



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

August 25, 2024

Fifteenth 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.)

“A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none. A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all.” **Martin Luther**

“True liberty consists in an unfeigned obedience to the word of God.” **John Calvin**

Invitation to Reflection

Mrs. Kristie Alaniz

Call to Solemn Worship

Rev. Manny Alaniz

*{God graciously invites us into His presence to worship Him.
He enters into our busy lives to speak to us.}*

Minister: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. Thus says the high and lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is holy: I live in a high and holy place, but also with him who is contrite and lowly in spirit, To revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite. If you shall seek the Lord your God, you shall find Him, if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul. *Isaiah 57:15*

*** Invocation**

*** Song of Adoration**

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

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**Congregation Stands*

(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).

Miner

God's Renewal

The Law of God

Rev. Kinkead

Leader: And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."
(Matthew 22:37-40)

Leader: Christian, let us affirm what we believe.

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell². The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic³ church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

¹ Although not written by the apostles, the Apostles Creed concisely summarizes their teachings. It originated in the 2nd century and developed into its present form by the 6th century.

² By referring to Jesus' descent into hell, the Christian embraces two truths. Firstly, Jesus received the complete sentence of hell on behalf of his people while on the cross. Secondly, Jesus experienced the reign of death by remaining in the tomb after the crucifixion.

³ The term catholic refers to the church universal, knowing no racial, economic, geographic, or language barriers.

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

* **Assurance of Pardon and Comfort**

John 11:25-26

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

Leader: I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.

* **Song of Renewal**

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

St. Francis

Make me a channel of your peace
Where there is hatred let me bring your love
Where there is injury, your pardon Lord
And where there is doubt true faith in You
Make me a channel of your peace
Where there is despair in life let me bring hope
Where there is darkness only light
And where there's sadness ever joy

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Oh, Master grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console
To be understood as to understand
To be loved as to love with all my soul
Make me a channel of your peace
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned
It is in giving to all men that we receive
And in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Announcements

Prayers of the People

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.

**** Dismiss our children for *Training in the Pews Today*****

*Scripture Reading

John 8:31-38

Mr. Derek Alaniz

So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, “If you continue in My word, then you are truly My disciples; ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” ³³ They answered Him, “We are Abraham’s descendants and have never been enslaved to anyone; how is it that You say, ‘You will become free?’” ³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave of sin. ³⁵ Now the slave does not remain in the house forever; the son does remain forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you really will be free. ³⁷ I know that you are Abraham’s descendants; yet you are seeking to kill Me, because My word has no place in you. ³⁸ I speak of the things which I have seen with My Father; therefore you also do the things which you heard from your father.

The Sermon

Rev. Alaniz

“The Divine Power of God’s Truth”

Sermon Series: *Sharing Jesus with Our Roman Catholic Friends*

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." (I 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**

O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!

O the deep, deep love of Jesus
vast, unmeasured, boundless, free
rolling as a mighty ocean
in its fullness over me
Underneath me, all around me
is the current of Thy love
leading onward, leading homeward
to Thy glorious rest above

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*Congregation Stands

O the deep, deep love of Jesus
spread His praise from shore to shore!
How He loveth, ever loveth
changeth never, nevermore!
How He watcheth o'er His loved ones
died to call them all His own
how for them He intercedeth
watcheth o'er them from the throne

O the deep, deep love of Jesus
love of every love the best
'tis an ocean vast of blessing
'tis a haven sweet of rest
O the deep, deep love of Jesus
'tis heav'n of heav'ns to me
and it lifts me up to glory
for it lifts me up to Thee.

Francis

Communion & Offertory Prayers

***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. Alaniz

Leader: May the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

People: **Amen! (With great enthusiasm)**

Postlude**

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Worship: (New time & Location)

**Every Sunday, 1:30p.m., at
9599 Braun Road, SATX 78254**

Contact Information:

Saint Stephen's Chapel

P.O. Box 680085
San Antonio, TX 78268-0085

SaintStephensChapel.org

**Congregation Stands*

Serving Today, September 1st

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

Serving Next Sunday, September 8th

- Childcare & Training in the Pews – Sandy Alaniz
 - Hospitality – Sylvia Arzaga
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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Prayer Gathering** – to be announced.
 - **Virtual Bible Study** – TBA
 - **Christian Education** – after worship! Coming soon.
 - **Next Potluck Lunch**, to be announced!
 - **5-Minute Bible Study Podcasts** – coming soon!!
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Sermon Notes: