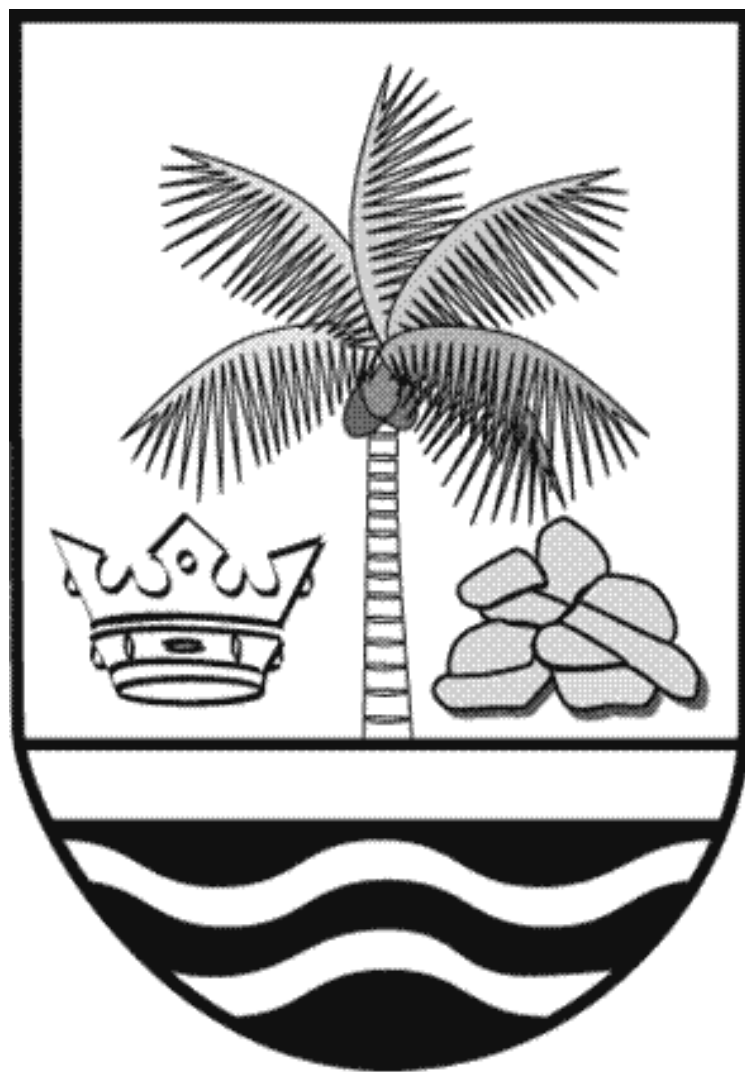


Thank you for worshipping at
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.



OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We celebrate in our community a real and present God, who affirms the precious value of every person in the life and example of Jesus. We seek out, invite, and welcome all people and encourage them to join us in a life of mercy, justice, learning and service.



Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

The Heart of the Grove for over 100 years and reaching beyond.

10:30 a.m. + 3 Advent + December 17, 2023

2750 McFarlane Road, Coconut Grove, FL 33133

Phone: (305) 448-2601 email: parish@sseds.org website: sseccg.org

The Liturgy of the Word

*The organ prelude marks the beginning of worship,
an invitation to quiet preparation, prayer and meditation.*

Organ Prelude

Opening Hymn #438 Tell Out My Soul, The Greatness of the Lord *Woodlands*

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

The Subhawong Family

Opening Acclamation

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worth magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Collect of the Day (see insert)

The First Lesson (see insert) Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11

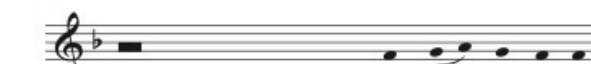
Psalm Chanted by the choir 126

The Second Lesson (see insert) 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

The Gospel Acclamation



Choir, then all Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.
Choir Jesus said: "I am the way, the truth, and the life."



All whoever follows me will have the light of life.

All repeat the three Alleluias.

The Holy Gospel

(see insert)

John 1:6-8, 19-28

The Sermon*A period of silence follows to offer time for reflection.***The Nicene Creed** BCP p. 358

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is
worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Announcements

- **Commemorate a loved one with Christmas flowers!** Now is the time to make a donation to our Christmas altar flowers in memory of someone you love. Please email the church office at parish@sseds.org to make your contribution and give us your loved one's name in time to be in our Christmas bulletin.
- **2024 Pledge Cards** If you haven't filled yours out yet, please grab one at the back of the church. To pledge online visit our website or simply email us at parish@sseds.org.
- **Join us TODAY! Christmas Cookie Party** after mass along with sorting/distributing of the Angel Tree Toys
- **Christmas Eve** Schedule: 10:30am & 10:30pm
- **We need SOCKS!** Please bring in a pair of unused socks. Claudia Copeland will be in charge of making sure they are distributed to the homeless in the community.
- Follow us on Instagram: @SSECHURCHGROVE. Tag us & repost!
- Get Sunday's bulletin online! go to www.sseccg.org - click on the SERVICES drop down button then BULLETINS.

