

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!*

Seventh Sunday of Easter



May 21, 2023

Lectionary readings for this week:

Monday: Leviticus 9:1-11, 22-24 1 Peter 4:1-6; Psalm 99 *Tuesday*: Numbers 16:41-50; 1 Peter 4:7-11; Psalm 99 *Wednesday*: 1 Kings 8:54-65; John 3:31-36; Psalm 99 *Thursday:* Exodus 19:1-9a; Acts 2:1-11; Psalm 33:12-22 *Friday:* Exodus 19:16-25; Romans 8:14-17; Psalm 33:12-22 *Saturday*: Exodus 20:1-21; Matthew 5:1-12; Psalm 33:12-22 *Next Sunday's Lessons:* Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34 (30); 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13; John 20:19-23

Join your prayers for healing with God's desires for **Joe Beene, Ed Brown, Ingrid** 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

<u>Pray for these loved ones of our congregation</u>: Dawn Allen, Rose Baumgarten, Sally Blackburn, Nelson Blish, Mary Bloom, Jerry & Elijah Connor, Doug Crinklaw, Marion Danyluk, Judy Drezek, Derald Edwards, Joan Fecondo, Barbara Flatin, Dan Flatin, Joan & Frank Goodhart, Donna Hamilton, Char Henry, Sue Ivey, The Kennedy family, Bob Lamoureux, Ron Luchetti, Marnah Lund, Dean Maris Doug Mayes, Detra Michaels, Gina Peterson, Paula Rega, Betty Roth, Paul Sampson, Naomi Schmidt, Inge Seiter, David Shoberg, Kelsey Slay, Vasili Soultoukis, Chad Strausbaugh, Charley Underdahl, Caleb Winig, Linda Wright, The Graduating Class of 2023 and The Children of the Ukraine

Seventh Sunday of Easter

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

Welcome

Centering Music Adagio St. Stephen Ringers Douglas E. Wagner

Confession (inspired by John 17, from "Journey into Wholeness" by Christine Sine. 2009) God, we believe you have called us to unity, but often we have isolated ourselves from others, God, forgive us for the times we have turned our backs on those who are different. God, we believe you have called us to live together as one body, God, forgive us for the times we have created division within your worldwide church. God, we believe you ask us to look, listen, and learn from others. God, forgive us for the times we have ridiculed and attacked those with different viewpoints. God, we believe you ask us to accept and seek to understand all who are called by your name, Forgive us for the times we have offended you by failing to love others as we do ourselves. God, we believe you call us to be one even as you are one, Forgive us for the disunity we have harbored and make us one.

Silence for reflection.

God and Creator of all humankind, your son Jesus Christ prayed that your church might be one even as you our God are one. May you renew our minds and rekindle your love in our hearts, so that by the power of the Spirit, we might find the Oneness that you intend for us.

God, may we see in your Oneness our need for unity, God, may we see in your Three-ness our need for community God, may we see in your creativity our need for diversity, God, may we see in your Self our need to love each other. Amen.

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.**





O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through 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 1:6-14

⁶When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." ¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

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





Second Reading

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6}Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the power forever and ever. Amen. Reader: "The Word of the Lord." Response: "Thanks be to God."



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

¹After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples], he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. ⁶"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They

were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came

from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

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

Sermon	Known and Knowing	Pastor Jon Nelson
· ·	Day will be announced in a few momen silence: What are your prayers in respo	
Hymn of the Day	I Come with Joy	ELW 482

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	Sisters and Brothers, Family of God Matins Choir	Wayne L. Wold
	One in Christ Chancel Choir	Alfred V. Fedak

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 PrayerOur 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 Fantasia on Beloved Hymns St. Stephen Ringers

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

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

Sending Hymn

Crown Him with Many Crowns

ELW 855 Bulletin page 15

(8:30 AM) Commissioning of Stephen Ministers

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

Crown Him with Many Crowns St. Stephen Ringers Anna Laura Page

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United at the Table Unidos en la fiesta



Text: Joaquín Madurga; tr. Angel Mattos, b. 1947, and Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923 Music: UNIDOS EN LA FIESTA, Joaquín Madurga Text and music © 1979, 1998 J. Madurga and San Pablo Internacional—SSP, admin. OCP Publications, sole U.S. agent. All rights reserved.

I Come with Joy



Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936 Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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Crown Him with Many Crowns



<u>As We Gather</u>

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

Flowers this morning are given to the Glory of God by Sue and Bob Voigt.

<u>Commissioning:</u>. We will be commissioning our two newest Stephen Ministers, **Diana Tiller-Dichtel** and **Hollie Jones**, today at the 8:30 AM worship service.

Upcoming

<u>Come out to celebrate</u> the end of the school year while supporting our preschool at our Shoofly Diary Bar Spirit Night on Monday, May 22 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>Pub & Grub</u>. Join us on **Monday, May 22nd** (after your stop at Shoo Fly) at **7:00 PM** at **Billsburg Brewery** for some food, drinks and conversation! We will try to get one of the fire-pits to gather around. Service: 2023 Summer Lunch Program. Meals on Wheels has been getting many requests for summer bag lunches for children. Cathie Upton, Exec. Dir. of Meals on Wheels, estimates that there will be a need for 300 lunches each day with the total for the entire summer reaching almost 16,00 lunches. The prep. location will be the same as last year - MOW kitchen at the WISC. If you need more information please contact Hollie at the office.

