

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

Love God, Love People, Form Faith.

If you are seeking God you are welcome here.

If you have been hurt in a judgmental church, here you will not be judged. Here you will be nurtured in the grace and Good News that our salvation has been accomplished in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Here you may discover that, in fact, it is God who has been seeking you!

Second Sunday of Easter

April 16, 2023

For Your Prayers – April 17-23, 2023

Lectionary readings for this week:

Monday: Psalm 114; Judges 6:36-40; 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Tuesday: Psalm 114; Jonah 1:1-17; 1 Corinthians 15:19-28

Wednesday: Psalm 114; Jonah 2:1-10; Matthew 12:38-42

Thursday: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 25:1-5; 1 Peter 1:8b-12

Friday Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 26:1-4; 1 1 Peter 1:13-16

Saturday: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 25:6-9; Luke 14:12-14

Next Sunday's Lessons Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 (13); 1 Peter 1:17-23

Luke 24:13-35

<u>Join your prayers for healing</u> with God's desires for George Bass, Joe Beene, Ed Brown, Kristin Carter, Karen Einarsen, Sharon Jacobs, Marilyn Johnson, Evelyn Kernan, Jim Mayfield, Susanna Owens and Linda Reuben.

<u>Pray for those unable to come to worship</u>: Joyce Behlendorf, Martin Bleck, Ed Brown, Birdie Burton, York Doerr, Bob and Angie Groom, Edith Haecker, Pat Janot, Jeanne Nelson, Joanne Shue, Darlene Simon, and Kay Wasaff

God has blessed:

Bob Groom with **99** years of life! His birthday is Friday the 21st -send him a card!

<u>Pray for these loved ones of our congregation</u>: Dawn Allen, Roberta Barbour, Rose Baumgarten, Sally Blackburn, Mary Bloom, Ken Casilhas, Doug Crinklaw, Jerris & Tony DeKievit, Derald Edwards, Joan & Frank Goodhart, Sue Ivey, Hilda Janke, The Kennedy family, Ron Luchetti, Marnah Lund, , Doug Mayes, Detra Michaels, Gina Peterson, David Shoberg, Kelsey Slay, Chad Strausbaugh, Charley Underdahl, and Caleb Wing.

Second Sunday of Easter

I. Gathering: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Welcome

Centering Music Now the Green Blade Rises Roberta Rowland-Raybold

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God,

holy and merciful,

holy and mighty,

you are the river of life,

you are the everlasting wellspring.

In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.

In baptismal waters our old life is washed away,

and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes,

for rivers and streams.

Honor to you for waters that wash us clean,

quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.

Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism,

the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.

Empower our witness to your resurrection.

Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Satisfy the world's need through this living water.

Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.

Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace.

We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn Christ Is Living

ACS 934

Bulletin page 13

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.





Prayer of the Day

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

II. Word: God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

First Reading Acts 2:14a, 22-32

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], ²²"You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—²³this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; ²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. ²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. ²⁸You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.' ²⁹"Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.' ³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

Reader: "The Word of the Lord." Response: "Thanks be to God."

Psalm: Psalm 16



¹Protect me, O God, for I take ref- | uge in you;

I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good a- | bove all other."

²All my delight is in the godly that are | in the land, upon those who are noble a- | mong the people.

³But those who run after | other gods shall have their troubles | multiplied.

⁴I will not pour out drink offerings | to such gods, never take their names up- | on my lips. *Refrain*

⁵O LORD, you are my portion | and my cup; it is you who up- | hold my lot.

⁶My boundaries enclose a | pleasant land; indeed, I have a | rich inheritance.

⁷I will bless the LORD who | gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night | after night.

⁸I have set the LORD al- | ways before me;

because God is at my right hand, I shall | not be shaken. Refrain

⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spir- | it rejoices; my body also shall | rest in hope.

¹⁰For you will not abandon me | to the grave, nor let your holy one | see the pit.

