

## St. Stephen Lutheran Church

Love God, Love People, Form Faith.

One of 13,000 Stephen Ministry Congregations Around the World

We believe that community is *beautiful* and *messy* and *fulfilling* and *conflicted* and...the POINT. God calls us together into community for the sake of one another, our neighbors, and creation. We don't always get it right, but we trust that when we center the love and grace that Jesus taught, we will get it right more often than not. *You are welcome here!* We don't expect perfect, put-together people; we don't want you to conform to us and our ways; we want you to show up as who you are and to experience the love and grace of God as we have experienced it. And we hope that once you do, you will join us in sharing it with others too.

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 5, 2024

### For Your Prayers – May 6-12, 2024

### Lectionary readings for this week:

*Monday:* Deuteronomy 7:1-11 1 Timothy 6:11-12 Psalm 93 *Tuesday*: Deuteronomy 11:1-17 1 Timothy 6:13-16 Psalm 93 *Wednesday*: Deuteronomy 11:18-21 Mark 16:19-20 Psalm 93

Thursday: Acts 1:1-11 Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 24:44-53 Psalm 47

*Friday* Exodus 24:15-18 Revelation 1:9-18 Psalm 47 *Saturday*: Deuteronomy 34:1-7 John 16:4-11 Psalm 47

Next Sunday's Lessons Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 Psalm 1 (6) 1 John 5:9-13 John 17:6-19

<u>Join your prayers for healing</u> with God's desires for Aaren Battle, Ed Brown, Kristin Carter, Steve Grant, Carol Harman, Jack Harris, Jim Ivey, Sharon Jacobs, Marilyn Johnson, Evelyn Kernan, Jim Mayfield, Neila Lamoureux, Susan Neidlinger, Christina Nelson, Martha Reier, and Linda Vonderheide.

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

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: Bob Alt, Donald and Carol Baum, Rose Baumgarten, Sally Blackburn, Linda Bonfiglio, Mary Bloom, Amy Carl, Karin Cavanaugh, Jerry & Elijah Connor, Judy Craun, Sophia Czajkowski, Judy Drezek, Ginny Mauney Fox, Joel Gillespie, Joan and Frank Goodhart, Deanna Harbison, Nick Havola, Bradley Kim Joan and Laurie Heintzelman, Char Henry, Lisa Hill, Jaxon Ireland, The Jacobs Family, Brian Johnson, Don Johnson, Connie Kendrick, The Kennedy family, Marnah Lund, Laura Margolin, Doug Mayes, Jack Mayfield, Liz Montalvo, Becky Murphy, Ed Moninger, Bob Myers, Silvana Oderisi, Denise Ogborn, Lori Ogborn, Paula Rega, Kathy Reynolds, Clarice Rohling, Mark Punchard, Marci Ries, Sharon Rogers, Betty Roth, Kurtis Schultz, Lou Schuster, Inge Seiter, Kelsey Slay, Vasili Soultoukis, Chad Strausbaugh, Charley Underdahl, and Caleb Winig.

### Sixth Sunday of Easter

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

#### Welcome

**Centering Music** 

Jesus Loves Me

Setting, Robert Hobby

#### **Thanksgiving for Baptism**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the minister begins. Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy. **Amen.** 

Look, here is water! Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water! Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Look, here is water! Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Gathering Hymn Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna

ELW 383 Bulletin page 12 **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.** 

### **Hymn of Praise**





### Prayer of the Day\_

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, 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 10:44-48

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

<sup>44</sup>While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. <sup>45</sup>The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, <sup>46</sup>for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, <sup>47</sup>"Can anyone

withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" <sup>48</sup>So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

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

Psalm Psalm 98



<sup>1</sup>Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done | marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have | won the victory.

<sup>2</sup>O LORD, you have made | known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight | of the nations.

<sup>3</sup>You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the | house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.

<sup>4</sup>Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands; lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing. *Refrain* 

<sup>5</sup>Sing to the LORD | with the harp, with the harp and the | voice of song.

<sup>6</sup>With trumpets and the sound | of the horn shout with joy before the | king, the LORD.

<sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar, and <sup>1</sup> all that fills it, the world and those who <sup>1</sup> dwell therein.

<sup>8</sup>Let the rivers | clap their hands,

<sup>9</sup>The LORD will judge the | world with righteousness and the peo- | ples with equity. *Refrain* 

Second Reading 1 John 5:1-6

God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup>for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? <sup>6</sup>This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ,

not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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

### **Gospel Acclamation**



**John 15:9-17** 

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.

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

[Jesus said:] <sup>9</sup>"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

<sup>12</sup>"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

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

**Sermon** Displacing Love Pastor Jon O Nelson Silence for prayer and reflection.

**Hymn of the Day** Great God, your Love Has Called Us ELW 358 Bulletin page 13

### **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, "God of grace," 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

| 8:30  | If You Love Me, Keep My Commandments | Tallis/Hopson |
|-------|--------------------------------------|---------------|
|       | Matins Choir                         | -             |
| 11:00 | All Things Bright and Beautiful      | John Rutter   |
|       | Chancel Choir Women                  |               |

### **Offertory Prayer**

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen.** 

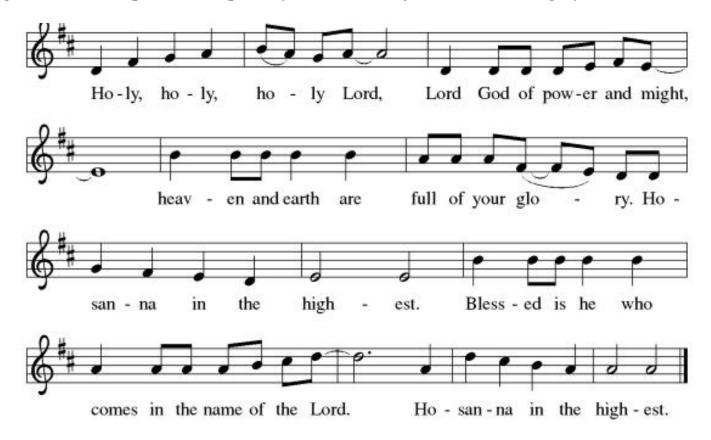
### The Great Thanksgiving

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:



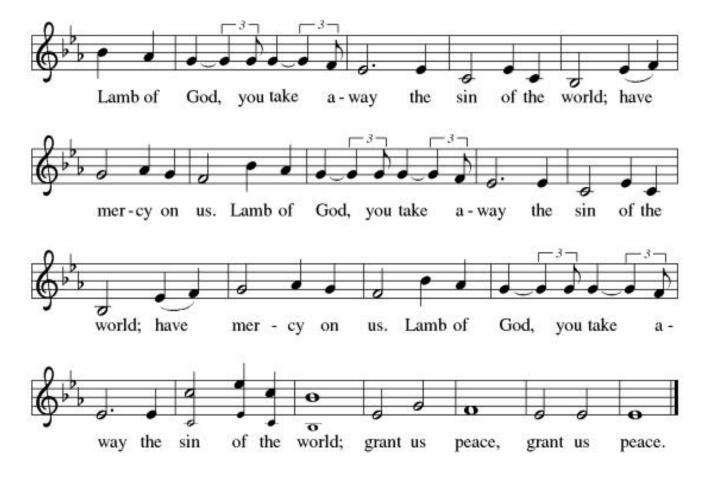
#### **Words of Institution**

### 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** 

Jesus Loves me

ELW 595

Bulletin page 14

### **Table Blessing**

### **Prayer after Communion**

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

**Sending Hymn** 

We Know That Christ Is Raised

ELW 449

Bulletin page 15

### **Blessing**

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope → bless you now and always. Amen.

#### **Dismissal**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

**Postlude** 

We Know That Christ Is Raised

Setting, Anne Krentz Organ



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### Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!



