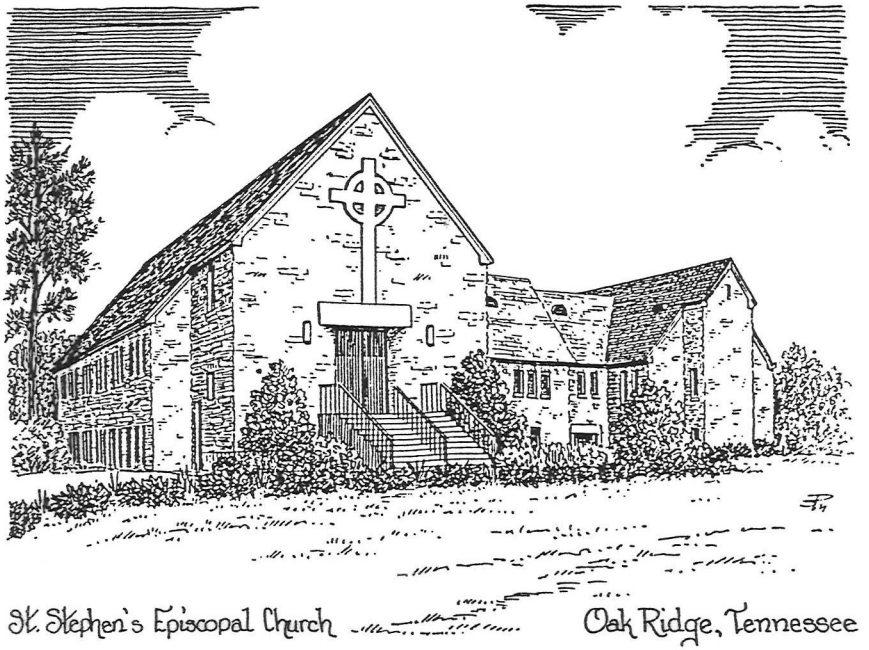
Holy Eucharist Rite II

The Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

ELCA Worship Book

August 30, 2026
8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.



Prelude

Announcements

(1030 a.m. only)
Opening Hymn **Love Divine, All Loves Excelling** **Hymnal 657**

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Confession and Forgiveness

The congregation stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presider begins.

Presider In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. ***Amen.***

The presider leads in the following prayer of preparation .

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. ***Amen.***

The following confession is prayed.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The congregation kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. ***Amen.***

The presider announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. ***Amen.***

The congregation stands.

Gloria (spoken at 8 a.m.) **S-280**

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. ***Amen.***

Greeting

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

All: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day **See Insert**

The presider leads the prayer of the day.

Let us pray.

The First Reading **Jeremiah 15:15-21**

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Psalm (read in unison) **Psalm 26:1-8**

The Second Reading **Romans 12:9-21**

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

(10:30 a.m. only)
Sequence Hymn **Take My Life and Let It Be** **Hymnal 707**

The Gospel **Matthew 16:21-28**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading of the Gospel, the following response is given.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon **Fr. Bailey Norman**

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

The congregation is seated.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. *Amen*.

Prayers of Intercession

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence

For the church in every land, that its mission and ministry is anchored in the love of Christ. We pray especially for Brian, our Bishop; Jonathan, Bishop of our companion diocese of South Dakota; Bailey and Laura, our clergy; for our Vestry and all ministry leaders and participants. When threats or challenges arise, teach us to take up our cross and follow you in faith. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the well-being of your creation, that all that lives and grows on the earth may thrive. Bring relief to areas ravaged by droughts, floods, fires, storms, and other disasters. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the nations and all in authority, especially Donald, our President, and Bill, our Governor, that they seek to live in peace with one another. Bless the work of international and diplomatic organizations and all who work to bring peace to a world scarred by violence. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For all those in need, that they be satisfied. Ensure all your children have safe access to food, water, shelter, and medical care. Bring healing to all who bear wounds in body, mind, and spirit. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the congregation gathered here to serve you, that they remain strong in faith and united in purpose. Guide our committees, study groups, and other meetings toward honesty and humility, always seeking genuine love. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for our parish members: Cyril III & Jenny Meredith, Cyril IV, Tommy; Ross & Carole Mol.

