



# 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.



***May 18, 2025***

## **For Your Prayers – May 19-25, 2025**

### **Lectionary readings for this week:**

**Monday:** 1 Samuel 20:1-23, 35-42; Acts 11:19-26; Psalm 133

**Tuesday :** 2 Samuel 1:4-27; Acts 11:27-30; Psalm 133

**Wednesday:** Leviticus 19:9-18; Luke 10:25-28; Psalm 133

**Thursday:** Proverbs 2:1-5; Acts 15:36-41; Psalm 67

**Friday:** Proverbs 2:6-8; Acts 16:1-8; Psalm 67

**Saturday:** Proverbs 2:9-15; Luke 19:1-10; Psalm 67

**Next Sunday:** Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5; John 14:23-29

**Join your prayers for healing** with God's desires for **Ed Brown, Preston Burton, Kristin Carter, Bob & Ginny Cummings, Forrest Fenstermaker, Sharon Jacobs, Donna Kittelson, Jim Mayfield, Carole Meyer, Paul Reier and George Vonderheide.**

**Pray for those unable to come to worship:** **Ailene Bartlett, Ed Brown, Ruth & Forrest Fenstermaker, Bob and Angie Groom, Pat Janot, Marilyn Johnson, Jeanne Nelson, Darlene Simon, and Kay Wasaff.**

**Pray for these loved ones of our congregation:** Jerry, Susan, Randy Altona, Mary Anderson, Charles Baugh, Donald and Carol Baum, Robi Bayard, June Brantley, Carol Bergh, Sue Havola Berhs, Mary Bloom, Tim Brown, Raymond Bunn, Karin Cavanaugh, Amaree Cluff, Ruth Ann Coski, Judy Craun, Judy Drezek, Becky Drury, Darrin and Rosemary Dunn, Tanya Fritz, Hollis Fulton, Joel Gillespie, Joan Goodhart, Jonathan Hallman, Charee Hampton, Sue Hassan and family, Andy Havola, Nick Havola, Bradley, Kim, Joan and Laurie Heintzelman, Lisa Hill, Doris Hillenbrand, Nancy Hodge, Jaxon Ireland, Lynn Isenburg, Claudia Jacobik, Brian Johnson, Don Johnson, Connie Kendrick, The Kennedy family, Jenn Kramer, Elaine Lane, Marnah Lund, Keara Mahony, Jim Monteith, Trish Macerelli, Laura Margolin, Jack Mayfield, Doug MacKenzie, Jimmy Mitchell, Liz Montalvo, Mia Monteith, Ed Moninger, Kim Morris, Bob Myers, Jeanette Osborn, Coral Pumley, Kurt Recktenwald, Stephen Rier, Brian Ritter, Pamela Sharp, Vasili Soultoukis, Kenneth & Laura Spencer, Chad Strausbaugh, Al Stern, Monika Stern, George and Jewel Thomas, Charley Underdahl, Dave Watts, Brenda Webster, Penny Weld, Pat Whelan, Caleb Winig, and Elaine Wrich.

## *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

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

#### **Welcome**

#### **Centering Music**

*Come, Down, O Love Divine*  
St. Stephen Ringers

Bill Ingram

#### **Thanksgiving for Baptism**

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

**Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

In the name of ✠ the One who was, who is, and who is to come. **Amen.**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

*Water may be poured before or during the thanksgiving.*

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that make a people your own,  
that restore to wholeness,  
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.  
Baptized into you, O Living One,  
**make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that strengthen believers  
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;  
waters that extend your boundless love  
and cross barriers of our own making.  
Baptized into you, O Living One,  
**make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that open the hearts of believers  
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;  
waters that set your people on a new path,  
rejoicing in the Spirit's power.  
Baptized into you, O Living One,  
**make us one as you are one.**

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,  
that our every day is shaped by these waters  
that give us our very lives in you.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. **Amen.**

#### **Gathering Hymn**

*Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones*

ELW424

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.**

*Refrain*

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## **Prayer of the Day**

O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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 11:1-18**

