

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: 1 Kings 19: 9-18

Elijah has killed all the prophets of Baal and is fleeing for his life from the wrath of Jezebel. The word of the Lord comes to him on Mount Horeb in "a sound of sheer silence". The Lord commissions Elijah to return to the wilderness of Damascus and anoint two kings, and Elisha as a prophet in his place.

Second Reading: Romans 10: 5-15

The righteousness of the law of Moses is compared with the righteousness that comes through faith in Christ. In Christ there is no distinction: the same generous Lord responds to all who call upon him. But how will people hear, says Paul, if there is no one to proclaim the message?

Gospel: Matthew 14: 22-33

After the feeding of the multitude, Jesus sends the disciples ahead of him by boat, while he goes up a mountain to pray. The boat is battered by the waves, and Jesus tests the faith of the disciples by commanding Peter to walk to him on the water.

FIRST READING 1 Kings 19. 9–18

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God,

⁹ he came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?'

¹⁰ He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'

¹¹ He said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.' Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake;

¹² and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.

¹³ When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then

there came a voice to him that said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?'

¹⁴ He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'

¹⁵ Then the LORD said to him, 'Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram.

¹⁶ Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place.

¹⁷ Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill.

¹⁸ Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.'

SECOND READING Romans 10.5–15

⁵ Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that 'the person who does these things will live by them.'

⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith says, 'Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?"' (that is, to bring Christ down)

⁷ 'or "Who will descend into the abyss?"' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

⁸ But what does it say? 'The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart' (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim);

⁹ because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

¹⁰ For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved.

¹¹ The scripture says, 'No one who believes in him will be put to shame.'

¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him.

¹³ For, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him?

¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'

GOSPEL Matthew 14.22–33

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Immediately after feeding the crowd with the five loaves and two fish,

²² Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,

²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.

²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake.

²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear.

²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.'

²⁸ Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.'

²⁹ He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus.

³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!'

³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?'

³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.

³³ And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

COLLECT

Let your merciful ears, O Lord,
be open to the prayers of your humble servants;
and that they may obtain their petitions
make them to ask such things as shall please you;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of our pilgrimage,
you have willed that the gate of mercy
should stand open for those who trust in you:
look upon us with your favour
that we who follow the path of your will
may never wander from the way of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For prayer

Remember in your prayers all the firefighters, other emergency services and volunteers who are working hard to contain the wild fires and building fires, which although many are beginning due to natural causes, some are started deliberately. Pray for those who have lost their homes and livelihoods.

Pray for the people of Columbia, in particular, Cali and Pereira where the 7.4 Richter scale graded earthquake took place. Give hope to the rescuers as they still find people alive amongst the rubble while they also start the recovery process.

Pray for all who struggle with the fluctuating heat – remember to check in with your neighbours.

Pray for areas of the world where there is continuing conflict. Remember in your prayers all who are involved in the diplomatic negotiations and subsequent agreements in the hope that the fighting and bombardments may cease.

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

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

Those who have died: Paul Bardell, Jackie Briggs, David Castle, Gillian Holroyd.

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
	12noon	Funeral & Burial of t/l Paul Bardell
WEDNESDAY	9.15am	Holy Communion at St Stephen's
	10.30am	Summer 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	4.00pm	Visiting bell ringers to St Stephen's



St Stephen
with St Julian

Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

16 August 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: Charlie Hudson
10.00am	Family Communion at St Stephen's
	President & Preacher: Sherine Angus
12noon	Baptism of Penelope Cheadle at St Stephen's

Next Sunday –Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

8.00am	Holy Communion at St Stephen's
9.30am	Holy Communion at St Julian's
10.00am	Parish Communion at St Stephen's

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

<https://youtube.com/live/osnAm8SsrDc?feature=share>

Link for Morning Prayer via Zoom link every **Monday**
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84282425768?pwd=QaWzIPT4b5mV7a938AbNNYisZlYt3V.1>

Meeting ID: 842 8242 5768

Passcode: 792910

Notices: There is no printed separate sheet this week, but they are included on the Parish email.