

St. Stephens Church
and
Bethany Lutheran Church
Celebrate
Seventh Sunday of Easter-Ascension
May 17, 2026
10:30 AM



THE *Episcopal* CHURCH 

“All are welcome here”

St. Stephens Episcopal Church
109 S. Barry St. Olean, NY 14760
716-372-5628
e-mail: ststephensolean@gmail.com



“A Reconciling in Christ Congregation”

Bethany Lutheran Church
6 Leo Moss Drive, Olean, NY 14760
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Seventh Sunday of Easter 2026

Prelude

(Please Stand if you are able)

Opening Hymn #214: "Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise"

The musical score is written for a piano accompaniment and a vocal line. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line, with some words in italics. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody. The hymn concludes with a double bar line.

1 Hail the day that sees him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 There the glo - rious tri - umph waits; Al - le - lu - ia!
*3 See! he lifts his hands a - bove; Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Lord be - yond our mor - tal sight, Al - le - lu - ia!

glo - rious to his na - tive skies; Al - le - lu - ia!
lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates! Al - le - lu - ia!
See! he shows the prints of love: Al - le - lu - ia!
raise our hearts to reach thy height, Al - le - lu - ia!

Christ, a - while to mor - tals given, Al - le - lu - ia!
Wide un - fold the ra - diant scene; Al - le - lu - ia!
Hark! his gra - cious lips be - stow, Al - le - lu - ia!
there thy face un - cloud - ed see, Al - le - lu - ia!

en - ters now the high - est heaven! Al - le - lu - ia!
take the King of glo - ry in! Al - le - lu - ia!
bless - ings on his Church be - low. Al - le - lu - ia!
find our heaven of heavens in thee. Al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: *Llanfair*, Robert Williams (1781-1821).

Celebrant: Alleluia!! Christ is risen.

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!!

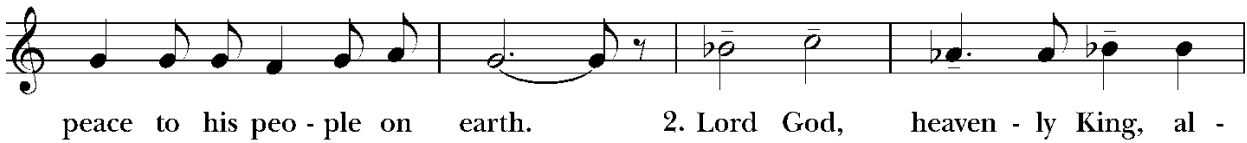
The Collect

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

S278 "Glory to God"




1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -



might - y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we



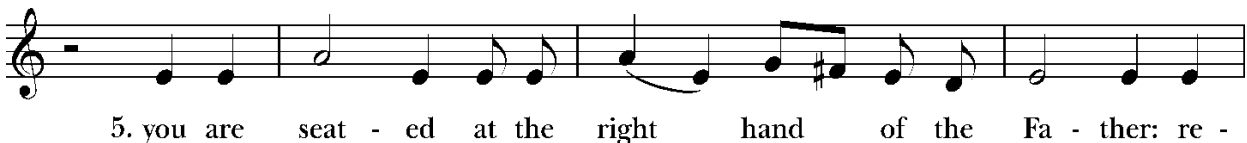
praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,



on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you



take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -

ceive our prayer. 6. For

you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the

Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of

God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Through your dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord. After his glorious resurrection he openly appeared to his disciples, and in their sight ascended into heaven, to prepare a place for us; that where he is, there we might also be, and reign with him in glory. Amen. (Please be seated)

The First Reading – Acts 1:6-14

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was

going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36 (Said responsively at the half verse)

1 Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; *

let those who hate him flee before him.

2 Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; *

as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; *

let them also be merry and joyful.

4 Sing to God, sing praises to his Name; exalt him who rides upon the heavens; *

YAHWEH is his Name, rejoice before him!

5 Father of orphans, defender of widows, *

God in his holy habitation!

6 God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; *

but the rebels shall live in dry places.

7 O God, when you went forth before your people, *

when you marched through the wilderness,

8 The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, *

at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; *

you refreshed the land when it was weary.

10 Your people found their home in it; *

in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.

33 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; *

sing praises to the Lord.

34 He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; *

he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.

35 Ascribe power to God; *

his majesty is over Israel; his strength is in the skies.

36 How wonderful is God in his holy places! *

the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people! Blessed be God!

The Second Reading- 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever.

Amen.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God**

Sequence Hymn -HY 603 "When Christ was lifted from the earth"

1 Good Chris - tians all, re - jice and sing! Now is the
 *2 The Lord of life is risen to - day! Sing songs of
 3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that
 4 Your Name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to -
 5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, to God the

1 tri - umph of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:
 2 praise a - long his way; let all the earth re - joice and say:
 3 life which can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
 4 day with one ac - cord the life laid down, the life re - stored:
 5 Spi - rit, al - ways One, we sing for life in us be - gun:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Cyril A. Alington (1872-1955), alt. St. 5, Norman Mealy (1923-1987). Copyright © 1958, renewal 1986, by Hope Publishing company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. St.5, Copyright © 1971 by Walton Music Corporation. Used by permission. Music: *Gelobt sei Gott*, Melchior Vulpius (1560?-1616).

