



**Fourteenth Sunday
after Pentecost
September 6, 2020**

St. Stephen's is a Christian community in the making.

At the intersection of what was and what will be, we invite you to gather with us around prayer, food, and the simple conviction that nothing is wasted in God's economy.

All are welcome at St. Stephen's.

Whether you come with great faith or great doubt, regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation or marital status, whatever your financial status or housing situation – we hope you can find a home with us as we explore together what it means to follow Jesus.

Ministry Team

Interim Priest-in-Charge	The Reverend Daniel Graves daniel@ststephensmaple.ca
Honorary Assistant	The Reverend Mary Pataki mary@ststephensmaple.ca
Director of Music	Scott Weidler scott@ststephensmaple.ca
Pastor to Children and Families	Becky Potter becky@ststephensmaple.ca
Pastor of Outreach	Karen Shea karen@ststephensmaple.ca
Lay Pastoral Associate	Matthew Neugebauer matthew@ststephensmaple.ca
Sexton	Tieg Dawe tieg@ststephensmaple.ca



ST. STEPHEN'S

ANGLICAN CHURCH, MAPLE

Gathering of the Community

Prelude

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise, arr. Larkin

Opening Hymn

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



Im - mort - al, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
Great Fa - ther of glo - ry, pure Fa - ther of light,



in light in - a - ccess - i - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glor - ious, the An - cient of Days,
thy just - ice like moun - tains high soari - ng a - bove
we bloss - om and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
all praise we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - tor - ious, thy great name we praise!
thy clouds which are fount - ains of good - ness and love.
and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dour of light hid - eth thee!

Greeting

Priest The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you All.

All And also with you.

Priest Almighty God,

**All to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our heart
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Gloria

Priest Glory to God in the highest

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

Collect of the Day

Priest Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people,
that richly bearing the fruit of good works,
we may by you be richly rewarded;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

Proclamation of the Word

First Reading Exodus 12:1-14

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Reader The word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 149

Hallelujah! Sing to the LORD a new song,
God's praise in the assembly of the faithful.
Let Israel rejoice in their maker;
let the children of Zion be joyful in their ruler.
Let them praise their maker's name with dancing;
let them sing praise with tambourine and harp.
For the LORD takes pleasure in the people
and adorns the poor with victory.
Let the faithful re-joyce in triumph;
let them sing for joy on their beds.
Let the praises of God be in their throat
and a two-edged sword in their hand,
to wreak vengeance on the nations
and punishment on the peoples,
to bind their kings in chains
and their nobles with links of iron,
to inflict on them the judgment decreed;
this is glory for all God's faithful ones. Hallelujah!

Second Reading

Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The 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 neighbour as yourself.' Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides 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; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader The word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. In Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. Alleluia.

Gospel Matthew 18:15-20

Priest The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

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

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

‘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. But 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. If 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. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, 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. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.’

Priest This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily Dan+

Apostles' Creed

Priest Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

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

I believe in Jesus Christ,

his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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 the People

Priest Having affirmed our faith,
let us prepare to offer our prayers to God.

Each petition concludes:

Leader Lord, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

At the conclusion of the prayers, the congregation is invited to respond:

Leader Merciful God,

**All accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Priest Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table.
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence for reflection is observed.

Priest Most merciful God,
**All we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

Priest Almighty God have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All Amen.

Peace

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.
All And also with you.

Celebration of the Eucharist

Invitation to Christian Stewardship

Just as we are working to find new and meaningful ways to engage in worship as a community, we're also working to find new ways to express our support of our shared community. Instead of a traditional offering, please consider visiting our website and clicking on the 'donate' button to make a contribution, or to sign up for pre-authorized givings.

As always, please do not feel any obligation to give.