- ris en! Shout Ho san na! Cel e brate this day Christ is days! 1
- ris-en! Raise your spir-its from the cay-erns of Christ is de - spair.
- ris-en! Earth and heav-en nev er-more shall be Christ is the same.



ris - en! Hush in won-der: all cre - a - tion is the morn-ing. See what love can do and dare. Walk with glad-ness in Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in



the des - ert all - sur-round-ing, see, Ιn a spread-ing tree has grown. Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not ser - vant, but a a friend. its grim, de - mon - ic chor - us: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"



Heal-ing leaves of Je - sus is our God the First and grace a - bound-ing bring a taste of love un-known. strong com-pan-ion. Joy and peace shall nev-er Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na, ev - 'ry - one!

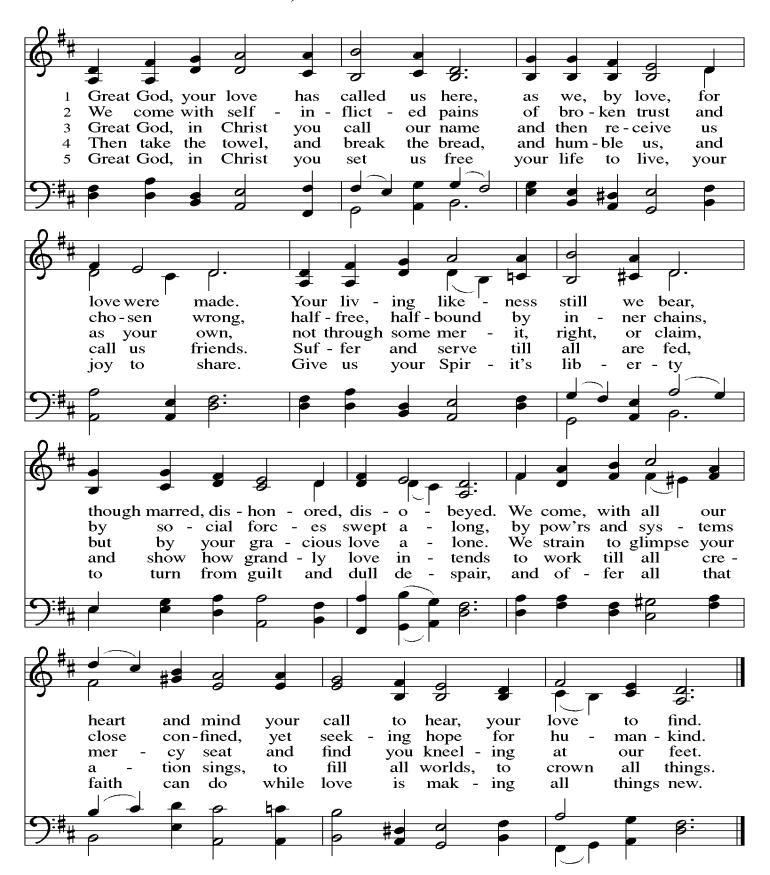
Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TURNBULL, Thomas Pavlechko, b. 1962

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### Great God, Your Love Has Called Us