We pray for those in rehab or assisted living: Joann Baker, Dianne Davis, Roger Derby, Horia and Shafik Iskander, and Allan Reiss.

We pray for the women and men who are currently serving in the Armed forces at home and abroad, especially Brian Bustle, Courtenay Clary, Reid Hartman, Robert Manrod, Alex Mol, and Christopher Zunan.

In the Diocese of East Tennessee, we pray for Labor Day:

Almighty God, you have so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; and, as we seek a proper return for our own labor, make us mindful of the rightful aspirations of other workers, and arouse our concern for those who are out of work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen***.

And we pray for the unemployed:

Heavenly Father, we remember before you those who suffer want and anxiety from lack of work. Guide the people of this land so to use our public and private wealth that all may find suitable and fulfilling employment, and receive just payment for their labor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

For the faithful departed, that their witness continues to strengthen and guide the church. Renew our hope in your promises in this life and the life to come. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Blessings for Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries

The Peace

The presider and the congregation greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

(10:30 a.m. only)
Offertory Music **Rhosymedre by R.V. Williams** **Simon Ballintoy**

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. *Amen*.

Offering Prayer

After the table is set, the presider leads the following prayer

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. ***Amen*.**

Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue

The presider greets the congregation and invites all present to give thanks.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the day or season:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus (spoken at 10:30 a.m.) Hymnal S 125

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

Thanksgiving at the Table

The presider continues

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints. To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. ***Amen***.

Lord's Prayer

The presider may introduce the Lord's Prayer.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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, forever and ever. *Amen*.

Invitation to Communion

The presider addresses the congregation.

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

The congregation may be seated. The bread may be broken for the communion.

The Distribution of Communion

All baptized are welcome to receive communion. All are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say
"The body of Christ, given for you."
"The blood of Christ, shed for you."
Each person may respond. "Amen."

(10:30 a.m. only)
Communion Hymn **How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds** **Hymnal 644**

Blessing after Communion

After all have returned to their places, the congregation stands. The presider says a table blessing.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace. ***Amen***.

Prayer after Communion

The presider leads the following prayer.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Sending of Communion

Communion ministers may be sent to take the sacrament to those who are absent. The presider leads this prayer of sending.

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick and homebound. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. ***Amen.***

Blessing

The presider proclaims God's blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. ***Amen.***

(10:30 a.m. only)
Recessional Hymn **Lift High the Cross** **Hymnal 473**

Dismissal

The assisting minister sends the congregation into mission.

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The altar flowers are given by Adam and Rebecca Cavender in celebration of their wedding anniversary.

The ambry candle is given by Simon Ballintoy and Sheelagh Hogg in celebration and thanksgiving for Adam Ballintoy's Ordination to the Priesthood.

Announcements

Please send any bulletin, e-news or calendar announcements by: noon, Tuesday September 1.

Fully edited pertinent information, including dates, times, location(s) should be sent to editor@ststephensor.org. This email goes to both the Parish Office, and Rob Steele III, our E-News editor. Final content is at the discretion of clergy and staff.

Those Who Serve Today - August 30, 2026

	8:00 A.M.	10:30 A.M.
Crucifer		Thomas Hillis
Acolytes	Jack Lee	James Henry Norman, Diane Sams
Lectors	Jamey Kennedy	Bill Petersen
Eucharistic Ministers	Jack Lee	Courtney Manrod, Elizabeth Vickers
Ushers	Cameron Ellis, MN Campbell	Judith Delaney, Jerry Hanna
Greeters	Rhonda Ashburn	Michael Trank
Counters		Bonnie Bautz, Beth Bailey
Eucharistic Visitor		Carol Gardner, Judith Delaney
Altar Guild	Week 4 - Gary Dreier, Robin Thurston, Bonnie Bautz, Julie Webber	
AV Tech		Brent Sigmon
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Weekly Schedule Highlights - August 31 - September 4

Parish Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Monday - Thursday.

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Monday, August 31	9:00 a.m.	Staff meeting
Tuesday, September 1	11:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist and Healing Service
	2:00 p.m.	Centering Prayer
Wednesday, September 2	8:30 a.m.	Men's Group
	9 a.m.	WOW
	6:30 p.m.	Rev. Adam Ballintoy's Ordination (Church of the Good Shepherd, Knoxville)
Thursday, September 3	4:00 p.m.	Contemplative Prayer (Zoom)
Friday, September 4		Office Closed

Loose Plate Offering **Today**

The loose plate offering for the month of August goes to Walk Over Wednesday.