*In defense of his earlier baptism of non-Jewish believers, Peter demonstrates to the members of the Jerusalem church that God's intention to love Gentiles as well as Jews is revealed in Jesus' testimony. In this way the mission to the Gentiles is officially authorized.*

<sup>1</sup> Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup> So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup> saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" <sup>4</sup> Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup> "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup> As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup> I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' <sup>8</sup> But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' <sup>9</sup> But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' <sup>10</sup> This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup> At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup> The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. <sup>13</sup> He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup> he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' <sup>15</sup> And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup> And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>17</sup> If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" <sup>18</sup> When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

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



- <sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Praise the LORD | from the heavens;  
praise God | in the heights.
- <sup>2</sup> Praise the LORD, | all you angels;  
sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.
- <sup>3</sup> **Praise the LORD, | sun and moon;**  
**sing praise, all you | shining stars.**
- <sup>4</sup> **Praise the LORD, heav- | en of heavens,**  
**and you waters a- | bove the heavens. R**
- <sup>5</sup> Let them praise the name | of the LORD,  
who commanded, and they | were created,
- <sup>6</sup> who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever,  
giving them a law that shall not | pass away.
- <sup>7</sup> **Praise the LORD | from the earth,**  
**you sea monsters | and all deeps;**
- <sup>8</sup> **fire and hail, | snow and fog,**  
**tempestuous wind, do- | ing God's will;**
- <sup>9</sup> mountains | and all hills,  
fruit trees | and all cedars;
- <sup>10</sup> wild beasts | and all cattle,  
creeping things and | flying birds;
- <sup>11</sup> **sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples,**  
**princes and all rulers | of the world;**
- <sup>12</sup> **young | men and maidens,**  
**old and | young together. R**
- <sup>13</sup> Let them praise the name | of the LORD,  
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over | earth and heaven.
- <sup>14</sup> **The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all | faithful servants,**  
**the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. | Hallelujah! R**

## Second Reading

## Revelation 21:1-6

*John's vision shows us that in the resurrection the new age has dawned; God dwells with us already. Yet we wait for the time when the tears that cloud our vision will be wiped away. Then we will see the new heaven, new earth, and new Jerusalem.*

- <sup>1</sup> I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard

a loud voice from the throne saying, “See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; <sup>4</sup> he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.” <sup>5</sup> And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” <sup>6</sup> Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

*Reader: “The Word of the Lord.” Response: “Thanks be to God.”*

### Gospel Acclamation



### Gospel

### John 13:31-35

*After washing the disciples' feet, predicting his betrayal, and then revealing his betrayer, Jesus speaks of his glorification on the cross. This deep complicated love of Jesus, even to death on the cross, will be the distinctive mark of Jesus' community.*

*Response after announcement of the Gospel: “Glory to you, O Lord.”*

<sup>31</sup> When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup> Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ <sup>34</sup> I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

*Response at the conclusion of the Gospel: “Praise to you, O Christ.”*

### Sermon

How do we hinder God?  
*Silence for prayer and reflection.*

Pastor Jon Nelson

### 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, "Hear us, O God." Response: "Your mercy is great."*

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

#### **Offering Invitation**

You have heard it before, and yes, friends, it is often true: action is the antidote to despair. Action as simple as a mindful breath, or as grand as changing your whole life. What actions are you called to today? We gather our resources today, aligning our actions with our soul's longings.

*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 *When Christ Arose*      Carlton R. Young  
11:00 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*      David Cherwien  
Sonja Cave, Flute; Erika Cave, Clarinet

***Congregation is asked to stand and join on final stanza:***

Finish then thy new creation,  
pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation  
perfectly restored in thee!  
Changed from glory into glory,  
till in heav'n we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love, and praise!

### **Offertory Prayer**

Web of Life, undo within us the lie that we are alone. Weave us together. Amidst our differences, unite us towards liberation. Bless our offerings to the world we dream of. Co-create with us healing, tenderness, and care. Amen.

