



Saint Stephen's Chapel

Order of Worship

“We seek to glorify God by preaching His Word and spreading the gospel of Grace in Boldness and Selflessness.”

In the Sanctuary, we cross the threshold of the secular to the sacred, from the common to the uncommon, from the profane to the holy, from darkness to light.

Order of Worship

Saint Stephen's Chapel

September 3, 2023

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The prelude is a sacred curtain dropped between the world and the sanctuary. The dimming of the lights is the signal for the congregation to observe silence. During this time, be prayerful and reverent in preparation for the worship of our holy God in His sanctuary. (Please silence all phones and electronic devices.)

"The happiness of the creature consists in rejoicing in God, by which also God is magnified and exalted." **Jonathan Edwards**

"The excellency of the soul is understanding; the excellency of understanding is wisdom; the excellency of wisdom is divine." **Thomas Brooks**

Invitation to Reflection

Mr. Daniel Quintanilla

Call to Solemn Worship

Rev. Manny Alaniz

Minister: For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the Lord made the heavens. Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary. Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength! Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.

Psalms 96:5-8

*** Song of Adoration**

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

(Chorus) Hail to the Lord's anointed, great David's greater Son
Hail in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!

He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free
To take away transgression, and rule in equity. (Chorus)

He comes with comfort speedy to those who suffer wrong
To help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong
To give them songs for sighing, their darkness turned to light
Whose souls, condemned and dying, were precious in his sight (Chorus)

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth (Chorus)

**Congregation Stands*

The tide of time shall never his covenant remove
His name shall stand forever, that name to us is Love (Chorus 2x).

***Prayer of Invocation**

Mr. Quintanilla

***Affirmation of Faith** Westminster Shorter Catechism Q/A – 1 & 2

Leader: Christian, “What is the chief end of man?”

All: Man’s chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

Leader: What rule has God given to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him

All: The Word of God, which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him.

Offertory Prayer

*** Song of Praise**

His Love Can Never Fail

I do not ask to see the way
My feet will have to tread
But only that my soul may feed
Upon the living Bread
'Tis better far that I should walk
By faith close to His side
I may not know the way I go, But oh, I know my Guide
(Chorus) His love can never fail, His love can never fail
My soul is satisfied to know His love can never fail
My soul is satisfied to know His love can never fail

And if my feet would go astray
They cannot, for I know
That Jesus guides my falt'ring steps
As joyfully I go
And tho' I may not see His face
My faith is strong and clear
That in each hour of sore distress
My Savior will be near (Chorus)

I will not fear, tho' darkness come
Abroad o'er all the land
If I may only feel the touch
Of His own loving hand
And tho' I tremble when I think
How weak I am, and frail
My soul is satisfied to know
His love can never fail (Chorus).

Hall & Miner

**Congregation Stands*

God's Renewal

Call to Confession

Mr. Jordan Wright

Leader: Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy. Blessed is the one who fears the Lord always, but whoever hardens his heart will fall into calamity. (Proverbs 28:13-14).

Public Confession

Leader: Let us confess our sins together.

All: O Lord, I have a wild heart, and cannot stand before you. I am like a bird before a man. How little I love your truth, follow your ways and serve those around me! I neglect prayer. My mind is a bucket without a bottom, with no spiritual understanding. My conscience is without conviction or contrition, with no sins to acknowledge. My heart is without affection, and full of leaks. Give me a broken heart that yet carries home the water of grace.

Silent Confession {Take a few moments to silently confess your failures and shortcomings.}

* *Assurance of Pardon and Comfort*

Romans 5:17

{God reminds our forgetful hearts of the grace that is ours in Jesus.}

Leader: For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

* *Song of Renewal*

The Power of the Cross

Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day
Christ on the Road to Calvary
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then
Nailed to a cross of wood

(Chorus) This the pow'r of the cross
Christ became sin for us
Took the blame, bore the wrath
We stand forgiven at the cross

Oh, to see the pain written on Your face
Bearing the awesome weight of sin
Ev'ry bitter thought, ev'ry evil deed
Crowning Your bloodstained brow (Chorus)

*Congregation Stands

Now the daylight flees, now the ground beneath
Quakes as its maker bows His head
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life
'Finished' the vict'ry cry (Chorus)

Oh, to see my name written in the wounds
For through Your suffering I am free
Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live
Won through Your selfless love

This the pow'r of the cross
Son of God slain for us.
What a love, what a cost
We stand forgiven at the cross
We stand forgiven at the cross.

