

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Exodus 19: 2-8a

God's people are formed through an experience of miraculous rescue so that they can bear God's message to the world.

Second Reading: Romans 5: 1-8

Nothing can take away the hope we have because of Christ sacrificial love for us.

Gospel: Matthew 9: 35 – 10: 8

The twelve are sent on a mission, to proclaim the good news of the kingdom and to make its effects a reality.

FIRST READING Exodus 19. 2–8a

² The Israelites had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain.

³ Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites:

⁴ You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself.

⁵ Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine,

⁶ but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.'

⁷ So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him.

⁸ The people all answered as one: 'Everything that the LORD has spoken we will do.'

SECOND READING Romans 5. 1–8

¹ Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.

³ And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance,

⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,

⁵ and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person – though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die.

⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

GOSPEL Matthew 9. 35 – 10. 8

³⁵ Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness.

³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few;

³⁸ therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.'

¹ Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness.

² These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John;

³ Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax-collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus;

⁴ Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

⁵ These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: 'Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans,

⁶ but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

⁷ As you go, proclaim the good news, "The kingdom of heaven has come near."

⁸ Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

COLLECT

Lord, you have taught us that all our doings without love are nothing worth: send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you.

Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Loving Father, we thank you for feeding us at the supper of your Son: sustain us with your Spirit, that we may serve you here on earth until our joy is complete in heaven, and we share in the eternal banquet with Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For Prayer:

Pray for all those known to us who are experiencing poor health and receiving care whether it be in hospital, a hospice or at home.

Remember in your prayers all those who are recently bereaved and negotiating the administration of death. Hope they can draw strength from family, friends and other organisations who provide support at this time and in the future.

Please pray for all those people living in the UK where there has been extreme violence, and unrest. Hope that those who have had their homes destroyed through no fault of their own are able to find strength from their neighbours, local community and also draw on their own faith during these times.

Continue to pray for all areas of the world where there is conflict and destruction. Hope that negotiated ceasefires are maintained and a settlement for peace achieved. Pray for all who experience challenges in their work and the services that they provide which have broken down through the breakdown of supply chains of certain products.

Pray that we can give a warm welcome to anyone who visits our church community and that they feel safe and comfortable here.

Those who are acutely sick: George Baumer, Claire Colman, Tim Fletcher, Vera Foster, Owen Goodwin, Roger Gray, Ricardo Hoyte, Jan Price, Joan Thornton, Carole Sharp, John Sharp, Peter Viccars, Lindsey Westcott, Debbie Whitehead, Jill Williams.

Those with chronic or long-term illness: Jackie Briggs, Margaret Coles, Pat Elves, Jennifer Harbridge, Harry Henderson, Anna Johns, Vicky Johnston, Carol Muller, Roy Ray, Julia Sherlock, Bob Whitehead, Jim Wild.

Those who have died: Dorothy Duncanson, Margaret Moyce, Doreen Swain, Alan Walker.

DURING THE WEEK

MONDAY	9.15am	Morning Prayer via Zoom
	11.00am	Holy Communion at Vesta Lodge
TUESDAY	9.15am	Morning Prayer at St Stephen's
WEDNESDAY	9.15am	Holy Communion at St Stephen's
	10.30am	Tots & Teddies at St Julian's
	4.30pm	Organ Practice at St Stephen's
THURSDAY	9.15am	Morning Prayer at St Julian's
	10.30am	Community Café open at St Julian's
FRIDAY	10.30am	Community Shed meets at St Stephen's
SATURDAY	11.00am	Albantide procession in town
	12noon	Eucharist in St Albans Abbey
	12noon – 5.00pm	Entertainment in town
	4.00pm	Festival Evensong in St Albans Abbey

Link for 10.00am Parish Communion service at St Stephen's Church

<https://youtube.com/live/qCr95drdVfi?feature=share>

Link for Morning Prayer via Zoom link every **Monday**
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84282425768?pwd=QaWzIPT4b5mV7a938AbNNYisZIYt3V.1>

Meeting ID: 842 8242 5768

Passcode: 792910



St Stephen
with St Julian

Second Sunday after Trinity

14 June 2026

Welcome to St Stephen's and St Julian's. Whoever you are, wherever you've come from, you are welcome! If this is your first visit, please do introduce yourselves to the clergy and stay for coffee after the service to meet others.

SERVICES TODAY

8.00am	Holy Communion at St Stephens President & Preacher: Sherine Angus
9.30am	Holy Communion at St Julian's President & Preacher: Martin Banister
10.00am	Parish Communion at St Stephen's President: Sherine Angus Preacher: Hamish Hamilton Deacon: Michael Elves
4.00pm	Bible Course in the Lady Chapel at St Stephen's

Next Sunday – Third Sunday after Trinity

8.00am	Holy Communion at St Stephen's
9.30am	Holy Communion at St Julian's
10.00am	Family Communion at St Stephen's
2.00pm	Friends of St Stephen's AGM & Strawberry Tea at St Stephen's