¹¹You will show me the | path of life;

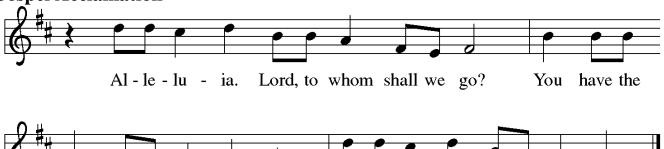
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore. *Refrain*

Second Reading 1 Peter 1:3-9

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Reader: "The Word of the Lord." Response: "Thanks be to God."

Gospel Acclamation



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel John 20:19-31

Response after announcement of the Gospel: "Glory to you, O Lord."

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."26A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Response at the conclusion of the Gospel: "Praise to you, O Christ."

Sermon Pastor Jon Nelson

The Hymn of the Day will be announced in a few moments. First, please take time during the silence: What are your prayers in response to the sermon?

Hymn of the Day

Alleluia! Christ Is Arisen

ELW 375
Bulletin page 14

The Nicene Creed

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

Prayers

Each petition concludes, "Lord in your mercy." Response: "Hear our prayer."

III. Meal: God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Offering

Offerings are gathered for the mission of the church: preaching and teaching the good news of our salvation through the death and resurrection of Christ, and caring for the poor. During the offering, the table is set for the Lord's Supper.

Offering of Music

Now the Green Blade Riseth

arr. Simon Andrews

Offertory Prayer

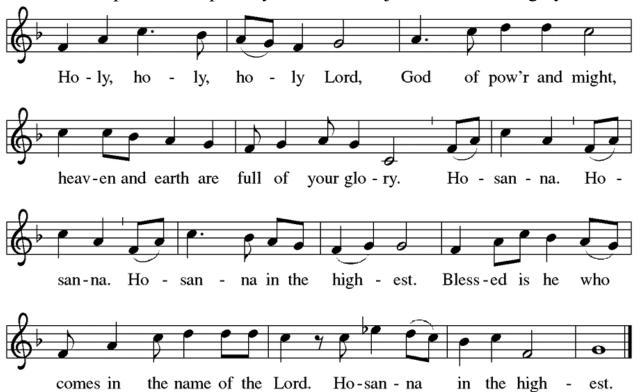
The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,

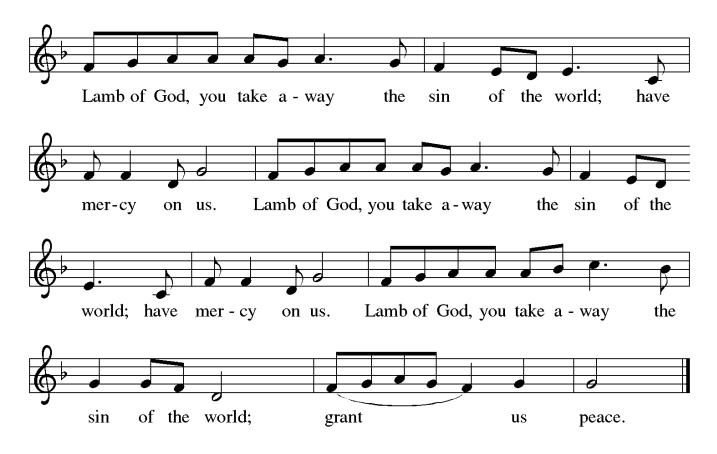
hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.
Amen.

Holy Communion

When receiving Communion, either stand or kneel at the Rail. Pastor will distribute the bread and a Communion Assistant will come with a tray of pre-filled cups of wine and grape juice. The juice will be in the middle of the tray. Gluten-free wafers are available as an alternative to bread. St. Stephen is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, so all are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood in the Lord's Supper.



