

# St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Santa Clarita

## The Third Sunday after Pentecost — Proper 5

### 10:30am — June 9, 2024

*The Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Robin & Dave Morrow  
in memory of Peggy & Bill Morrow.*

*Before the service begins, we encourage you to use the following for meditation.*

What God commands, God also enables. By the Spirit, we keep coming more into life, one step at a time. Jesus keeps telling us that there's more. What is Jesus inviting us into? It is not a height to be reached, but a widening embrace of mercy and grace. Br. Luke Ditewig, SSJE

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#### Prelude

*Morning in June*

Harry Christiansen

*Please stand as you are able.*

#### Entrance

*I Will Celebrate*

Rita Baloche

I will celebrate, sing unto the Lord: Sing to the  
 Lord a new song. With my  
 heart rejoicing within, With my mind  
 focused on Him; With my hands raised to the  
 heavens, All I am, worshipping God.  
 I will celebrate, sing unto the Lord:  
 Sing to the Lord a new song. With my  
 heart rejoicing within, With my mind  
 focused on Him; With my hands raised to the  
 heavens, All I am, worshipping God.

# THE WORD OF GOD

Priest: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

## 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 Savior. **Amen.**

*Priest and People:*

**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.**

## The Collect of the Day

Priest: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: Let us pray.

O God, from whom all good proceeds: Grant that by your inspiration we may think those things that are right, and by your merciful guiding may do them; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## THE LESSONS

### The First Reading Genesis 3:8-15

Reader: Caroline Morgan

A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man

said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.” Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent tricked me, and I ate.” The Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.”

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 130

Reader: John Fortman

1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord;  
Lord, hear my voice; \*  
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

2 If you, Lord, were to note what is done amiss, \*  
O Lord, who could stand?

3 For there is forgiveness with you; \*  
therefore you shall be feared.

4 I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him; \*  
in his word is my hope.

5 My soul waits for the Lord,  
more than watchmen for the morning, \*  
more than watchmen for the morning.

6 O Israel, wait for the Lord, \*  
for with the Lord there is mercy;

7 With him there is plenteous redemption, \*  
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

## The Second Reading 2 Corinthians 4:13—5:1

Reader: John Fortman

A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—“I believed, and so I spoke”—we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal. For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

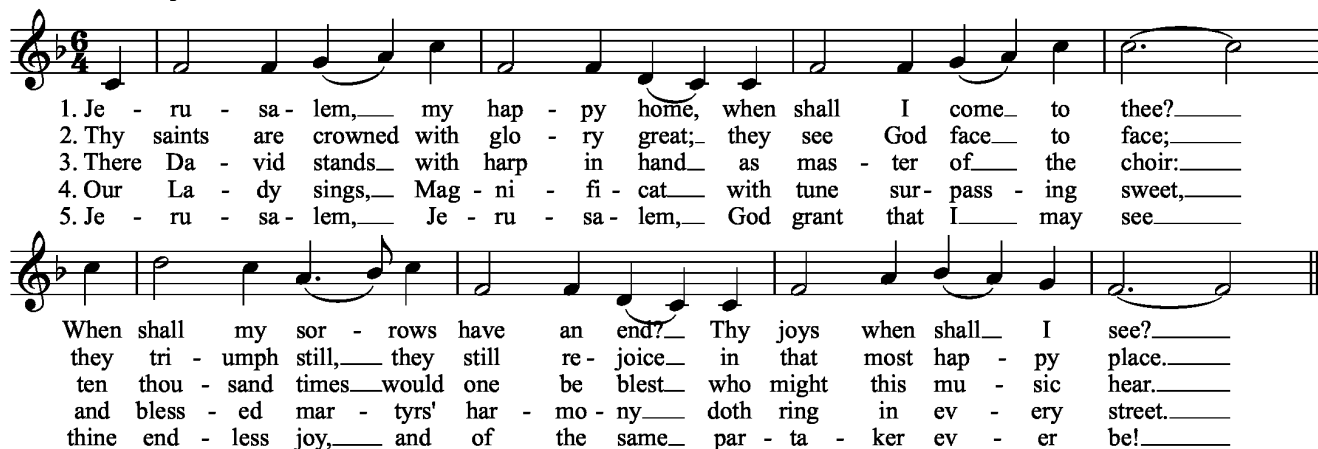
People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Gradual Hymn #620

“Jerusalem, my happy home”

Land of Rest



1. Je - ru - sa - lem, — my hap - py home, when shall I come — to thee? —  
2. Thy saints are crowned with glo - ry great; they see God face — to face; —  
3. There Da - vid stands — with harp in hand — as mas - ter of — the choir; —  
4. Our La - dy sings, — Mag - ni - fi - cat — with tune sur - pass - ing sweet, —  
5. Je - ru - sa - lem, — Je - ru - sa - lem, — God grant that I — may see —  
When shall my sor - rows have an end? — Thy joys when shall — I see? —  
they tri - umph still, — they still re - jice — in that most hap - py place. —  
ten thou - sand times — would one be blest — who might this mu - sic hear. —  
and bless - ed mar - tyrs' har - mo - ny — doth ring in ev - ery street. —  
thine end - less joy, — and of the same — par - ta - ker ev - er be! —

## The Gospel Reading Mark 3:20-35

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People: Glory to you, O Christ.

The crowd came together again, so that Jesus and his disciples could not even eat. When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, “He has gone out of his mind.” And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, “He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.” And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered. “Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”— for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.” Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.” And he replied, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” And looking at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

Priest: The Gospel of the Savior.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

*Please be seated.*

## The Sermon

Catherine Gero  
Aspirant

*A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Nicene Creed

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

Reader: Cheryl Sena

Friends, when we call, God hears us. Knowing that our prayers are heard by our great God, let us make our appeal, "O God, we are members of your family; make good your purpose for us."

We call to you, O God: Hear our prayers for the Church. Give us discerning eyes to see the work of your Spirit in our lives. Guard our hearts that we might not take for granted our place in your family.

*Silence*

Intercessor: O God, we are members of your family;

People: **Make good your purpose for us.**

We call to you, O God: hear our prayers for the world. Though you are high, you care for the lowly. May the rulers of the world look to you, O God, for wisdom and guidance.

*Silence*

Intercessor: O God, we are members of your family;

People: **Make good your purpose for us.**

We call to you, O God: hear our prayers for all creation. Do not abandon the works of your hands. Bless and preserve all that you have made.

*Silence*

Intercessor: O God, we are members of your family;

People: **Make good your purpose for us.**

We call to you, O God: hear our prayers for those people who create and those institutions that preserve all things artistic. From you proceeds all good and beautiful things. We thank you that you inspire all the people to create. We thank you that you are known to us in many and diverse ways.

*The congregation may add their own thanksgivings.*

*Silence*

Intercessor: O God, we are members of your family;

People: **Make good your purpose for us.**

We call to you, O God: hear our prayers for those in need. It is you who increases strength in the weak, who keeps safe those in the midst of trouble. By your right hand, offer your saving help. We pray for all those on the prayer list, especially Lorena, Maurice, Kristen and Erik.

*The congregation may add their own petitions.*

*Silence*

Intercessor: O God, we are members of your family;

People: **Make good your purpose for us.**

We call to you, O God: hear our prayers for the dying and the dead. Even as our outer nature is wasting away, you daily renew our spirits. We trust that, as you raised Jesus from the dead, so will you raise us with him and bring us into your loving presence forever. We pray for those who have died, especially Vincent Stenger, Jr. and Harry A. Traffert.

*Silence*

Intercessor: O God, we are members of your family;

People: **Make good your purpose for us.**

*Priest:*

O Gracious God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, the one, holy and undivided Trinity; God, Son & Spirit now and for ever. **Amen.**

## Confession

Let us confess our sins to God.

**God of all mercy,  
we confess that we have sinned against you,  
opposing your will in our lives.  
We have denied your goodness in each other,  
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.  
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.  
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us  
through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
that we may abide in your love  
and serve only your will. Amen.**

## Absolution

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

## The Peace

Priest: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

*Members of the congregation who are joining us via livestream are encouraged to post "Peace be with you" in the comments or to use the "like" or "love" reaction button to take part in the virtual exchange of God's peace with the rest of the congregation at this time.*

*Please be seated.*

## Welcome and Announcements

We are pleased to be celebrating the following birthdays: Gina Guaderrama-Frezieres on June 9<sup>th</sup>, Grace Pendleton on June 10<sup>th</sup>, Annette Fortman on June 11<sup>th</sup>, Lucy Baird on June 12<sup>th</sup>, and Collin O'Leary on June 13<sup>th</sup>. We also celebrate the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Denise & Jace Engles. On June 9<sup>th</sup>, and the 49<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Claudia and John Alexopoulos on June 14<sup>th</sup>.

## Offertory Prayer

*The People remain seated and say together:*

Loving God, you alone are the source of every good gift. Everything we have, and all that we are, comes from you. Now, help us to be grateful, accountable, and, with praise and thanksgiving, to give of ourselves generously, through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Offertory

*Not My Home*  
St. Stephen's Stones

Alex Nifong

*Please stand as you are able.*

Presentation

*Old 100<sup>th</sup>*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures,  
here below. Praise God, you hosts in heav'n above;  
Praise God the Trinity of Love. Amen.

