

St. Stephens Church
and
Bethany Lutheran Church
Celebrate
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 6, 2026
11:00 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
716-372-1914
e-mail: bethany1706@gmail.com

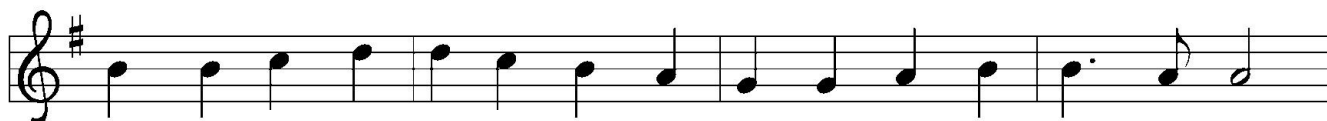
Prelude

Announcements

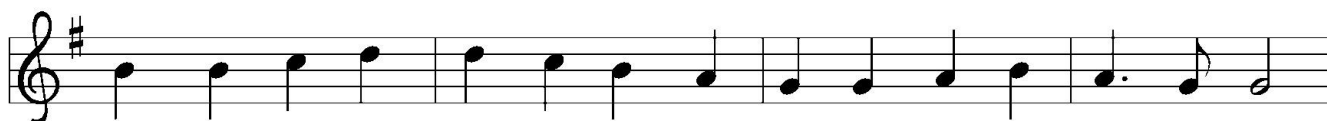
(Please Stand if you are able)

Opening Hymn

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



- 1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
- 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
- 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais-ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a-round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean-depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, flow-'ry mead-ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

Celebrant
People

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The 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.*

S 278 Glory to God (Canticle 20) (Mathias)



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.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen. (You may be seated)*

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-11

A Reading from the book of Ezekiel.

⁷So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” ¹¹Say to them, “As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 119:33-40

³³Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, *

and I shall keep it to the end.

³⁴Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; *

I shall keep it with all my heart.

³⁵Make me go in the path of your commandments, *

for that is my desire.

³⁶Incline my heart to your decrees *

and not to unjust gain.

³⁷Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; *

give me life in your ways.

³⁸Fulfill your promise to your servant, *

which you make to those who fear you.

³⁹Turn away the reproach which I dread, *

because your judgments are good.

⁴⁰Behold, I long for your commandments; *

in your righteousness preserve my life.

Second Reading: Romans 13:8-14

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN *(Please stand if you are able)*

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive



- 1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray;
- 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
- 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
how tri - fling oth - ers' debts to us; how great our debt to you!
then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–1987, alt.

Music: DETROIT, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

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Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20 *(Please stand if you are able)*

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

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

[Jesus said,] ¹⁵"If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

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

Sermon – Rev. Rebecca Harris

The 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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(You may be seated)*

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.
A brief silence.

Life-giving God, you have called your people to lose their lives for Jesus' sake. Strengthen your church to follow you in the face of difficulty. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Creator God, you know every sparrow that falls to the ground. Protect migrating birds, endangered species, and their natural habitats. Empower us to care for your creation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Sovereign God, you call us to act justly and love mercy. Protect those with marginalized identities to whom we have not shown the abounding love of Jesus. Bring an end to oppression and bigotry in all forms. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Sustaining God, you promise to provide for us. Help those living with disability. Comfort those experiencing any sort of illness or suffering (*especially*) those from **St. Stephen's**: Audrey Childs, Nancy Consedine, Amanda 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, Don Sosnowski Dave Dorson, and 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, Lynne Smith and Kevin McClelland and those we name either silently or aloud.. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Empowering God, strengthen us to live out our diverse callings. We pray especially for fathers and father figures, that they show your compassion and care. We pray for all for whom this day is difficult or painful. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior.

Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant and People: **Most merciful God, 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 neighbors 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 on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE *(Please stand if you are able)*

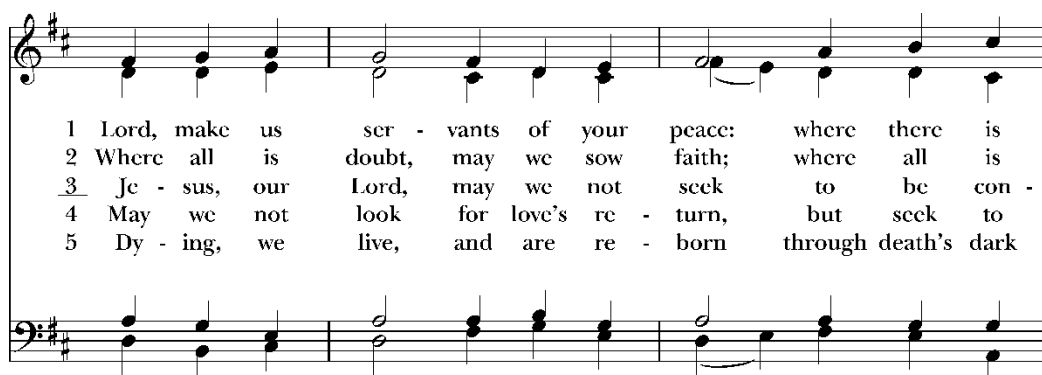
Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

