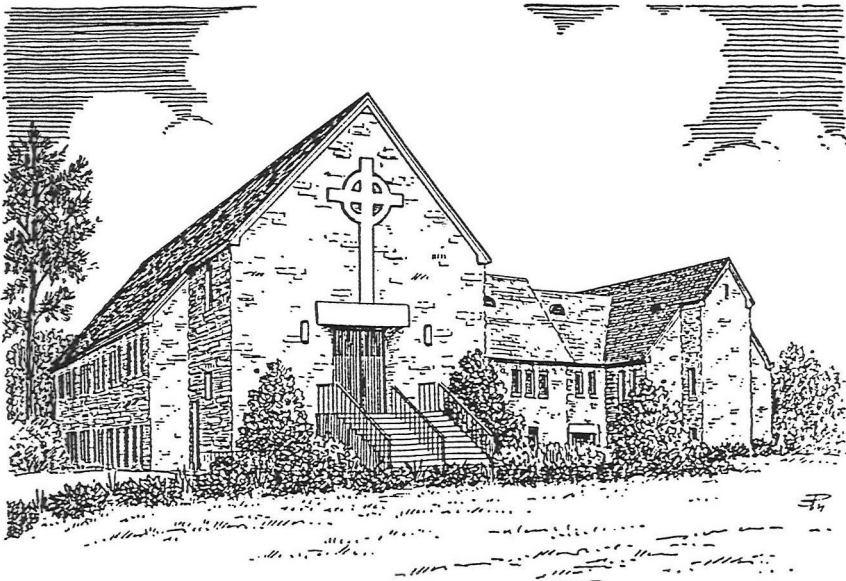


# The Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

*February 23, 2025 10:30 A.M.*



*St. Stephen's Episcopal Church*

*Oak Ridge, Tennessee*



## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN    LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING

657

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 355

*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, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: 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

S-280

**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.**

*Presider*    The Lord be with you.*People*      **And also with you.***Presider*    Let us pray.*The Collect of the Day and today's readings can be found in the insert*

## THE 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 (Chanted)



© 1956. Jerome Webster Meachen

1. Do not fret yourself because of evil <sup>l</sup> doers; \* do not be jealous of those who do <sup>l</sup> wrong.
2. For they shall soon wither like the <sup>l</sup> grass, \* and like the green grass fade a <sup>l</sup> way.
3. Put your trust in the Lord and do <sup>l</sup> good; \* dwell in the land and feed on its <sup>l</sup> riches.
4. Take delight in the <sup>l</sup> Lord, \* and he shall give you your heart's <sup>l</sup> desire.
5. Commit your way to the Lord and put your trust in <sup>l</sup> him, \* and he will bring it to <sup>l</sup> pass.
6. He will make your righteousness as clear as the <sup>l</sup> light \* and your just dealing as the <sup>l</sup> noonday.
7. Be still before the <sup>l</sup> Lord \* and wait patiently for <sup>l</sup> him.
8. Do not fret yourself over the one who <sup>l</sup> prospers, \* the one who succeeds in evil <sup>l</sup> schemes.
9. Refrain from anger, leave rage a <sup>l</sup> lone; \* do not fret yourself; it leads only to <sup>l</sup> evil.
10. For evildoers shall be cut <sup>l</sup> off, \* but those who wait upon the Lord shall possess the <sup>l</sup> land.
11. In a little while the wicked shall be no <sup>l</sup> more; \* you shall search out their place, but they will not be <sup>l</sup> there.
12. But the lowly shall possess the <sup>l</sup> land; \* they will delight in abundance of <sup>l</sup> peace.
41. But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the <sup>l</sup> Lord; \* he is their stronghold in time of <sup>l</sup> trouble.
42. The Lord will help them and rescue <sup>l</sup> them; \* he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because they seek refuge in <sup>l</sup> him.

**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.**

*During the Sequence Hymn, the children may follow the cross to Children's Chapel.*

*Gospeller*     The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
*People*         **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**THE GOSPEL**

**LUKE 6:27-38**

*Gospeller*     The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*         **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**THE SERMON**

**PASTOR LAURA HENRIK**

**THE NICENE CREED**

**BCP 358**

**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.***

*Intercessor* In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

*Intercessor* For all people in their daily life and work;

**People For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

*Intercessor* For this community, the nation, and the world; especially for Donald, our President, and Bill, our Governor;

**People For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

*Intercessor* For the just and proper use of your creation;

**People For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

*Intercessor* For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**People For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

*Intercessor* For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**People For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

*Intercessor* For 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; Adam, our seminarian; and all bishops and other ministers;

**People For all who serve God in his Church.**

*Intercessor* For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

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, Okreek; 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.