**Calling all angels, shepherds
and others!**



**Christmas Pageant Sunday,
December 24th
10:30 a.m. service.**

All children are welcome to participate in our Christmas Pageant, which will be held during the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Christmas Eve.

Please contact Liz Moran 305-746-7577
with any questions.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
ST. STEPHEN'S FAMILY FELLOWSHIP

DEC 17	CHRISTMAS COOKIE PARTY
JAN 14	MLK DAY OF SERVICE
FEB 17-19	ART FESTIVAL
MAR 31	EASTER EGG HUNT & CELEBRATION

FOR MORE INFO SIGN UP FOR THE E-PISTLE OR FOLLOW US AT @SSECHURCHGROVE

**At the 10:30 AM
Sung Eucharist**

Celebrant: The Reverend Thomas Bruttell
Preacher: The Reverend Thomas Bruttell
Choirmaster: Mr. Gregory Cheng
Organist: Ms. Jisu Oh
Lector: Sarah Krawll
Chalice Bearer: George Vazquez
Altar Guild: Susan Murray, Esther Edwards
Vergers: Grayce Madeleine Cheng
Acolytes: George Vazquez

The Vestry
Mike Kress, Sr. Warden
Eric Copeland, Jr. Warden
Paul Campbell
Jordan Krawll
Claudia Lang
Liz Moran
Deborah Roncallo
Kelly Miller
Kirsten Wood

The Prayers of the People

After each petition, the Intercessor says Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

The Confession of Sin and Absolution BCP p. 360

Prayer for Birthdays, Anniversaries and Those who will be traveling

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Community greets one another in the name of the Lord.

The Peace is then exchanged.

The Holy Communion

The clergy and people return to their seats.

An offering is received for the work of the Church.

The Prayers of the People

Ongoing Needs:

Janet Steinmetz, Loretta Cantine, Maraquita Steinmetz, Earl Ziebarth, Allison McNeill, Isabel Gomez-Basols, Marsha Lackey, John Michael Miller, Martha Wilson, Gerry Planells, Juvie Barreto, Wanda Palmer, Linda Bryan, Vivian Hale, Joyce Harrington, Linda Bryan, James Summerlin, Pam Twitchell

Immediate Needs:

Paula Garnica, Marsha Lackey, Damar Hamlin, Belinda Fernandez, Barbara Massey, Camile & David Kopcik, Patricia Hernandez, Joella Feasel, The people of Israel, Delio Maranjes, Chuck Moxley, Phil Clark, Isabel Gomez-Bassols

Offertory Anthem *Come Thou Redeemer of the Earth (Praetorius, arr. Cleobury)*

Offertory Hymn #444 **Blessed Be the God of Israel** *Thornbury*

Eucharistic Prayer A **BCP p. 361**

Sanctus S125 (Prolux)

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Lord's Prayer *Sung by All*

Our Fa-ther, who art in hea-ven, hal-low - ed be thy Name,
 thy king-dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in hea - ven.
 Give us this day our dai - ly bread. And for-give us our tres-pas-ses,
 as we for-give those who tres-pass a-gainst us. And lead us not
 in - to temp-ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.
 For thine is the king-dom, and the po-wer, and the glo - ry,
 for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

Fraction Anthem

Antiphon: Cantor; then All

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

Cantor

The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ.

(All sing the antiphon)

One body are we, alleluia, for though many we share one bread.

(All sing the antiphon)

Our Invitation to You This Morning

You are invited and encouraged to receive the Sacrament. If you wish to receive a gluten-free wafer, please raise your right hand at the altar rail. Anointing for healing is offered at the side chapel during the time of Communion.

Communion Anthem *Sleeps Judea Fair (McKinnon)*

The Post-Communion Prayer BCP p. 365

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
 you have graciously accepted us as living members
 of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
 and you have fed us with spiritual food
 in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
 Send us now into the world in peace,
 and grant us strength and courage
 to love and serve you
 with gladness and singleness of heart;
 through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Announcements

Closing Hymn #59

Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding

Merton

The Dismissal

Organ Postlude