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Announcements

Prayer for the People

Mr. Wright

The Greeting of Peace:

Leader: Let the peace of Christ dwell in your hearts. To this peace we are called as members of a single body. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

***Scripture Reading**

1 Chronicles 16:23-27

Mrs. Jackie Wright

Sing to the Lord, all the earth! Tell of his salvation from day to day.
²⁴ Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples! ²⁵ For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and he is to be feared above all gods. ²⁶ For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the Lord made the heavens. ²⁷ Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and joy are in his place.

Reader: This is The Word of The LORD

People: **Thanks be to God**

The Sermon

Rev. Alaniz

“Who is God?”

Sermon Series: Gospel Christianity (Foundations)

Celebration of Holy Communion

Rev. Alaniz

A Word About Communion at Saint Stephen's Chapel:

Communion is an opportunity for all of us to seek the Lord. It is an occasion for baptized Christians to be strengthened by our Savior. All who trust alone in Christ as Savior and Lord, embrace the Gospel, live at peace with their neighbor, and seek strength to live more faithfully are welcome to come forward. If you are not a Christian, please consider spending this time in prayer. Children who have not received their first communion should come forward with their hands folded and the wine server will pray for them.

“Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.” (1 Corinthians 11:27-29)

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

Prayer of Consecration

Words of Institution

Minister: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: **Christ has died**

Christ is risen

Christ will come again

Minister: Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us

People: **Therefore, let us keep the feast**

Minister: The gifts of God are for the people of God

*** Song of Communion**

By Faith

Townend & Getty

By faith we see the hand of God
In the light of creation's grand design
In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness
Who walk by faith and not by sight

By faith our fathers roamed the earth
With the power of His promise in their hearts
Of a holy city built by God's own hand
A place where peace and justice reign

(Chorus) We will stand as children of the promise
We will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward
Till the race is finished and the work is done
We'll walk by faith and not by sight

**Congregation Stands*

By faith the prophets saw a day
When the longed-for Messiah would appear
With the power to break the chains of sin and death
And rise triumphant from the grave

By faith the church was called to go
In the power of the Spirit to the lost
To deliver captives and to preach good news
In every corner of the earth (Chorus)

By faith this mountain shall be moved
And the power of the gospel shall prevail
For we know in Christ all things are possible
For all who call upon His name (Chorus).

Communion Prayer

***Benediction Doxology**

Praise God

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. A-men.

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***Benediction**

Rev. Olivares

Leader: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Go in
peace.

People: Amen! (With great enthusiasm)

Postlude**

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Worship: (New time & Location)

Every Sunday, **5:00p.m.**, at
6585 Heath Road, SATX 78250

Contact Information:

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Saint Stephen's Chapel

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SaintStephensChapel.org

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Serving Today, September 3rd

- Childcare & Training in the Pews – Lauri Kinkead
- Hospitality – Rachel Barron

**Congregation Stands*

Serving Next Sunday, September 10th

- Childcare & Training in the Pews – Evette R. Back
 - Hospitality – Kristie Alaniz
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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Prayer Gathering** – Coming soon - before worship
 - **Potluck** – Also coming soon – before worship
 - **Virtual Bible Study Groups:** via ***Zoom***, every other week.
 - **In-Person Study Groups:** Contact Pastor Manny
 - **5-Minute Bible Study Podcasts** – Take the time to listen, and share with other.
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Church Session:

Lead Pastor: Rev. Manny Alaniz
Associate Pastors: Rev. Don Kinkead
Ruling Elder: Thomas Jordan Wright

Music Leaders:

Anthony Sanders – Vocals, Guitar, Piano

Director Of Children's Ministry:

Jackie Wright

Audio / Visual Technician:

Daniel Quintanilla
Alexander Harrison