Coffee and Conversation **Following the 8:00 am Service**

During the summer months, Coffee and Conversation is in the Parish Hall after the 8:00 service only.

Lemonade in the Grove **Following the 10:30 am service**

Lemonade in the Grove continues through Labor Day. Join us for light refreshments, great conversation, and of course, lemonade!

Adult Christian Education - Lectionary Study **Today**

Fr. Bailey will be facilitating the deep-dive reflection into the Sunday gospel at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday morning in the Pollard Room. Even for those who might not like "traditional" Bible study, this class is a great way to engage some of the practical applications of the gospel in our walk with Christ and how we live out our faith in our homes and beyond. Hope to see everyone there!

Blessing Box **Items Needed This Week**

Thank you to everyone who is supporting the Blessing Box! Please remember the Blessing Box when you shop. This week, we are requesting donations of paper towels and spray cleaner (Ajax, Pine Sol, etc.).. They can be placed in the little red wagon in the narthex.

Inquirers Classes **Begins September 9**

"Going through the Motions" - Exploring the rituals of our worship and how they make us the Church.

This year's inquirers series is about to begin! It is designed for those new to St. Stephen's wanting to learn more about the Episcopal Church, but all are welcome to come and get a "refresher"!

This year's class will focus on some of the particular rituals within our liturgy; e.g., Why do people cross themselves, and when? Why do we hold our hands out for communion? Why does the congregation "talk back" to the priest on occasion in the service? Each class will give a short history and lecture on the origins of each practice, and then we will have conversation about how these rituals draw us closer to God and to each other.

We will serve a light dinner each night at 5:30. Class will run from 6 to 7. We will have nursery available and activities for our kids. Please join us for these fun conversations, and feel free to invite a friend!

Ordination of Adam Lee Ballintoy to the Sacred Order of Priests

We warmly invite your prayers and presence as The Rev. Adam Lee Ballintoy prepares to be ordained to the Sacred Order of Priests. The service will take place at the Church of the Good Shepherd (5409 Jacksboro Pike, Knoxville, 37918) on September 2 at 6:30 p.m. with a reception following.

Looking Ahead

Our Monthly Parish Potluck will be Picnic-themed on **September 13th** following the 10:30a.m. service. Parish Life will provide oven-fried chicken and beverages. Please bring your favorite picnic foods to share with your parish family!

Join us on Friday, **September 25th** from 6-8p.m. for Tacos and Trivia night in the Parish Hall! Please bring finger foods to supplement the Taco Bar, and your cell phone if you wish to participate in the Trivia contest!

Save the date: Claws for a Cause is coming October 10th from 4p.m.-7 p.m.!

Helping WOW when shopping at Kroger's

Did you know that every time you shop at Kroger's you can be contributing to WOW (Walk Over Wednesdays)? All you need to do is sign up for the Community Rewards Program and designate St. Stephen's as the recipient. Kroger's then donates a portion of your grocery spending to St. Stephen's. These donations are then put directly into the WOW account. Kroger's Rewards is free to join and does not affect your fuel points but requires a digital account linked to your Kroger's Plus Shopper's Card. Please see the E-news for instructions on how to sign-up!

STAFF

The Rev. Bailey Norman, Rector	Rector@ststephensor.org
The Rev. Laura Henrik, Associate Pastor	Laura.Henrik@ststephensor.org
Simon Ballintoy, Director of Music	Music@ststephensor.org
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VESTRY

Senior Warden - Beth Bailey (2027) • Junior Warden - Ben Shassere (2026)
Jamey Kennedy - Secretary • Alan Liby - Treasurer (2026)
Craig Brent, Nancy Anderson (2026)
Roger Johnson, Carol King, Julie Webber (2027)
Dan DiGregorio, Carol Ann Lane, Jamie LaRose, Brent Sigmon (2028)

The Rt. Rev. Brian Cole, Bishop • The Diocese of East Tennessee

St. Stephen's EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Where God is seen • love is felt • lives are changed.

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