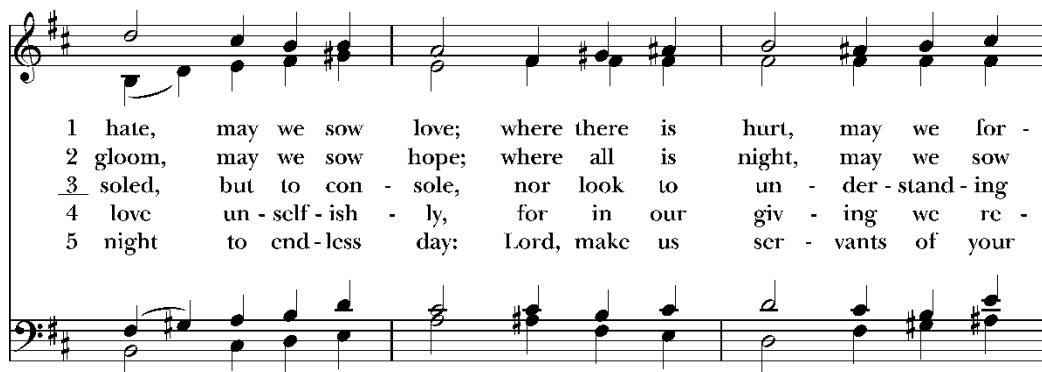
The Holy Communion

Celebrant: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

OFFERTORY HYMN Lord, make us servants of your peace#593



1 Lord, make us ser - vants of your peace: where there is
 2 Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; where all is
 3 Je - sus, our Lord, may we not seek to be con -
 4 May we not look for love's re - turn, but seek to
 5 Dy - ing, we live, and are re - born through death's dark



1 hate, may we sow love; where there is hurt, may we for -
 2 gloom, may we sow hope; where all is night, may we sow
 3 soled, but to con - sole, nor look to un - der - stand - ing
 4 love un - self - ish - ly, for in our giv - ing we re -
 5 night to end - less day: Lord, make us ser - vants of your



1 give; where there is strife, may we make one.
 2 light; where all is tears, may we sow joy.
 3 hearts, but look for hearts to un - der - stand.
 4 ceive, and in for - giv - ing are for - given.
 5 peace, to wake at last in hea - ven's light.

Words: James Quinn (b. 1919), based on a prayer att. to St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226). Copyright © James Quinn, SJ, printed by permission of Geoffrey Chapman, a division on Cassell Ltd. Music: *Dickinson College*, Lee Hastings Bristol, Jr. (1923-1979). Copyright © 1962, Theodore Presser Co. used by permission of the publisher.

Doxology – Presentation of the Gifts

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass, in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps). The melody is simple and hymn-like, consisting of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the staves.

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be-low;

praise him a-bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

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 right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord: *Sanctus* #124

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, hea-ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

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

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

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

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.
AMEN.