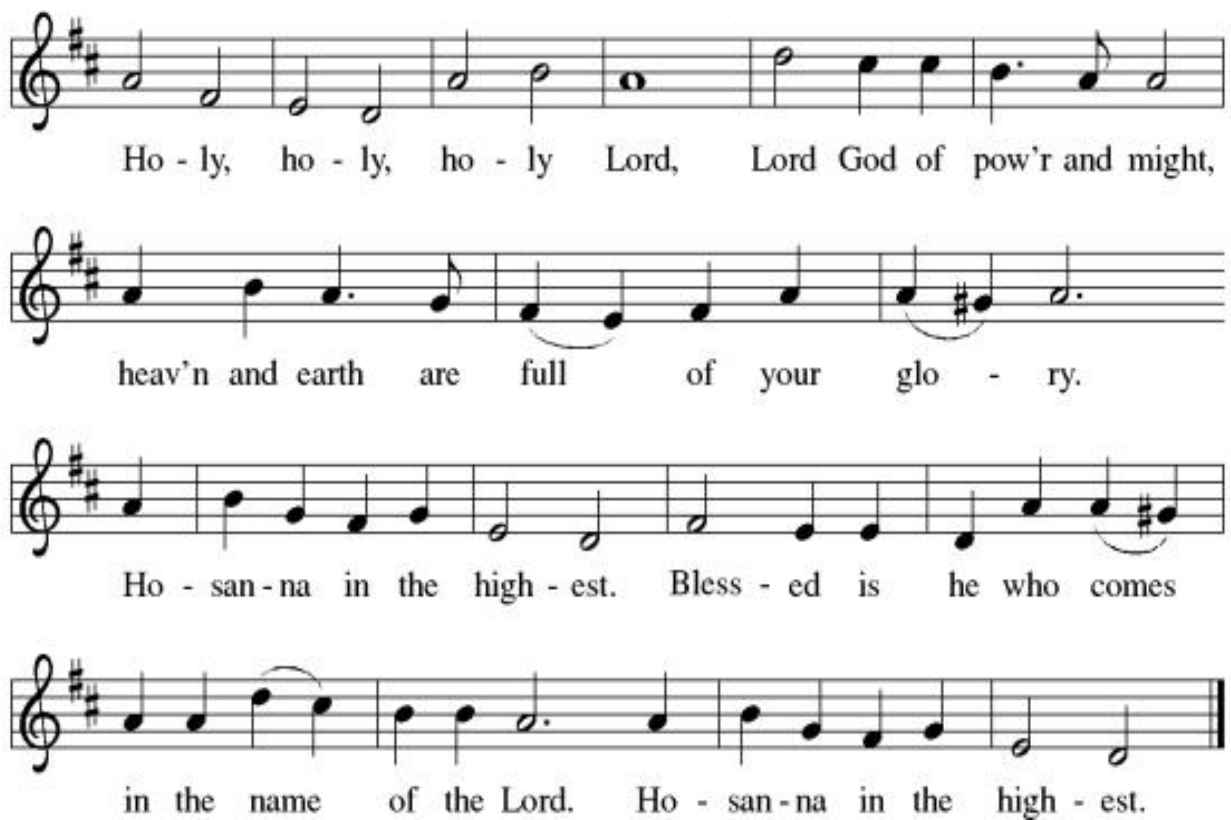
### **The Great Thanksgiving**

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 to you... with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, 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. All are welcome to the Lord's Supper.*





**Communion Music**     *The Greatest of These Is Love*  
                                          St. Stephen Ringers

Linda R. Lamb

### Table Blessing

### Prayer after Communion

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. **Amen.**

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

**Sending Hymn**             *Alleluia! Voices Raise*

ELW 828  
 Bulletin page 14

### Blessing

**The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always. Amen.**

### Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  
 Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Postlude**             *Celebration*  
                                          St. Stephen Ringers

