



**Welcome to St. David's Episcopal Church,
Southfield, MI**

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 12—Year A

July 26, 2026, 8 am & 10 am

WELCOME: Sean Sullivan

PRELUDE

At the sound of the bell, all rise

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

People: **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: *God of grace and God of glory, Hymn #594*

THE COLLECT

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

People: **And also with you**

Celebrant: Let us pray:

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON: Genesis 29:15-28

Our first lesson is from the first book of the Bible, Genesis, and tells us how the patriarch Jacob married his wife Rachel, despite the dishonesty of her father, Laban.

Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

May your word dwell in us.

People: And bear much fruit to your glory.

THE PSALM: Psalm 105: 1-11, 45b- *Spoken*

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.
 - 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works.
 - 3 Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
 - 4 Search for the Lord and his strength; *
continually seek his face.
 - 5 Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
 - 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, *
O children of Jacob his chosen.
 - 7 He is the Lord our God; *
his judgments prevail in all the world.
 - 8 He has always been mindful of his covenant, *
the promise he made for a thousand generations:
 - 9 The covenant he made with Abraham, *
the oath that he swore to Isaac,
 - 10 Which he established as a statute for Jacob, *
an everlasting covenant for Israel,
 - 11 Saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan *
to be your allotted inheritance."
- 45b Hallelujah!

THE SECOND LESSON: Romans 8:26-39

Our second lesson is from St. Paul's letter to the Romans. Here he reminds early Christians that God is working to bring goodness out of all things.

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

May your word dwell in us.

People: And bear much fruit to your glory.

SEQUENCE HYMN: *What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, Hymn #439*

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 13:31-34, 44-52

Gospeler: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew:

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Gospeler: Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON: The Rev. Teresa Wakeen

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

All: We believe in God,
whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives,
whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth,
whose love was crucified by the evil that wants to enslave us all,
and whose love, defeating even death, is our glorious promise of freedom.
Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and doubting, we trust in God;
and, in the Name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves,
in the service of others, to seek justice and to live in peace,
to care for the earth and to share the commonwealth of God's goodness,
to live in the freedom of forgiveness and the power of the Spirit of love;
And in the company of the faithful, to be the Church,
for the glory of God.
Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Spoken Response: Lord hear our prayer.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Celebrant and People: Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

LIFE CELEBRATIONS | THE PEACE | ANNOUNCEMENTS: Steve Rienstra
GREETING OF ONLINE GUESTS

THE OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY SOLO: *Shall We Gather At the River*, Spiritual - Kathleen Smith, Soloist

OFFERTORY HYMN: *God, who stretched the spangled heavens*, **Hymn #580**

THE HOLY COMMUNION & THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Sovereign God, you foreknew us, before the universe was created. In Abraham and Moses you called us to be your people. You predestined us through the power of your Holy Spirit to be conformed to the image of your crucified and risen Son. In Jesus you justified us by your grace, and on the last day you will glorify us to live with you forever.

People: While our lives are circumscribed by the limitations of our minds and bodies, your life is beyond our reach and outside our imagining.

In Jesus you justified us by your grace, and on the last day you will glorify us to live with you forever. And so we gladly thank you, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending praise.

Celebrant & People:
S-125

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

The people stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues

You, Lord God, are like a merchant who sacrifices everything because you, above all, want us, your pearl, buried in the world's field. And in that field also you grow grain and grape to feed us from your heart now and forever.

**People: By the power of that same Spirit, take the fragile flesh of your people
and transform it into that of the resurrected glory of your church.**

Come among us now through the power of your Spirit, that we may be transformed into your likeness, and that these gifts of bread and wine may become for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ; who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith.

Celebrant: Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**All: We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory.**

The Celebrant continues

God Everlasting God, you have promised that nothing can separate us from your love. Be with your children who know hardship, distress, or persecution; visit your beloved who experience famine, nakedness, peril, or sword; abide with us in death, as in life; give us nothing to fear from angels or rulers, from things present, or things to come, or in the face of powers, or height, or depth, or anything else in all creation.

**People: As in Christ you proclaimed your word to the spirits in prison, make yourself
known to all who find themselves incarcerated in body, mind, or spirit.**

Knowing that you did not withhold your own Son, but gave him up for all of us, inscribe in us faith that you will be with us, and bestow upon us all else as well. We pray in union with Christ in the power of your Holy Spirit, who helps us in our weakness, and intercedes with sighs too deep for words, Father of all, now and forever.