Communion Hymn Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

ACS 938
Bulletin page 15

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

IV. Sending: God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

Sending Hymn Thine is the Glory

ELW 376
Bulletin page 16

Blessing

The God of all, who raised + Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Now the Green Blade Rises

Aaron David Miller

ଶଶ୍ଚଶ୍ଚଶ୍ଚଶ୍ଚଶ୍ଚଶ୍ଚଶ୍ଚଶ

Copyright Information

NOEL NOUVELET – piano(Now the Green Blade Rises); All Praise for Music: Hymn Settings; Contributors: Roberta Rowland-Raybold; Tune: Setting © 2014 Augsburg Fortress

Christ Is Living/ CRISTO VIVE; Contributors: Nicolás Martínez, Martin A Seltz, Pablo Sosa

Tune: © 1962 GIA Publications Inc | Setting © 1999 Augsburg Fortress Text: Spanish © 1962 Blanca Staude de Martinez | English © 1999 Augsburg Fortress Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain; Contributor; Johann Horn; Text: © 1969, Concordia Publishing House

Now the Green Blade Rise; Contributors: Simon Andrews; Tune: Setting © 2010 St.James Music Press

One License Licensing Permission Reprinted/Streamed with permission under One License #A721099; CCLI Permission Reprinted/Streamed with permission under CCLI License #11256031; Permission granted, St. James Press

New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License # SB164403

ઌૺઌ૾ઌૺઌઌઌઌઌઌ

Christ Is Living



Alleluia! Christ Is Arisen

¡Aleluya! Cristo resucitó



- le pidió ir a sus hermanos con un encargo que le dio. Estribillo
- Les enseño las cinco heridas; dando la paz los saludó. Estribillo
- 4 Tomás no estaba en ese encuentro; y ver, pidió, para creer. Cristo volvió, le dijo: "Mira, palpa mi herida y ten fe." Estribillo

Christ Has Risen



Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: ST. HELENA, Calvin Hampton, 1938-1984

Text © 1988 WGRG, Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

Music © 1977 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

Thine Is the Glory



As We Gather

Parents! Thanks for bringing your children to worship.

- Did you know that intergenerational worship is the single most important activity encouraging children's faith formation? (See vibrantfaith.com)
- When parents and children need to take a break for a few minutes, there's a play area with toys and books in the room right beneath the Worship Space.
- Age-appropriate activity bags are available in the Gathering Space ask an usher for assistance.

Assistance is Available for You:

- **An induction loop** is provided for the benefit of hearing aid users. To use, please switch your hearing aid to "T."
- Large print worship materials are available ask an usher.
- **Rest rooms** are accessible through the door in the wing to the left of the altar.
- If someone should need emergency medical assistance, CPR supplies, and a first aid kit are located in the hallway next to the Fellowship Hall.

COVID-19 Guidelines:

Community transmission of COVID-19 in Williamsburg is LOW; James City County is LOW; and York County is LOW. We also encourage you to monitor yourself for flu (and COVID) symptoms and stay home if you are experiencing any.

What's Happening Today

<u>Flowers this morning</u> are given to the Glory of God by **The Shoenfelt family** In honor of the families affected by the **RMS Titanic** disaster on **15 April 1912.**

<u>HART Sponsored Iftar Dinner.</u> Each year during Ramadan a member of our community's inter-religious group, HART (Historic Area Religions Together), hosts an Iftar Dinner for our Muslim neighbors. This year St. Stephen is hosting this meal this evening in our Fellowship Hall starting at 7PM.

Food Swamp vs. Food Desert

These are terms I had not heard of before, but now are becoming more popular. What exactly are they and what is the difference between them? A food desert is associated with low access to nutrient dense foods. A neighborhood that has no grocery stores or supermarkets would be a good example. Food swamps are neighborhoods that have numerous fast food and convenience stores that offer easy access to less nutritious foods. Many neighborhoods fall into both categories.

The health concerns are that people who live in those neighborhoods are exposed to foods higher in sugar and saturated fats resulting in an increased risk of chronic diseases. This is particularly concerning for children. Children whose diets are lacking in essential nutrients may have poor cognitive and physical development. They are at increased risk of obesity, diabetes, and heart disease to name a few.

I point this out to encourage us all to give to organizations like Fish, Grove community center, House of Mercy and other organizations who are working hard to make sure the children in Williamsburg get the food they need to grow and become healthy adults.

Diana Tiller-Dichtel Parish Nurse

Upcoming

The Williamsburg Police Department is hosting a Drug Take Back event on April 22, 2023 at the Williamsburg Municipal Building, 401 Lafayette Street. It will be set up as a drive through for more convenience. Collection of drugs is safe and secure with all drugs being destroyed. All medications that are expired or no longer needed will be accepted.