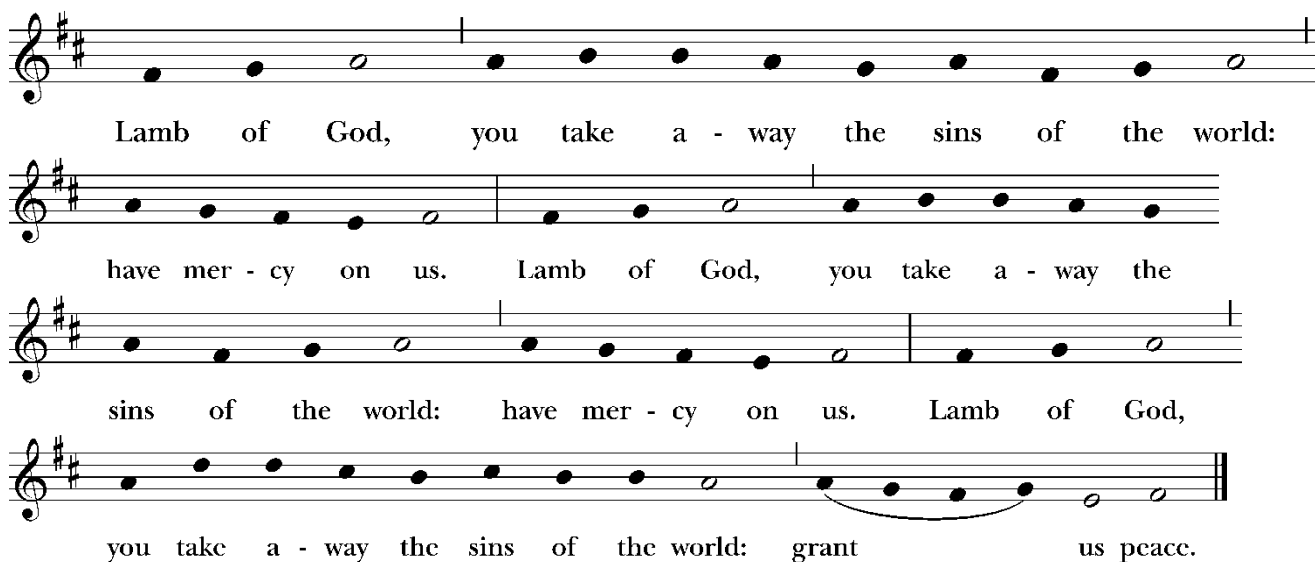
THE LORD'S PRAYER -As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**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

"Lamb of God" (HY S-161)



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

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 IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST I GLORY #441

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the
 *5 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing

1 o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of
 2 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
 3 love up - on my way, from the cross the
 4 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that
 5 o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of

1 sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
 2 cross for - sake me: lo, it glows with peace and joy.
 3 ra - diancc stream - ing adds new lus - ter to the day.
 4 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.
 5 sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.

Words: John Bowring (1792-1872). Music: *Rathbun*, Ithamar Conkey (1815-1867).

AFTER-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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.

BLESSING

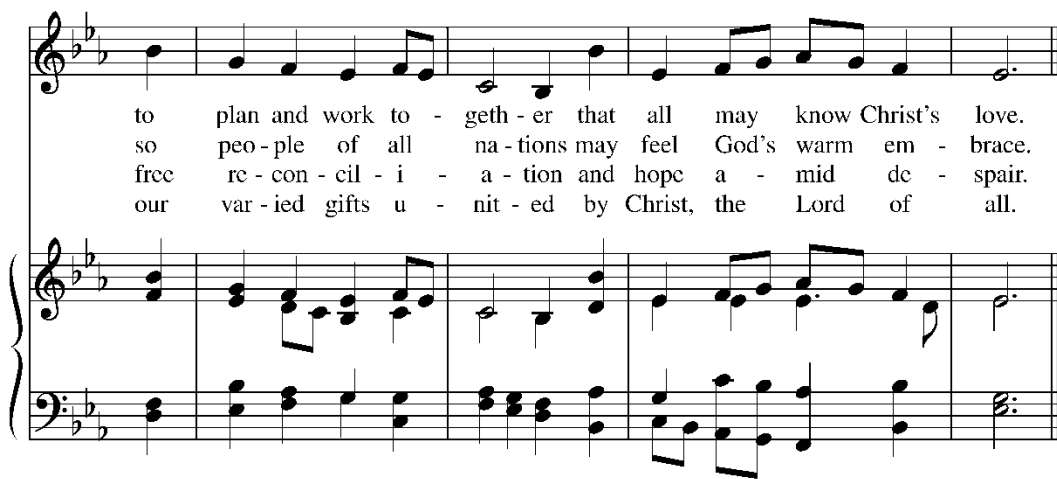
The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION HYMN -We all are one in mission #778

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 - geth - er 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: *Nyland*, Finnish folk melody; adapt. and harm. David Evans (1874-1948).

DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Serving today:

Celebrant: Rev. Rebecca Harris

Lector: Jeni Olson

Intercessor: Suzanne Soltysik

Eucharistic Ministers: Kimberly Kruse and Suzanne Soltysik

Organist: Jack Bollman

Join us Following Service for Coffee Hour

Upcoming Events:

- *Book Study, Wednesday, September 9th, Noon at Bethany Lutheran*
- *Service Sunday, September 13th at Bethany Lutheran-Guinea Pig Lunch following service*
- *Altar Guild, Monday, September 14th, Noon at St. Stephen's*

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

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, Warden 716-597-5406 Mary Plonka, Warden 716-373-6735

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

Millie Piccirillo, Melanie Nichols and Suzanne Soltysik