The Holy Gospel

John 17:1-11(Please stand if you are able)

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

”I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are

yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon: *Pastor Laura Csellak* (You may be seated)

Nicene Creed (Please stand if you are able)

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

Trusting in the power of Christ’s resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation. *A brief silence.*

O God, your people sing praises throughout the church. By your Holy Spirit, inspire musicians, deacons, pastors, and bishops to proclaim the gospel of Jesus.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your creative power fills the universe. Bring favorable weather, nurture plants and animals, protect us from natural disasters, and guide us to care for all you have made.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your justice is exercised in society by those in authority. Instill in political leaders, business leaders, school administrators, and all who care for others a desire for peace and equity.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your compassion and care come through the gifts of medicine and relationships. Soothe the anxious, protect widows and orphans, comfort those living with memory loss and their families, and heal the sick (*especially*) those from **Bethany** Adam, Joanne Hitchcock, Kay Backhus, Kristen Clemens Keenan, Nancy Rebeyro, Ron Aaron, Steve, Louise Koenig, Barb Franklin, Marcia Wray, Merrill & Muriel Frable, Robert Keenan, Dorothy Porter, Sylvia Subject, Gail Cross, Heather Miller, Carl Zimmerman, Louise Koenig, Barb Franklin, Andy Carlson, Heather Miller, Tim Johnson, Jamie Molyneayx, Frann Wilson, Kevin McClelland, the family of Judy Davis and those from **St. Stephen's**: Audrey Childs, Nancy Consedine, Amanda Piccirillo, Teresa Piccirillo, Betty Linderman, Linda Giardini, Gail Olson, Gloria Preston, Dick Mulaski, Ethan Johnson, Steven, Colt Matz, Dave and Donna Briggs, Rev. Max Meyers, Millie Piccirillo, Martha Edwards, Jim and Kathy, Priscilla and Nelson Griffith, Carolyn Wolfe, Denise, Helen Stritoff, Kienen Duggan, David Styles, Carol Snyder, Adam Wolfe, Jim Fragle, and those we name either silently or aloud.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your love radiates from communities gathered in your name. Bless those experiencing significant transitions in life such as graduation, retirement, new employment and accompany us in our prayers during these times.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, your promise of eternal life is certain and sure. Inspire us by the steadfast faith of those who have gone before us, so that we may be confident in the assurances you give.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

The Peace (Please Stand if you are able)

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Offertory Hymn: WLP - 778 "We All Are One in Mission"

1. We all are one in mis-sion, we all are one in call,
 2. We all are called for ser-vice to wit-ness in God's name.
 3. We all be-hold one vi-sion, a stark re-al-i-ty;
 4. Now let us be u-nit-ed and let our song be heard.

our var-ied gifts u-nit-ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
 Our min-is-tries are dif-f'rent, our pur-pose is the same:
 the stew-ard of sal-va-tion was nailed up-on a tree.
 Now let us be a ves-sel for God's re-deem-ing Word.

A sin-gle, great com-mis-sion com-pels us from a-bove
 to touch the lives of oth-ers by God's sur-pris-ing grace,
 Yet res-ur-rect-ed Jus-tice gives rise that we may share
 We all are one in mis-sion, we all are one in call,

to plan and work to-gether that all may know Christ's love.
 so peo-ple of all na-tions may feel God's warm em-brace.
 free re-con-cil-i-a-tion and hope a-mid de-spair.
 our var-ied gifts u-nit-ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

Words: Rusty Edwards (b. 1955). Music: *Nyländ*, Finnish folk melody; adapt. and harm. David Evans (1874-1948).

Doxology – Presentation of the Gifts (Blue Hymnal #380 V.3) (Please Stand if you are able)
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.

The Canon of the Eucharist

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

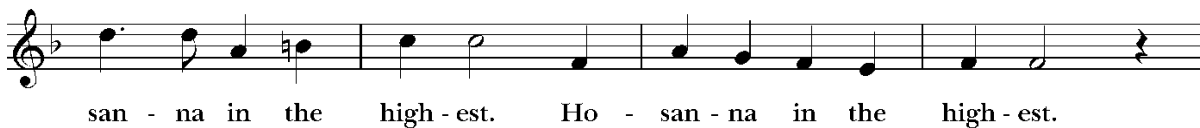
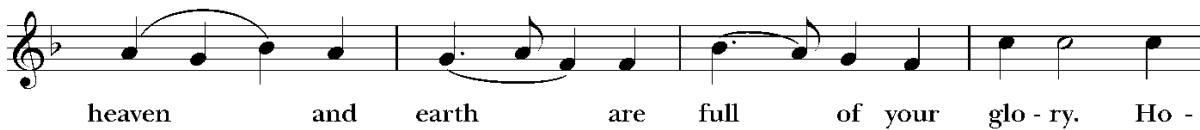
People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is truly right to glorify our Father and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and forever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify you Name, as we sing:

HY S-125 “Holy, Holy, Holy Lord”



Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again, you called us into covenant with you and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose, he gave himself up to death; and rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and bless you.