Cynthia Dobrinski

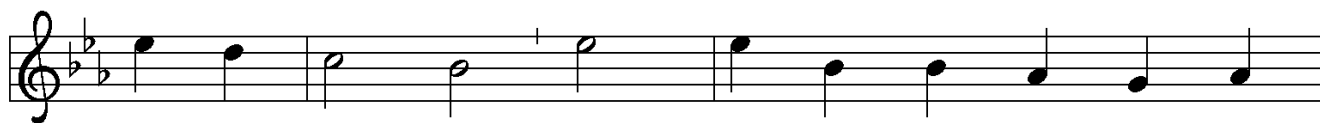
# Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones



1 Ye watch - ers and ye ho - ly ones, bright  
 2 O high - er than the cher - u - bim, more  
 3 Re - spond, ye souls in end - less rest, ye  
 4 O friends, in glad - ness let us sing, su -



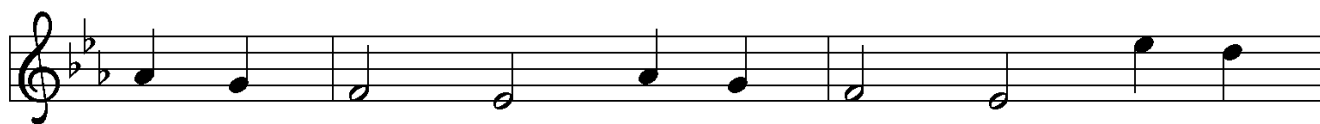
ser - apts, cher - u - bim, and thrones, raise the glad strain:  
 glo - rious than the ser - a - phim, lead their prais - es:  
 pa - tri - archs and proph - ets blest: "Al - le - lu - ia!  
 per - nal an - thems ech - o - ing: "Al - le - lu - ia!



"Al - le - lu - ia!" Cry out, do - min - ions, prince - doms,  
 "Al - le - lu - ia!" Thou bear - er of the e - ter - nal  
 Al - le - lu - ia!" Ye ho - ly twelve, ye mar - tyr  
 Al - le - lu - ia!" To God the Fa - ther, God the



pow'rs, arch - an - gels, vir - tues, an - gel choirs:  
 Word, most gra - cious, mag - ni - fy the Lord:  
 strong, all saints tri - um - phant, raise the song:  
 Son, and God the Spir - it, Three in One:



"Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!" Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: J. Athelstan Riley, 1858–1945

Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623

Outside USA: Text from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

# Great God, Your Love Has Called Us

1 Great God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for  
 2 We come with self - in - flict - ed pains of bro - ken trust and  
 3 Great God, in Christ you call our name and then re - ceive us  
 4 Then take the towel, and break the bread, and hum - ble us, and  
 5 Great God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your

love were made. Your liv - ing like - ness still we bear,  
 cho - sen wrong, half - free, half - bound by in - ner chains,  
 as your own, not through some mer - it, right, or claim,  
 call us friends. Suf - fer and serve till all are fed,  
 joy to share. Give us your Spir - it's lib - er - ty

though marred, dis - hon - ored, dis - o - beyed. We come, with all our  
 by so - cial forc - es swept a - long, by pow'rs and sys - tems  
 but by your gra - cious love a - lone. We strain to glimpse your  
 and show how grand - ly love in - tends to work till all cre -  
 to turn from guilt and dull de - spair, and of - fer all that

heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.  
 close con - fined, yet seek - ing hope for hu - man - kind.  
 mer - cy seat and find you kneel - ing at our feet.  
 a - tion sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things.  
 faith can do while love is mak - ing all things new.

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.

# Alleluia! Voices Raise



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Voic - es raise, sound - ing God Al -  
 2 Now come all be - fore God's face, in this cho - rus  
 3 Let, in praise of Christ, the sound run a nev - er -  
 4 So this huge wide orb we see shall one choir, one  
 5 Thus our song shall o - ver - climb all the bounds of



might - y's praise. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 take your place. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 end - ing round, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 tem - ple be. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 space and time. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Hith-er bring in one con - sent heart and voice and in - stru -  
 And a - mid the mor - tal throng, be you mas - ters of the  
 that our songs of praise may be ev - er - last - ing, as is  
 In the Ho - ly Spir - it one, we will sing what God has  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Voic - es raise, sound - ing God Al - might - y's



ment. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 song. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 he. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 done. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 praise. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: George Wither, 1588–1667, alt., based on Psalms 148 and 150  
 Music: PRINCETON, Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
 Music © 1990, 1991 Oxford University Press, Inc.