St. Stephen Calendar – April 16-23, 2023

Our worship service is available on our website <u>www.saintstephenlutheran.net</u>, click on "Worship with Us" and "Services."

SUNDAY, April 16 ~

8:00 AM Matins Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)

8:30 AM Worship – Holy Communion (livestreamed on our YouTube channel)

9:45 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

9:45 AM Affirmation of Baptism Class (Library/Conference Room)

10:00 AM Faith Formation (Worship Space)

10:30 AM Chancel Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)

11:00 AM Worship – Holy Communion

7:00 PM IFTAR Dinner will be held at sundown(Fellowship hall)

MONDAY, April 17

10:00 AM Staff Meeting (Pastor's Office)

1:30 PM Bible Study (Library/Conference Room)

2:30 PM Stephen Ministries (Library/Conference Room)

TUESDAY, April 18

7:00 PM Preschool Committee Meeting (Library/Conference room)

WEDNESDAY, April 19

7:00 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 PM Chancel Choir (Worship Space)

THURSDAY, April 20

12:30 PM Staff Bulletin Review (Library/Conference Room)

5:30 PM St. Stephen Ringers (Worship Space)

FRIDAY, April 21

SATURDAY, April 22

5:30 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

SUNDAY, April 23 ~

8:00 AM Matins Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)

8:30 AM Worship – Holy Communion (livestreamed on our YouTube channel)

9:45 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)

9:45 AM Affirmation of Baptism Class (Library/Conference Room)

10:00 AM Faith Formation (Worship Space)

10:30 AM Chancel Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)

11:00 AM Worship - Holy Communion

Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

Acolyte/Crucifer	(8:30) Stan York
	(11:00) Jeffery Berry
	(11:00) Linda Vonderheide and Sue Neidlinger
Audio-Visual Team	
Bread Baker	Paul Kristiansen
Cantors	(8:30) Paula Agor (11:00)Christina Nelson
Communion Assistants.	(8:30) Randy & Chris Punchard
	(11:00) Julie Meeks and Jeffery Berry
Flower Delivery	
Greeters/Hosts	(8:30) JR & Diana Lyons (11:00) George & Linda Vonderheide
Lectors	(8:30) Linda Baumgarten (11:00) Cyndy Touhsaent
Tellers	Jeanne Garrison, Nelia Lamoureux, Joe Beene
Ushers	

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

612 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185 <u>www.saintstephenlutheran.net</u> (757) 229-6688

Love God, Love People, Form Faith.

(St. Stephen Lutheran Church Vision Statement)

All of Us, Called Through Our Baptisms

Pastor Jon Nelson (320-295-8861)

Karen Ives – Director of Music (757-229-6688)

Hollie Jones – Parish Administrator (229-6688)

Diana Tiller-Dichtel – Parish Nurse (232-5924)

Kristie Kelley – Preschool Director (229-6688)

Doing Ministry in the World Pastorjn@saintstephenlutheran.net MusicDir@saintstephenlutheran.net Office@saintstephenlutheran.net Parishnurse@saintstephenlutheran.net Preschool@saintstephenlutheran.net

Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center (873-2273; counselors are in Williamsburg on Thursdays)

Welcome to St. Stephen Lutheran Church! Please fill this out and drop it in the offering plate or give it to an usher.

April 16, 2023

Name:		
For guests and members with	changes:	
Address (Home)		
City/State	Zip	
Telephone #		
E-Mail Address		
Guests Only: I belong to		
Church Address		_
Please check as many as pertain	1:	-
Member		
First time guest		
Regular guest		
Guest (out of town)		
Student at William & Mar	ry	
Looking for a church hom	ne	
Desire to speak with pasto	or	
Would like more informat	tion about Stephen Ministry	
Would like a Parish Nurse	e to contact me	
Any comments? Please be sure necessary.	e your name is above, so we may re	espond, if

Prayer Requests

Please add to the prayer list in this month's bulletin and next i	month's Quill:
Name:	
Please remove from prayer concerns:	
Name:	
I/We need a name tag:	