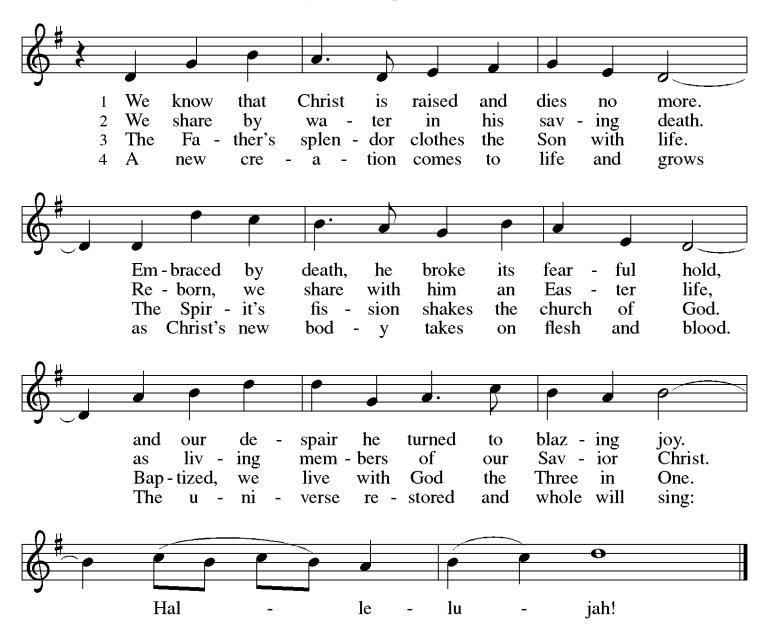


Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936 Music: RYBURN, Norman Cocker, 1889–1953 Text © 1977, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music © Oxford University Press.

### Jesus Loves Me!



### We Know That Christ Is Raised



Text: John B. Geyer, b. 1932

Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924

Text © John B. Geyer.

### As We Gather

### **Restrooms & First Aid**

- ❖ A gender-neutral, family restroom and a Women's restroom can be found in the hallway behind our Worship Space.
- ❖ Additional Men's and Women's restrooms can be found on the lower level of the church building.
- ❖ A first aid kit and an A.E.D. can be found hanging on the wall in the hallway behind our Worship Space.

### **Live-streaming**

❖ We regularly live-stream our services and cannot guarantee that you will not appear on our YouTube channel. Sitting in the East Wing or the NE section of the Worship Space will minimize your chances of being on screen. We can also bring communion to you if you inform an usher of that desire.

### **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.org)
- ❖ When parents and children need to take a break for a few minutes, there's a play area (aka "prayground") with toys and books in the East wing of 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.

<u>Health Update</u>: We always encourage you to monitor yourself for symptoms of illness and to worship from home if you are experiencing any. We have masks and hand sanitizer available for use in our building should you require.

### **What's Happening Today**

Flowers this morning are given by the Krieger family to the Glory of God!

<u>Joint Picnic w/OSLC.</u> We will be celebrating Cinco de Mayo with a **joint picnic on Sunday, May 5th at Our Saviour's beginning at 1:30 PM**. Tacos will be provided. Lemonade and water will be provided, you are welcome to bring other drinks.

### Upcoming.

<u>Breakfasts:</u> Come to build and deepen relationships – at the **Colonial Pancake House**, at the corner of Page Street and Penniman Road. Both gatherings take place at **8:00 AM**.

**Tuesday, May 7** – **Women** are invited to join together for breakfast

<u>Williamsburg House of Mercy</u> is conducting a peanut Butter and Jelly drive from now until May 19<sup>th</sup>. You can drop off your donations in the Bins marked for House of Mercy in the Gathering space. You can also bring them to the office. Any type of peanut butter or jelly is fine!

<u>Game night:</u> We will be having another board game night Saturday May 11 at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring your favorite board/card game and a dish to share. Water, Lemonade, and paper products will be provided.

Worship: Ascension Day Worship w/ St. Martin's. Join us on May 9th at 7:00 PM at St. Stephen as we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension with St. Martin's Episcopal Church.

<u>Come out to celebrate</u> the end of the school year while supporting our preschool at our **Shoofly Diary Bar Spirit Night** on **Thursday, May 9** from **6-8 PM**. Please be sure to mention that you are there for St. Stephen Preschool. A portion of the sales will be donated to our preschool. Shoo Fly will also place a jar out and 100% of those donations will be given to the preschool.

<u>Giving Statements</u> are available in the gathering space. Please pick yours up before you leave. Thank you!

<u>The Flower Chart for 2024</u> is posted in the display area of the Gathering Space. Please mark the date for which you would like to sponsor flowers! Sponsor sheets are in the tray below the chart! We currently have May 19<sup>th</sup>,26<sup>th</sup> June 2<sup>nd</sup>, June 9<sup>th</sup>, Aug 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Sept 1<sup>st</sup>,8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> October 20<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup>, Nov 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and Dec 1<sup>st</sup>.