Celebrant & the People (spoken): Amen, Amen, Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
for the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever, forever, forever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

FRACTION ANTHEM: *Lamb of God - Hymn S-161 (Spoken)*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church
where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated,
I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving.
I present to you my soul and body
with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you,
and, since we are not all receiving you sacramentally,
I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart.
I unite myself with you,
and embrace you with all the love of my soul.
May I live in you, and may you live in me.
Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN: *For the Bread Which You Have Broken, Hymn #341*

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray:

All: God of abundance,
you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
That we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
And continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE BLESSING

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN: *Tell out my soul, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! Hymn #437*

DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Let us go forth into the world to love and serve God and our neighbor.

People: Through worship, outreach, and love for all. Amen.

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Sunday! 8/2/2026 9 am: Come S O A R With Us!

Active retirees, here's one for you! Join us to learn about the nonproLt, Society of Active Retirees in Farmington Hills. SOAR volunteer Jeff Allaman will introduce us to the exciting line up of classes coming this Fall including lectures, workshops and social opportunities that are available to older adults interested in a variety of topics including history, travel, hobbies, politics and much more. Bring your questions and your enthusiasm for learning.

Next Sunday, Connection Hour August 2: St. David's Feast of Nations

Come sample the foods of a diverse congregation - and community! It's our Cultural Sunday and a chance to invite our neighbors over for to strengthen relationships, new and old, over an array of food from everywhere! Sign up to bring a dish to pass that reflects your ethnic heritage. This follows our August Outdoor worship on the back lawn. Sign up in the Ministry Hub!

Summer Office Hours: The office will be closed on Fridays through Labor Day.

Live from Bethlehem: Special Guest Preacher Sunday, August 2

Join us Sunday, August 2, at the 10:00 a.m. service as we welcome prominent Palestinian Lutheran pastor, theologian, and activist Rev. Dr. Munther Isaac, who will be preaching live from the West Bank via Zoom. Pastor of the Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem, Dr. Isaac drew international attention for his powerful 2023 "Christ in the Rubble" sermon, challenging faith communities globally to stand with the vulnerable. He is the author of *The Other Side of the Wall* and a leading global voice for peace and human rights. Don't miss this unique opportunity to hear his vital perspective on faith and resilience. Join us in person in the sanctuary or online via Zoom!

Outdoor Worship

August 9th & September 8th

Join us for our last two outdoor worship services as we gather at 10am on Sundays. It's a great opportunity to bring friends and neighbors as well. We will have our 8am service, per usual, inside. *Weather permitting*

Attention Adults: Learn How to Live Wisely in Tight Times.

Join us Monday through Thursday, August 3-6 for our Adult Summer Camp called 'Living Wisely in Tight Times.' This four day experience will feature guest speakers on: how to save money at the grocery store, on travel, with the AARP, and even how to avoid scams. That's Monday through Thursday, August 3-6 from 10am to 12noon. A light lunch will follow. A free-will offering will be taken. Sign up at the ministry hub.

Join Our Quilting Group!

Interested in quilting? Join the St. David's Quilters on Saturdays from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm in our parish hall. No experience necessary. The upcoming dates for 2026:

August 8, September 19, October 17 and November 21.

Attention Writers: Preparing for Advent 2026!

We're hoping you'll want to take advantage of the slower summer months to contemplate God's majesty - and put into words some inspiration to help us make Advent 2026 special. As you may know, every November we give away an Advent Daily Devotional. This is a booklet of 26 scripture reflections that we read, one per day during the season of Advent, to prepare for the Christmas feast. This year we're writing our own. Is the Spirit inviting you to help? There's a sign up sheet at the Ministry Hub that lists the days and the Gospel text for each. Feel free to sign up for one or more. 300 words should do it - and you can include an image if you like. Submissions are due to Amy in the front office by Oct 4. See Jessica Rienstra for details.

Going on Vacation? Grab a Bulletin!

We're Collecting Bulletins from Other Churches You Attend This Summer

When you head out on vacation, grab a bulletin from the church(es) you attend! You're invited to put them on display on the Prayer Bulletin board for all to see. Please put your name on them as well so we can ask you about your trip!