## 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](http://vibrantfaith.org))
- ❖ When parents and children need to take a break for a few minutes, there's a play area (aka "playground") 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.

**Health Update:** 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 **Sonya Lim** and **Christopher Turner** in memory of **Uncle Lim**.

**Walk & Talk.** We will gather **on the Forecourt at 6:30PM on Sunday, May 18th** to walk for roughly an hour around Colonial Williamsburg.

**New Member Lunch** meet at the Restaurant at 12:45pm

## Upcoming

**Call Committee.** While the exact details of the call are still to be determined, the church council heard from you all that we should proceed with forming a call committee. One of the first tasks of the committee will be to gather information, conduct a congregational survey, and then complete a Ministry Site Profile. We hope that this process will help clarify the position we need to fill. We have two volunteers already, one council member and one member of the most recent call committee. We are looking for four more members, from a variety of different contexts. Are you interested in serving or know someone who is? Please contact Pastor Jon or indicate your interest in the bulletin sign up insert.

**Liberation Theology Reading Group.** We will meet again on **Thursday, May 22nd at 7:00PM in the Library** to discuss Part Two of “A Theology of Liberation” by Gustavo Gutierrez.

**Summer Worship Schedule.** Starting on Sunday, May 25th we will be moving to **one worship service** through the summer. **Coffee at 9:00AM and Worship at 9:45 AM.** We will resume two worship times on Sunday, September 7th.

**From His hands** Summer Meals for Kids volunteer slots are open and ready to be filled! Like last year, From His Hands, Delta Kappa Gamma, Daybreak Church and Wellspring UMC are working together to fill all the TUESDAY slots. Please sign up on the sign up genius link : <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040449ADA82EA20-summer#/>

**The women's quilting group** is looking for donations. They need help with an Ironing board and an Iron. New members are encouraged to join. The next meeting will be May 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 in the fellowship hall. Bring a lunch.

**Ascension Day Service.** We will once again be having a joint Ascension Day service with our neighbors at St. Martin's Episcopal. **Join us at St. Martin's on Thursday, May 29th, 7:00PM for this Festival worship service.**

**Vacation Bible School.** Learn and explore the place and time of Joseph in the exciting land of Egypt. With all the costumes, crafts, stories, music, activities, and snacks that VBS can put together for a fun adventure! Children from 4-10y/o can participate and older children can be junior and senior crew leaders. **June 23-27, 9:00AM-Noon at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.** Go to [oslcnorge.org](http://oslcnorge.org) in order to register. Want to help out? Contact Pastor Jon or Pastor Gerry!



***Our worship service is available on our website [www.saintstephenlutheran.net](http://www.saintstephenlutheran.net), click on “Worship with Us” and “Services.”***

**SUNDAY, May 18 ~ 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

- 8:00 AM Matins Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)  
**8:30 AM Worship – Holy Communion (livedreamed on our YouTube channel)**  
9:45 AM Matins Choir and Chancel Choir joint Rehearsal (Worship Space)  
9:45 AM Affirmation of Baptism Class (Library/Conference Room)  
10:00 AM Faith Formation(Preschool Room)  
10:30 AM Chancel Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)  
**11:00 AM Worship – Holy Communion**  
12:45 PM New Member lunch  
6:30 PM Walk and Talk (Forecourt)

**MONDAY, May 19**

- 9:00 AM Automatic doors to be installed  
9:15 AM Women’s Retreat meeting (Library/Conference room)  
10:00 AM Staff meeting (Pastor's office)  
1:30 PM Bible study (Library/Conference room)  
3:00 PM Stephen Ministry meeting (Library/Conference room)