*Silence. The People may add their own petitions.*

*Intercessor* Hear us, Lord;

**People For your mercy is great.**

*Intercessor* We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence. The People may add their own thanksgivings.*

*Intercessor* We will exalt you, O God our King;

**People And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

*Intercessor* We pray for all who have died, especially Elwood Gift, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence. The People may add their own petitions*

*Intercessor* Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**People Who put their trust in you.**

*Intercessor* We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence may be kept. Then the Presider and People say together*

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father,  
in your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown,  
things done and left undone;  
and so uphold us by your Spirit  
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Presider concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.*

## **BLESSINGS FOR BIRTHDAYS AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

### **THE PEACE**

**BCP 360**

*All stand. The Presider says to the People*

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People And also with you.**

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY MUSIC

A PRAYER OF ST RICHARD OF CHICHESTER  
BY RICHARD WHITE

PARISH CHOIR

DOXOLOGY

HYMNAL 380 V.3

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below.**

**Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER C

BCP 369

*The people remain standing. The priest then says*

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Presider* God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

*People* **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

*Presider* At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

*People* **By your will they were created and have their being.**

*Presider* From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

*People* **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

*Presider* Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

*People* **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

*Presider* And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

S-124

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



*The people stand or kneel, as they are able. Then the Presider continues*

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant 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.*

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**People We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

**People Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

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

## **THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**BCP 364**

**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.**

*The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread, and maintains a moment of silence.*

**FRACTION ANTHEM**

**S-154**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us, therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

*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 receive a blessing.*

**COMMUNION HYMNS**

**JESU, JESU  
I COME WITH JOY**

**HYMNAL 602  
HYMNAL 304**

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

**BCP 365**

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. *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**

**RECESSIONAL HYMN**

**GO FORTH FOR GOD**

**HYMNAL 347**

**THE DISMISSAL**

*Presider* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**VOLUNTARY**

**PRAISE TO THE LORD THE ALMIGHTY THE KING OF CREATION**

**ARR. HAL HOPSON**

**SIMON BALLINTOY**

*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.
<b>CRUCIFER</b>		Diane Sams
<b>ACOLYTES</b>	Jack Lee	Tatum Tipton, Arwyn Welch
<b>LECTORS</b>	Eph Klots	Tatum Tipton
<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	Jamey Kennedy	Cyril Meredith IV, Brittany Shassere
<b>USHERS</b>	Jim Rousey, John Cox	Tom Clary, Judith Delaney
<b>GREETERS</b>	Jim Rousey	Beth Bailey, Ashley Hillis
<b>COUNTERS</b>		Goldie Kennedy, Betsy Ellis
<b>EUCCHARISTIC VISITOR</b>		Carol Gardner
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Judith Delaney, Jo Kelley, Ruth Prince, Julie Webber	
<b>AV TECH</b>	Brad Hillis	
<b>SOURCE MATERIAL</b>	The source material for this service is the Book of Common Prayer, Year C	
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2025

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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](mailto: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.

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### COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

TODAY

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

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### 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.

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### 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](mailto:rector@ststephensor.org) to schedule a time for the blessing.

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### ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

TODAY @ 9:30 A.M.

Lectionary Class

Pollard Room

Instructed Eucharist

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](mailto:rector@ststephensor.org).

## **THE VESTRY IS IN**

**TODAY**

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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**

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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!**

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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**

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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.

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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

RECTOR@STSTEPHENSOR.ORG

THE REV. LAURA HENRIK, ASSOCIATE PASTOR

LAURA.HENRIK@STSTEPHENSOR.ORG

THE REV. DR. STEVE DAMOS, PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

SIMON BALLINTOY, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC  
INTERIM PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

MUSIC@STSTEPHENSOR.ORG  
SECRETARY@STSTEPHENSOR.ORG

RACHEL DURFEE, PARISH ACCOUNTANT

RACHEL@STSTEPHENSOR.ORG

LARRY HOPSON, SEXTON

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



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