

The Church of Saint Stephen-in-the-Fields



Saint Stephen, Deacon and Martyr (transferred)
August 6, 2022

**Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Matthew 5.10

Celebrant: The Rev'd Canon Maggie Helwig

ORDER OF SERVICE

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Prelude

Greeting

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

Response **And also with you.**

Land Acknowledgement

Celebrant Though people may be joining us from many regions, we acknowledge that the Church of St. Stephen-in-the-Fields stands on occupied land, the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit (an Anishnaabe people), the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and the Wendat and Petun nations, land covered by the Dish With One Spoon wampum belt covenant. Treaty 13 and the Williams Treaty are also relevant to this territory.
We acknowledge that we have broken the treaties. We acknowledge the damage done by colonialism, and the role that our church has played in this, and we pledge ourselves to work for a future of justice and reconciliation.

Hymn 283 v1, 2q, 3: *By all your saints still striving*

KING'S LYNN

- 1 By all your saints still striving, for all your saints at rest,
your holy name, O Jesus, for evermore be blessed.
You rose, our King victorious, that they might wear the crown
and ever shine in splendour reflected from your throne.
- 2 All praise, O Lord, for Stephen who, martyred, saw you stand
to help in time of torment, to plead at God's right hand.
Like you, our suffering Saviour, his enemies he blessed,
with "Lord, receive my spirit," his faith, in death confessed.
- 3 Then let us praise the Father and worship God the Son
and sing to God the Spirit, eternal Three-in-One,
till all the ransomed number who stand before thy throne,
ascribe the power and glory and praise to God alone.

Collect for Purity

Celebrant Almighty God,
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.

Response **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy,
welcoming sinners and inviting us to this table.
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Celebrant Most merciful God,
Response **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.**

Celebrant 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.

Response **Amen.**

Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

Response **And also with you.**

Gloria

Hurd

Celebrant Glory to God in the highest,
Cantor **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.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant Let us pray.
Grant us grace, O Lord,
that like Stephen we may learn to love even our enemies
and seek forgiveness for those who desire our hurt;
through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Cantor **Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

A period of silence is observed after each reading and the homily.

First Lesson: Jeremiah 26.1-9, 12-15

Reader A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

At the beginning of the reign of King Jehoiakim son of Josiah of Judah, this word came from the Lord: Thus says the Lord: Stand in the court of the Lord's house, and speak to all the cities of Judah that come to worship in the house of the Lord; speak to them all the words that I command you; do not hold back a word. It may be that they will listen, all of them, and will turn from their evil way, that I may change my mind about the disaster that

I intend to bring on them because of their evil doings. You shall say to them: Thus says the Lord: If you will not listen to me, to walk in my law that I have set before you, and to heed the words of my servants the prophets whom I send to you urgently—though you have not heeded— then I will make this house like Shiloh, and I will make this city a curse for all the nations of the earth.

The priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking these words in the house of the Lord. And when Jeremiah had finished speaking all that the Lord had commanded him to speak to all the people, then the priests and the prophets and all the people laid hold of him, saying, ‘You shall die! Why have you prophesied in the name of the Lord, saying, “This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate, without inhabitant”?’ And all the people gathered around Jeremiah in the house of the Lord.

Then Jeremiah spoke to all the officials and all the people, saying, ‘It is the Lord who sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the words you have heard. Now therefore amend your ways and your doings, and obey the voice of the Lord your God, and the Lord will change his mind about the disaster that he has pronounced against you. But as for me, here I am in your hands. Do with me as seems good and right to you. Only know for certain that if you put me to death, you will be bringing innocent blood upon yourselves and upon this city and its inhabitants, for in truth the Lord sent me to you to speak all these words in your ears.’

Reader The word of the Lord.