**TUESDAY, May 20**

- 5:30 PM Worship & Music Committee (Library/Conference room)  
7:00 PM Preschool Meeting (Library/Conference room)

**WEDNESDAY, May 21**

- 8:45 PM YOGA (College Room)  
7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)  
7:00 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

**THURSDAY, May 22**

- 6:00 PM Liberation Theology Reading Group (Library/Zoom)

**FRIDAY, May 23**

**SATURDAY, May 24**

- 5:30 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)  
5:30 PM AlAnon (Gathering Space)

**SUNDAY, May 25 ~ 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

- 9:00AM Coffee and Fellowship (Gathering Space)  
9:00 AM Matins Choir and Chancel Choir joint Rehearsal (Worship Space)  
**9:45 AM Worship – Holy Communion (livedreamed on our YouTube channel)**

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

Acolyte/Crucifer.....(8:30) Stan York  
..... (11:00) Liam Janke  
Altar Guild ..... (8:30) Rita Kristiansen and Amy Bergh  
..... (11:00) Pam Buckley  
Audio-Visual Team..... (8:30) Steve & Beth Grant (11:00) David Nelson  
Bread Baker..... Sharon Powell  
Cantors .....(8:30) Karen Shoberg (11:00) Christina Nelson  
Communion Assistants ..... (8:30) Paula Agor and Ellen Bushman  
..... (11:00) Lori Janke and Liam Janke  
Flower Delivery ..... Rosemary Stimson  
Greeters/Hosts .....(8:30) Chris Punchard (11:00) Alison Carney  
Lectors..... (8:30) Geore Martin (11:00) Jeanne Garrison  
Pastor ..... Pastor Jon Nelson  
Tellers..... Jeanne Garrison and Carol Brown  
Ushers.....(8:30) Reed & Karen Nester (11:00) Jim Weilmuenster and Russ Dabel



“A new command I give you:  
Love one another.  
As I have loved you, so you must  
love one another.”

John 13:34

**St. Stephen Lutheran Church**  
*612 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185*  
[www.saintstephenlutheran.net](http://www.saintstephenlutheran.net)  
(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)**

**Jessica Kimball – Preschool Director (229-6688)**

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

**Doing Ministry in the World**

**Pastorjn@saintstephenlutheran.net**

**MusicDir@saintstephenlutheran.net**

**Office@saintstephenlutheran.net**

**Preschool@saintstephenlutheran.net**

~~~~~  
*Copyright Information*

*Come, Down, O Love Divine; Contributors: Bill Ingram; Tune: Setting © St. James Press*

*When Christ Arose; Carlton R. Young*

*Tune: © 2011 Augsburg Fortress Text: Public Domain*

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling; David Cherwien Tune: © 1988 Art Master Studios, Inc., assigned to Lorenz Publishing Company  
(Admin. by Music Services)*

*The Greatest of These Is Love; Linda R. Lamb © 2016 Lorenz Corporation (admin. by Music Services) All Rights Reserved. ASCAP  
Celebration; Cynthia Dobrinski © 1993 Agape, a div. of Hope Publishing Company*

*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*

# ***Welcome to St. Stephen Lutheran Church!***

***Please fill this out and drop it in the offering plate  
or give it to an usher.***

***May 18,2025***

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:

\_\_\_\_\_ 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

Any comments? Please be sure your name is above, so we may respond, if necessary.

# Prayer Requests

Please **add** to the prayer list in this month's bulletin and next month's *Quill*:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please **remove** from prayer concerns:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I/ We need a name tag \_\_\_\_\_ .

I/ We are interested in joining the **Call Committee**

\_\_\_\_\_ .

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

***May 18, 2025***

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:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 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

Any comments? Please be sure your name is above, so we may respond, if necessary.

# Prayer Requests

Please **add** to the prayer list in this month's bulletin and next month's *Quill*:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please **remove** from prayer concerns:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I/ We need a name tag\_\_\_\_\_ .

I/ We are interested in joining the **Call Committee**

\_\_\_\_\_ .