29, 2025. Stroll at your own pace, a one mile loop around the Civic Center, while enjoying uplifting springtime classical music along the way. All proceeds support ORCMA's youth programs, including their Free Family Concert and Adolf Summer Strings Program. Come in your favorite costume and make it a festive celebration! If you are interested in participating, please contact Brittany Shassere @Brittany. Shassere@knoxschools.org.

## PREPARING FOR LENT

## SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER/BURNING OF THE PALMS

We will again be serving our traditional pancake supper on March 4th from 5:30-7:00 in the Parish Hall. Donations will be accepted and will benefit our Blessing Box. Following the pancake supper, last year's palms will be burned during a short service on the front patio.

## ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

There will be three services on Ash Wednesday, March 5. Please join us either at 6:30 a.m., 12:10 p.m. or 7 p.m. as we enter the season of Lent. In addition to these 3 regular Ash Wednesday services, we will offer a more kid-friendly service at 4:30 PM as well. This service will be shorter and geared specifically to talking about Ash Wednesday and Lent in general with our kids. If the weather is good, we will meet outside in the Memorial Garden (Chapel if it rains).

## WEDNESDAY LENTEN SIMPLE SOUP SUPPERS

From 5:30-6:30, beginning on March 12, we will again sponsor our FREE simple soup suppers which will consist of two soup choices--one of which will be vegetarian, bread and/or crackers, fruit, and a beverage. Please come and join us for some delicious soup and great fellowship. Following the supper, a **Lenten Study** will be offered. More details to come!

## Wednesday Lenten Study

Starting on March 12 following the soup supper, we will be offering a special Lenten Study, **Living Well Through Lent**, to renew and deepen our spiritual practices. There will be groups for both adults and kids. Each participant will receive a Living Well Lenten Kit.

## SEVEN LAST WORDS - REQUEST FOR MEDITATIONS

The 'Seven Last Words' service is one of our Holy Week traditions. We gather on Good Friday (April 18) to meditate on the seven last words of Christ. We are looking for parishoners to offer short meditations on each of these words. If you are interested, please contact the Fr. Bailey, or the parish office for more info.

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS - FEBRUARY 24 - MARCH 1

Parish Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Monday - Thursday.

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Monday, February 24	9:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
Tuesday, February 25	10:00 a.m.	Tuesday Bible Study
	11:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist and Healing Service
Wednesday, February 26	8:30 a.m.	Men's Group
	9:00 a.m.	WOW
	6:45 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, February 27	4:00 p.m.	Contemplative Prayer (Zoom)
Friday, February 28	8:30 a.m.	Wardens Meeting
		Office Closed
Saturday, March 1	11:00 a.m.	Elwood Gift Funeral
	5.30 p.m.	Mardi Gras Fete

## STAFF

The Rev. Bailey Norman, Rector The Rev. Laura Henrik, Associate Pastor The Rev. Dr. Steve Damos, Pastoral Associate Rector@ststephensor.org Laura.henrick@ststephensor.org

Simon Ballintoy, Director of Music Interim Parish Administrator Rachel Durfee, Parish Accountant Larry Hopson, Sexton Music@ststephensor.org Secretary@ststephensor.org Rachel@ststephensor.org Sexton@ststephensor.org

## VESTRY

Senior Warden - Leah Bailey (2025) Junior Warden - Ben Shassere (2026) Betsy Ellis - Secretary Alan Liby - Treasurer (2026)

> Cleon Hartman, Ashley Hillis, Courtney Manrod (2025) Craig Brent, Tyler Walker (2026) Beth Bailey, Ray Evans, Carol King, Julie Webber (2027)

> > THE RT. REV. BRIAN COLE, BISHOP THE DIOCESE OF EAST TENNESSEE