Education: Adult Ed. Opportunity. Join us in the Fellowship Hall between services (10:00AM - 10:40AM) on the Sundays of May 12th & 19th. Pastor Jon will be leading two sessions on Liturgy. We will be exploring why we do the things we do in worship on Sunday mornings

### St. Stephen Calendar – April 28- May 5, 2024

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

### SUNDAY, May 5 ~ 6th Sunday of Easter

| 0.50 Am - wonship - more Communion (uvesu eamea on our rour abe channe | 8:30 AM | Worship – Holy | Communion | (livestreamed on | our YouTube channel |
|--|---------|----------------|-----------|------------------|---------------------|
|--|---------|----------------|-----------|------------------|---------------------|

9:45 AM Matins/Chancel 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

1:30 PM Cinco De Mayo Picnic at OSLC

### MONDAY, May 6

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

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

#### TUESDAY, May 7

8:00 AM Women's Breakfast (Colonial Pancake House)

### WEDNESDAY, May 8

3:00 PM YOGA (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

### THURSDAY, May 9

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

5:30 PM St. Stephen Ringers (Worship Space)6-8PM Preschool Spirit Night Shoofly Dairy

7:00PM Ascension Day Service (Worship Space)

### FRIDAY, May 10

### **SATURDAY, May 11**

5:30PM Board Game Night(Fellowship Hall)

5:30 PM AA Meeting (Library/Conference Room)

### **SUNDAY, May 12** ~ 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

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

9:45 AM Matins/Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)

10:00AM Adult Education Class (Fellowship Hall)

10:00 AM Faith Formation (Worship Space)

10:40 AM Chime Timers (Worship Space)

### 11:00 AM Worship – Holy Communion

### **Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today**

| Acolyte/Crucifer     | (8:30) Stan York                                 |
|----------------------|--|
|                      | (11:00) Sonja Cave                               |
| Altar Guild          | (8:30) Diana Tiller-Dichtel                      |
|                      | (11:00) Heidi Flatin                             |
| Audio-Visual Team    |  |
| Bread Baker          | Janice Mayfield                                  |
| Cantors              | (8:30) Ursula Recktenwald (11:00) Terri Larsen   |
| Communion Assistants | (8:30) Ellen Bushman and Stan York               |
|                      | (11:00) Margaret Krull Steel and Sonja Cave      |
|                      |  |
| Greeters/Hosts       | (8:30) Chris Punchard (11:00) Susan Kauffman     |
| Lectors              | (8:30) Linda Baumgarten (11:00) Sandy Croushore  |
| Preacher             | Pastor Jon O Nelson                              |
| Presider             | Alex Sheppard-Witt                               |
| Tellers              | Jane Gingerich, Ursula Recktenwald, & Russ White |
|                      | (8:30) Reed and Karen Nester (11:00)             |

### 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)

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Pastor Alex Sheppard-Witt (717-434-5037)

Pastorasw@saintstephenlutheran.net

Karen Ives – Director of Music (757-229-6688) MusicDir@saintstephenlutheran.net

Hollie Jones – Parish Administrator (229-6688)

Office@saintstephenlutheran.net

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

Parishnurse@saintstephenlutheran.net

Holly Ready – Preschool Director (229-6688)

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.

### May 5,2024

| Name:   |
|---|
| For guests and members with changes:  |
| Address (Home)  |
| City/StateZip   |
| Telephone #   |
| E-Mail Address  |
| Guests Only: I belong to  |
| Church Address  |
| Please check as many as pertain:  |
| Member  |
| First time guest  |
| Regular guest   |
| Guest (out of town)   |
| Student at William & Mary   |
| Looking for a church home   |
| Desire to speak with pastor   |
| Would like more information about Stephen Ministry                                |
| Would like a Parish Nurse to contact me   |
| Any comments? Please be sure your name is above, so we may respond, if necessary. |

## **Prayer Requests**

| Please <b>add</b> to the prayer list in this month's bulletin and next.  Name: | month's Quill: |
|--|----------------|
| Please <b>remove</b> from prayer concerns:                                     |                |
| Name:  |                |
|  |                |
| I/We need a name tag:  |                |