Response **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 31.1-7, 16 *In te, Domine, speravi*



- 1 IN YOU, O Lord, have I taken re-fuge;
 let me nev-er[^]be[^]put to shame; /
 deliver me in your righ[^]teous-n[^]ess.
- 2 **In-cline your[^]ear to me; /**
 make haste to de-li[^]ver m[^]e.
- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
 for you are my crag and my strong-hold; /
 for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide m[^]e.
- 4 **Take me out of the net that they have se-cret[^]ly[^]set for me, /**
 for you are my tow-er of str[^]ength.
- 5 Into your hands I com-mend my spi-rit, /
 for you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God[^]of tr[^]uth.
- 6 **I hate those who cling to worth-less i-dols, /**
 and I put my trust in the L[^]ord.

- 7 I will rejoice and be glad because of your mer-cy; /
for you have seen my affliction; you know my dis-trëss.
16 **“Make your face to shine up-on your ser-vant, /
and in your loving-kind-ness save më.”**

Epistle: Acts 6.8—7.2a, 51c-60

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and others of those from Cilicia and Asia, stood up and argued with Stephen. But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. Then they secretly instigated some men to say, ‘We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God.’ They stirred up the people as well as the elders and the scribes; then they suddenly confronted him, seized him, and brought him before the council. They set up false witnesses who said, ‘This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law; for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses handed on to us.’ And all who sat in the council looked intently at him, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

Then the high priest asked him, ‘Are these things so?’ And Stephen replied: ‘Brothers and fathers, listen to me. You are for ever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers. You are the ones that received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it.’

When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ‘Look,’ he said, ‘I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!’ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, ‘Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.’ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, ‘Lord, do not hold this sin against them.’ When he had said this, he died.

Reader The word of the Lord.

***Response* Thanks be to God.**

Gospel acclamation: Alleluia

***Cantor* Alleluia. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia.**

Gospeller The Lord be with you.

Response **And also with you.**

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

Response **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Holy Gospel: Matthew 23.34-39

Jesus said to them, therefore I send you prophets, sages, and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will flog in your synagogues and pursue from town to town, so that upon you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. Truly I tell you, all this will come upon this generation.

‘Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you, desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.” ’

Gospeller The Gospel of Christ.

Response **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Motet: *Lord, with what zeal*

(Text: George Wither; Music: ‘Song 4’, Orlando Gibbons)

1. Lord, with what zeal did Thy first martyr breathe
Thy blessed Truth, to such as him with-stood!
With what stout mind embraced he his death,
A holy witness sealing with his blood!
The praise is Thine that him so strong didst make,
And blest is he, that died for Thy sake.
2. Unquenched love in him appeared to be,
When for his murderous foes he did intreat;
A piercing eye made bright by faith had he;
For he beheld Thee in Thy glory set;
And so unmoved his patience he did keep,
He died, as if he had but fallen asleep.
3. Our lukewarm hearts with his hot zeal inflame,
So constant, and so loving let us be;
So let us living glorify Thy Name;
So let us dying fix our eyes on Thee;
And when the sleep of death shall us o’ertake,
With him to Life Eternal us awake!

Homily Mtr Maggie Helwig

Nicene Creed

Celebrant Let us confess our faith, as we say,

Response **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.
With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped 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.**

Intercessions

Bidding Feed us, Father,

Response **With the Bread of Life.**

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory hymn 275: *O what their joy and their glory must be*

O QUANTA QUALIA

- 1 O what their joy and their glory must be,
 those endless sabbaths the blessed ones see;
 crowns for the valiant, to weary ones, rest;
 God shall be all and in all ever blest.
- 2 What are the monarch, the court, and the throne?
 What are the peace and the joy that they own?
 O that the blest ones, who in it have share,
 all that they feel could as fully declare!
- 3 Truly Jerusalem name we that shore,
 vision of peace, that brings joy evermore;
 wish and fulfilment can severed be ne'er,
 nor the thing prayed for come short of the prayer.
- 4 There, where no troubles distraction can bring,
 we the sweet anthems of Sion shall sing,
 while for thy grace, Lord, their voices of praise
 the blessed people eternally raise.
- 5 Now in the meantime, with hearts raised on high,
 we for that country must yearn and must sigh,
 seeking Jerusalem, dear native land,
 through our long exile on Babylon's strand.
- 6 Low before God with our praises we fall,
 of whom, and in whom, and through whom are all;
 praise to the Father, and praise to the Son,
 praise to the Spirit, with them ever one.

Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant Refuge of those who trust in you,
we give thanks for the witness of Stephen.
Accept our offering this day,
and grant your peace and consolation
to those who suffer for your truth.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Response **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer 3

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

Cantor **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Cantor **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Preface of a Martyr

Celebrant Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of heaven and earth,
you are glorified in the assembly of your saints.
All your martyrs bless you and praise you,
confessing before the powers of this world
the great name of your only Son.
Therefore we join our voices with theirs,
and with all who have served you in every age,
to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus and Benedictus

Proulx

Cantor **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.**

Celebrant 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,
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples,
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;
and when he had given thanks, he 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,

***Response* we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant 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 children;

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.

Response **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Robinson

Celebrant As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,
Cantor **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.**

Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant "I am the bread which has come down from heaven," says the Lord.
Response **Give us this bread for ever.**
Celebrant "I am the vine, you are the branches."
Response **May we dwell in him, as he lives in us.**

Agnus Dei

Senshur

Cantor **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
grant us peace.**

Act of Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord with the faithful at every altar of your Church,
where the Holy Eucharist is celebrated,
I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving.
I present to you my soul and body
with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you.
And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.
I unite myself to you, and embrace you with all the affections of my soul.
Let nothing ever separate you from me.
May I live and die in your love.
Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Let us pray.
Merciful God,
Hear our prayer for all people in faith
who suffer for truth, justice, and freedom.
Strengthen their witness
and keep them, with us,
under the protection of your wings.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

Response **Amen.**

Doxology

Celebrant Glory to God,
Response **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

Celebrant The peace of God, which passes understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be with you all, and remain with you always.

Response **Amen.**

Hymn 387: *All praise to thee*

SINE NOMINE

- 1 All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine,
didst yield the glory that of right was thine,
that in our darkened hearts thy grace might shine:
alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 Thou camest to us in lowliness of thought;
by thee the outcast and the poor were sought,
and by thy death was God's salvation wrought:
alleluia, alleluia!
- 3 Let this mind be in us which was in thee,
who wast a servant that we might be free,
humbling thyself to death on Calvary:
alleluia, alleluia!
- 4 Wherefore, by God's eternal purpose, thou
art high exalted o'er all creatures now,
and given the name to which all knees shall bow:
alleluia, alleluia!
- 5 Let every tongue confess with one accord
in heaven and earth that Jesus Christ is Lord;
and God the Father be by all adored:
alleluia, alleluia!

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

Response **Thanks be to God.**

Announcements

Postlude

Gloria, music: 'New Plainsong' David Hurd (1950-) © 1981 G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

Alleluia, music: Fintan O'Carroll (1922-1981) and Christopher Walker (1947-), © Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, Published by OCP Publications.

Sanctus, music: 'Community Mass' Richard Proulx (1937-2010), © 1971, 1977 G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

Agnus Dei, music: Becket Gerald Senchur (1946-), © 1982 G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

The Lord's Prayer, music: McNeil Robinson II (1943-2015).

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Hymn 283, text Horatio Bolton Nelson (1823-1913), rev. 'The Hymnal' 1982. Rev. © 1982 The Church Pension Fund; music: Melody English trad.; coll. and arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

Hymn 275, text: Peter Abelard (1079-1142); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt; music: Melody 'Antiphoner', Paris, 1681

Hymn 387, text: 'Jesus Christ is Lord' (Phil. 2.5-11); para. E. Bland Tucker (1895-1984), Para. © 1985 The Church Pension Fund; music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) © Oxford University Press.

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If you want more information about the parish,
including our other weekly activities,
our website is www.saintstephens.ca



You can also visit us at
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