Prayer over the Gifts

Priest Great and holy God, accept our offering of labour and love.
May we bring you true and spiritual worship and be one with you.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

All Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

Priest The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Priest Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Priest It is indeed right to thank you and praise you,
holy and gracious God, creator of all things,
ruler of heaven and earth, sustainer of life,
for you are the source of all goodness,
rich in mercy and abounding in love;
you are faithful to your people in every generation,
and your word endures for ever.
Therefore, with angels and archangels,
with the fellowship of saints and the company of heaven,
we glorify your holy name, evermore praising you and singing:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
 heav'n_____ and earth_____ are full_____ of your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Blest is he who comes__ in the
 name_____ of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est._____

Priest We praise you, merciful Father,
 not as we ought, but as we are able,
 because in your tender love
 you gave the world your only Son,
 in order that the world might be saved through him.
 He made you known by taking the form of a servant,
 healing the sick, liberating the oppressed,
 reaching out to the lost.
 Betrayed, reviled, and nailed to the cross,
 he confronted the power of sin
 and disarmed it for ever.

In his offering of himself,
he became the perfect and sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world.
Redeemed by Christ, we have been adopted as your children;
by your pardon you have made us worthy to praise you.

On the night he was betrayed,
Jesus, at supper with his friends,
took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread,
gave it to them, and said, "Take and 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."

In obedience to him and with grateful hearts
we approach your holy table,
remembering our Saviour's sacrifice,
and rejoicing in his victory.
Confident in his sovereign purpose, we declare our faith.

All **Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

Priest Send your Holy Spirit on us
that as we receive this bread and this cup
we may partake of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

May we be renewed in his risen life, filled with love,
and strengthened in our will to serve others;
and make of our lives, we pray,
a pure and holy sacrifice, acceptable to you,
knitting us together as one in your Son Jesus Christ,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honour and glory, now and forever.

All **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Priest And now, as our Saviour taught us, we are bold to say,

All **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,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

Priest "I am the bread which has come down from heaven," says the Lord.

All **Give us this bread forever.**

Priest "I am the vine, you are the branches."

All **May we dwell in Christ, as Christ lives in us.**

Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,

give us your peace, give us your peace.

Priest These are the gifts of God, for the people of God.
All Thanks be to God.

Invitation to Spiritual Communion

Priest My dear friends,
 I invite you in this moment, wherever you may be,
 to receive Christ, in communion with the saints,
 and the gathering of God's people, unseen and yet present with us now.
 Many are made one.

Priest We receive you Lord Jesus Christ,
**All we welcome your presence in us,
 and together proclaim our love for you;
 with our hearts, minds, our souls and our strength,
 with the saints we worship you,
 with the angels we adore you,
 with your whole Church we proclaim your reign.
 Come to us, though many,
 and make us one in you. Amen.**

During the musical interlude, this may be prayed silently.

Holy Jesus we receive you in this moment,
giving you thanks and praise that you make yourself present
to all your people in the bread and wine of the Eucharist.
Transform our hearts that we may shine as your light in dark places;
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy.
And this all, in love for you. Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Priest Father, your word and sacrament give us food and life.
 May we who have shared in holy things
 bear fruit to your honour and glory,
 in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

All Amen.

Doxology

Priest Glory to God,
**All whose power, working in us,
 can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.
 Glory to God from generation to generation,
 in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

Priest The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
 keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God.
 And the blessing of God almighty,
 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
 be with you all, evermore.

All Amen.

Closing Hymn Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant



Sis - ter, let me be your ser - vant, let me be as
We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, fel - low trav - ellers
I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll
Bro - ther, let me be your ser - vant, let me be as



Christ to you; pray that I may have the
on the road; we are here to help each
laugh with you. I will share your joy and
Christ to you; pray that I may have the



grace to let you be my ser - vant too.
oth - er walk the mile and bear the load.
sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.
grace to let you be my ser - vant too.

Dismissal

Priest Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

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ST. STEPHEN'S

ANGLICAN CHURCH, MAPLE

10103 Keele Street

Maple, Ontario, L6A 3Y8

289-845-9270

www.ststephensmaple.ca