G D Em Bm G D G D Em  
C G D Em D G Am G/B C F#dim/A  
Em D/F# G C#dim/ED C G/D D7 G G7 C G

Priest: God be with you.  
 People: **And also with you.**  
 Priest: Lift up your hearts.  
 People: **We lift them to God.**  
 Priest: Let us give thanks.  
 People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we say:

**Sanctus** "Santo, santo, santo"

San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zon te a - do - ra! Mi  
 Ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My  
 cor - a - zon te sa - be de - cir: san - to e - res Se - ñor.  
 heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, Lord.

*Standing or kneeling as you are able.*

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

*Priest and people say together:*

**Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.**

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.



In the fullness of time bring us, with Stephen and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

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.

## The Breaking of the Bread

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Please remain standing during the Fraction Anthem.*

**Fraction LEVAS #151**

*One Bread, One Body*

John B. Foley

One bread, — one bod-y, — one Lord of all, one cup of  
bless - ing which we bless. — And we, — thoughman-y, —  
— through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

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.

*All are welcome to receive communion. The table we set belongs to God.  
Wherever you find yourself on your spiritual journey you are welcome to receive  
the Bread and Wine made holy.*

*The church teaches that temporal isolation cannot constrain the sacrament's ineffable power.  
Calling us to "massive, corporate, spiritual communion,"*

# The Invitation to Holy Communion

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

*Priest and People say together:*

In union, O Christ, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, O Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

*Please be seated.*

*Please follow usher instructions for taking communion.*

## Communion Music

*Joy is in Our Hearts*

Sara Groves

*Chorus:*

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, Christ our joy and strength,  
Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, Christ our joy and strength.

## *Hold to God's Unchanging Hand* Franklin Lycurgus Eiland, Jennie Wilson

1. Time is filled with swift tran - si - tion, — Naught of earth un - moved can  
2. Trust in Him who will not leave you, — What - so - ev - er years may  
3. When your jour - ney is com - plet - ed, — If to God you have been  
stand, Build your hopes on things e - ter - nal, Hold to God's un - chang - ing  
bring. If by earth - ly friends for - sak - en, Still more close - ly to Him  
true, Fair and bright the home in glo - ry, Your en - rap - tured soul will  
*Refrain:*  
hand. Hold to God's un - chang - ing hand! Hold to God's un - chang - ing hand!  
cling.  
view.  
Build your hopes on things e - ter - nal, Hold to God's un - chang - ing hand.

*Please stand as you are able.*  
**Post Communion Prayer**

Let us pray.

**Loving God,  
we give you thanks  
for restoring us in your image  
and nourishing us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.  
Now send us forth  
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;  
that we may proclaim your love to the world  
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

**Blessing**

May God give you grace never to sell yourself short;  
Grace to risk something big for something good;  
Grace to remember that the world is too dangerous  
for anything but truth, and too small for anything but Love.  
And the blessing of God Almighty, the one, holy and  
undivided Trinity be among you and  
remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Closing Music**

*I Could Sing of Your Love Forever*

Martin Smith

Refrain:

The musical notation is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. It contains the melody for the first two measures of the refrain: 'I could sing of Your love \_\_\_ for - ev - er.' The second staff continues the melody for the next two measures: 'I could sing of Your love \_\_\_ for - ev - er,'. The third staff concludes the refrain with the final two measures: 'I could sing of Your love \_\_\_ for - ev - er.' The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

**Dismissal**

**Priest:** Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
**People:** Thanks be to God.

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Spiritual Communion: St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787  
From: *The Hymnal 1982 #690* "Thy strong word", Words: F.B.P.(ca. 16<sup>th</sup> cent), alt. Music: Land of Rest, American folk hymn; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983).  
*I Will Celebrate*, Author: Rita Baloché. ©1990 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.), Admin: Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc. CCLI #443123.  
*Not My Home* words and music by Alex Nifong. Used by Permission.  
From: *Wonder, Love and Praise #785* "Santo, santo, santo", Words: variation on a traditional liturgical text, Music: Composer of melody unknown; arr. based on a two-part version as taught by Pablo D. Sosa (b. 1933).  
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From *Lift Every Voice and Sing II #151* "One bread, one body", Words: 1 Corinthians 10:16, 17; 12:4; Galatians 3:28; The Didache 9. Music: John B. Foley, S.J. Copyright ©1978 John B. Foley, S.J and New Dawn Music, PO. Box 13248, Portland, OR 97213.  
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*I Could Sing of Your Love Forever*, Author: Martin Smith, ©1994 Curious? Music UK (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) CCLI Song #1043199.  
*Doxology* — Music: Old 100<sup>th</sup>, melody from *Pseumes octante trois de David*, 1551, alt.; harm. After Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?).