We are Hiring!

Do you know someone looking for a laid-back one-day-a-week job? We are hiring!! college soon and we need not one but TWO nursery workers!! Please share this with friends and family, for more info contact Amy in the church office.

Midterm Election Poll Volunteer Opportunity

An association of Christian clergy and lay people is offering free training for poll watchers and peace-makers for the upcoming midterm elections - are you interested? Go to turnoutsunday.com for details. Training sessions are offered online in July, September, and October.

Third annual Women's Luncheon

Please mark your calendar for October 24, 2026 & join us for our third annual Women's Luncheon at St. David's. The fun starts at 11:00 am and continues until 1:30 pm. Our program includes interactive table projects and presenter, Tina Nowak teaches us to live creatively in mind, body and spirit. We will enjoy a catered lunch, conversation and connection. Fee is \$10 (pay Judy Walsh) and sign up sheet is in the Ministry Hub. Limit 30 guests.

St. Anne's Mead BBQ 8/21/2026 @5 pm

Join our neighbors for an early evening BBQ and Fun Day! It's fun for the whole family, petting zoo, sing-a-long, and bounce house. RSVP by 8/14 to info@stannesmead.org

COFFEE WITH CLERGY

JOIN FATHER CHRIS
WEDNESDAY
9:30AM - 11:30AM



BIGGBY COFFEE 3600 12 MILE RD.
BERKLEY, MI 48072

LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS AS OURSELVES

JOIN LIFT UP SOUTHFIELD! WEEKLY SOUTHFIELD ICE PRAYER VIGIL

30 MINUTE PRAYER VIGIL

WHEN: WEDNESDAYS @ 7:30 AM
**WHERE: OUTSIDE THE OAKLAND
TOWNE CENTER AT CORPORATE
DRIVE AND CORAL GABLES IN
SOUTHFIELD**

FOR MORE INFORMATION: LIFTUPSOUTHFIELD.ORG

Parish Staff

Amy Prather, Parish Administrator
Al Eppens, Music Director
Simone Charter-Harris, Treasurer
John Hawkes, Financial Secretary
Jeanne Peterson, Church School
James Kenning, Christian Service Brigade
Judy Walsh, Lifelong Learning
Oliva & Layla, Childcare
Deborah Davis, Pastoral Care Coordinator

2026 Vestry

Senior Warden: Ellen Boyes
Acting Senior Warden: Maureen Mahar
Junior Warden: Hampton Hanable
Carol Wells
Darryl Butler
Dan Bair
Margaret Preston
Gregg Morton
Wayne Atfield
Jeremey Smiley
Cindy Rush - Secretary

Welcome!

IF YOU ARE A GUEST Please
introduce yourself so we can
give you a warm welcome.

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE! If you have time this morning,
come enjoy some coffee & conversation in Parish Hall
following the 10 am service.

ABOUT ST. DAVID'S: A COMMUNITY OF LOVE!

St. David's is a joyful community of Christian people. Everyone is welcome here as we journey together into a deeper relationship with God. Through worship and service we seek to build up our community and the world. While you are here, your talents will be put to use, your voice honored, your needs respected, and your wounds treated with care. At its heart this is who we are at St. David's: compassionate and thoughtful Christians who respect and care for each other and the world. And since we believe we should reflect the open-hearted God whom we worship, we are also a place of warm and generous welcome!

HOW DO I JOIN ST. DAVID'S? A PLACE FOR ALL

Membership in the Episcopal Church is open to absolutely everyone. At St. David's, communion is also open to everyone. Regular Sunday worship will lead you into the heart of this community, which you may join at any level you choose. Those who regularly attend worship, participate in activities and fellowship, and contribute financially to our common work are likely to feel more deeply a part of this church community. To join St. David's, contact the Rector The Rev. Chris Yaw, to set up an appointment. He can be reached in person on Sunday mornings, or by calling the church at (248) 557-5430 and by email churchoffice@stdavidssf.org



THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!



SCAN OR CODE TO SIGN
OUR DIGITAL GUEST BOOK

ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
16200 W. 12 MILE RD. SOUTHFIELD, MI 48076
PHONE: (248) 557-5430
WWW.STDAVIDSSF.ORG
#STDAVIDSSF