Baptism. We look forward to welcoming **Coleman Beatty** to our community of faith in the waters of baptism on Sunday, May 28th, at the 11:00 AM service. Coleman is the child of Sarah Harms & Ray Beatty, and his baptismal sponsors will be Jessica Harms and Robert Heath.

<u>Affirmation of Baptism</u>. We also look forward to witnessing two of our members, Liam Janke & Brett Powers, affirm the promises made on their behalf at baptism on Sunday, May 28th at the 11:00 AM worship service.

Pulpit Swap & Potluck Picnic: In order to foster connections between St. Stephen and Our Saviour's we have arranged a **Pulpit Swap on June 4th**. Pastor Alex will lead worship & preach at St. Stephen and Pastor Jon will lead worship & preach at Our Saviour's. We will also hold a joint potluck picnic at Freedom Park that same Sunday (6/4) starting at 1:00 PM. Hot dogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers, buns, water, lemonade, plates, cups, and silverware will be provided; please bring a side dish or dessert to share, and your own lawn chairs. **Please RSVP** so we can plan an appropriate amount of food, you can let us know you're coming (and your numbers) by either marking the bulletin sign-up sheet or contacting the SSLC office.

June Congregational Meeting: We will hold our June business meeting on Sunday, June 25th. Our June meeting typically includes elections, a midyear review and update, and a report from the Preschool regarding the completed program year. To that annual list we will also add voting on the agreement to share a pastor with Our Saviour's. The agenda and supporting documents for the meeting will be shared soon.

We would like to congratulate Diana Tiller-Dichtel who will be awarded with the 2023 Serving Boldly Award at this year's Virginias Synod in June. This award is given to a lay leader who demonstrates a commitment to the gospel of Jesus Christ in the congregation and their community.

Health Ministry

Continuation of Mental Health Month

Mental Health has a spectrum of disorders under its title. There are more than 200 types of mental health disorders. Some of the more common ones include: Anxiety disorders, ADHD, Autism spectrum disorder, depression (mood disorders), eating disorders, OCD (obsessive compulsive disorder), personality disorders, PTSD, schizophrenia, and substance use disorders. Mental health disorders can affect anyone. As a matter of fact, about 1 in 5 adults live with a mental health disorder.

The causes vary as widely as the disorders themselves. The symptoms are wide ranging and vary with the disorders as well. Diagnosis is made by a healthcare provider who specializes in behavioral health disorders. Treatment may include medication, psychotherapy, alternative therapies (acupuncture, yoga or meditation), or brain stimulation therapies.

Behavioral health disorders have a good prognosis of being managed when treatment plans are followed. You should get help right way if there are any signs of suicidal behavior. The Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is 988. That is all you have to dial to be connected with a trained professional with whom to talk.

If you have questions or concerns, please give me a call.

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

SUNDAY, May 21 ~

- 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

MONDAY, May 22

- 10:00 AM Staff Meeting (Pastor's Office)
- 1:30 PM Bible Study (Library/Conference Room)
- 6-8:00 PM Preschool Fundraiser (Shoofly)

7:00 PM Pub & Grub (Billsburg Brewery)

TUESDAY, May 23

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

12:30 PM Teacher lunch-In (Fellowship Hall)

WEDNESDAY, May 24

7:00 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 PM Chancel Choir (Worship Space)

THURSDAY, May 25

12:00 PM Staff Bulletin Review (Library/Conference Room)

FRIDAY, May 26

SATURDAY, May 27

5:30 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

SUNDAY, May 28 ~

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)
- 10:00 AM Affirmation of Baptism Celebration for Liam & Brett (Gathering Space)
- 10:30 AM Chancel Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)
- **11:00 AM** Worship Holy Communion (livestreamed on our YouTube channel)

Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

Acolyte/Crucifer	
Audio-Visual Team	
Bread Baker	Jo Beene
Cantors	
Communion Assistants .	
Flower Delivery	Carol Wiers
Greeters/Hosts	(8:30) JR & Diana Lyons (11:00) George & Linda Vonderheide
Lectors	
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 BaptismsDoing Ministry in the WorldPastor Jon Nelson (320-295-8861)Pastorjn@saintstephenlutheran.netKaren Ives – Director of Music (757-229-6688)MusicDir@saintstephenlutheran.netHollie Jones – Parish Administrator (229-6688)Office@saintstephenlutheran.netDiana Tiller-Dichtel – Parish Nurse (232-5924)Parishnurse@saintstephenlutheran.netKristie Kelley – Preschool Director (229-6688)Preschool@saintstephenlutheran.netPeninsula Pastoral Counseling Center (873-2273; counselors are in Williamsburg on Thursdays)Doing Ministry in the World

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

May 21, 2023

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 **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 will be attending the picnic at freedom park # ______

attending