Celebrant and People:

**We praise you; we bless you,
We give thanks to you,
We pray to you, Lord our God.**

Lord, we pray that your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of you Son Jesus Christ. Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN**

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

**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 Breaking of the Bread

“Christ our Passover” (HY S-154)

This setting is not used in Lent.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

Celebrant: The Gift 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.

All persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion with us. Some people, for various reasons, prefer to receive the Host only and some may wish to come to forward for a blessing. If you wish to receive a blessing, please come forward and cross your hands across your chest.

Communion Hymn HY 635 "If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee"

Unison or harmony

1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee, and hope in him through
 2 Sing, pray, and keep his ways un - swerv - ing; so do thine own part

all thy ways, he'll give thee strength what - e'er be - tide thee,
 faith - ful - ly, and trust his word, though un - de - serv - ing;

and bear thee through the e - vil days. Who trusts in God's un -
 thou yet shalt find it true for thee; God nev - er yet for -

chang - ing love builds on a rock that nought can move.
 sook in need the soul that trust - ed him in - deed.

Words: Georg Neumark (1621-1681); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1829-1878), alt. Music: *Wer nur den lieben Gott*, Georg Neumark (1621-1681).

After Communion

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: God of Abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. **Amen**

Blessing: Gracious Father, we give you praise and thanks for this Holy Communion of the Body and Blood of your beloved Son Jesus Christ, the pledge of our redemption; and we pray that it may bring us forgiveness of our sins, strength in our weakness, and everlasting salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Closing Hymn - HY 495 "Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus"



1 Hail, thou once de - spis - ed Je - sus! Hail, thou Gal - i -
 2 Pas - chal Lamb, by God ap - point - ed, all our sins on
 3 Je - sus, hail! en - throned in glo - ry, there for ev - er
 *4 Wor - ship, hon - or, power, and bless - ing thou art wor - thy



le - an King! Thou didst suf - fer to re - lease us;
 thee were laid: by al - might - y love a - noint - ed,
 to a - bid; all the heav - en - ly hosts a - dore thee,
 to re - ceive; high - est prais - es, with - out ceas - ing,



thou didst free sal - va - tion bring. Hail, thou u - ni - ver - sal
 thou hast full a - tone - ment made. All thy peo - ple are for -
 seat - ed at thy Fa - ther's side. There for sin - ners thou art
 right it is for us to give. Help, ye bright an - gel - ic



Sa - vior, bear - er of our sin and shame! By thy mer - it
 giv - en through the vir - tue of thy blood: o - pened is the
 plead - ing: there thou dost our place pre - pare; ev - er for us
 spi - rits, all your no - blest an - thems raise; help to sing our



we find fa - vor: life is giv - en through thy Name
 gate of hea - ven, re - con - ciled are we with God.
 in - ter - ced - ing, till in glo - ry we ap - pear.
 Sa - vior's mer - its, help to chant Em - man - uel's praise!

Words: John Bakewell (1721-1819) and Martin Madan (1726-1790), alt. Music: *In Babilone*, melody from *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenliedjes en Contradansen*, 1710; harm. Roy. F. Kehl (b. 1935).

Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia!! Alleluia!!

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!!!**

Postlude

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Serving today:

Celebrant: Pastor Laura Csellak

Lector: Wendy Chapman

Intercessor: Richard Mulaski

Eucharistic Ministers: Kim Kruse and Laurie Hobler

Organist: Jack Bollman and Ray Sprout

Worship Leader: Ivy Shortz

Join us Following Service for Coffee Hour

Upcoming Events:

- Vestry Meeting, Monday, May 18th at 6:00 pm
- Book Study, Wednesday, May 20th, Noon-Bethany Lutheran
- Sunday, May 24th-Service will be at Bethany Lutheran

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Olean, New York

The Right Reverend Stephen T. Lane

Bishop Provisional of the Episcopal Diocese of Western New York

Rector: Vacant

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Website: www.ststephensolean.net

Jack Bollman, Organist and Parish Administrator

Robert Styles and Laurie Hobler, Treasurers, Darrin Cowher, Crucifer

Millie Piccirillo, Laurie Hobler, Yvonne Morris and Ann Carleson, Christian Education

Caleb Miller, Financial Clerk

The Vestry

Teresa Piccirillo, Senior Warden 716-597-5406 Mary Plonka, Junior Warden 716-373-6735

Jack Bollman, Clerk of the Vestry, Tyler Cowher, Toni Fragle, Sue Groves,

Millie Piccirillo, Melanie Nichols and Suzanne Soltysik