



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!

12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 20, 2023



For Your Prayers – August 21-August 27, 2023

Lectionary readings for this week:

Monday: 2 Kings 5:1-14 Acts 15:1-21 Psalm 87

Tuesday: Isaiah 43:8-13 Romans 11:13-29 Psalm 87

Wednesday: Isaiah 66:18-23 Matthew 8:1-13 Psalm 87

Thursday: Ezekiel 28:11-19 1 Corinthians 6:1-11 Psalm 138

Friday: Ezekiel 31:15-18 2 Corinthians 10:12-18 Psalm 138

Saturday: Ezekiel 36:33-38 Matthew 16:5-12 Psalm 138

Next Sunday: Isaiah 51:1-6 Psalm 138 (8) Romans 12:1-8 Matthew 16:13-20

Join your prayers for healing with God's desires for **Ed Brown, Ellen Bushman, Kristin Carter, Jack Harris, Sharon Jacobs, Marilyn Johnson, Evelyn Kernan, Jim Mayfield, and Linda Reuben.**

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

We hold **Pastor Cheryl Griffin** and her family in prayer on the death of her husband, **JR (Griff) Griffin.**

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: Dawn Allen, Donald and Carol Baum, Rose Baumgarten, Sally Blackburn, Nelson Blish, Mary Bloom, Ann Bunn Jerry & Elijah Connor, Judy Craun, Doug Crinklaw, Judy Drezek, Derald Edwards, Joan and Frank Goodhart, Deanna Harbison, William Harbison, Tom Hay, Bradley Kim Joan and Laurie Heintzelman, Char Henry, Zac and Jen Holtzman and family, Brian Johnson, Mason Jones, Sean Kelley, Connie Kendrick, The Kennedy family, Bob Lamoureux, Ron Luchetti, Julia Mahony, Marnah Lund, Doug Mayes, Laura Mcgolin, Detra Michaels, Bob Myers, Gina Peterson, Paula Rega, Betty Roth, Inge Seiter, David Shoberg, Kelsey Slay, Vasili Soutoukis, Chad Strausbaugh, Charley Underdahl, and Caleb Winig

12th Sunday after Pentecost

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

Welcome

Centering Music

8:30 “Return to the Lord Your God *with* Commonwealth Is God’s
Commandment” setting Sherri Hansen

11:00 “For the Beauty of the Earth” arr. Charles Callahan
Erika Cave- Clarinet

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who greets us in this and every season,
whose word never fails,
whose promise is sure. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned.
We have hurt our community.
We have squandered your blessings.
We have hoarded your bounty.
In the name of Jesus,
forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Righteous God,
we confess that we have sinned.
We have failed to be honest.
We have lacked the courage to speak.
We have spoken falsely.
In the name of Jesus,
forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.
God offers boundless grace when we fail.
Claim the gift of God’s mercy:
you are freed and forgiven
in the name of † Jesus Christ. **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.**

Prayer of the Day

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

II. Word: *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song***First Reading****Isaiah 56:1, 6-8**

The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.

¹Thus says the LORD:

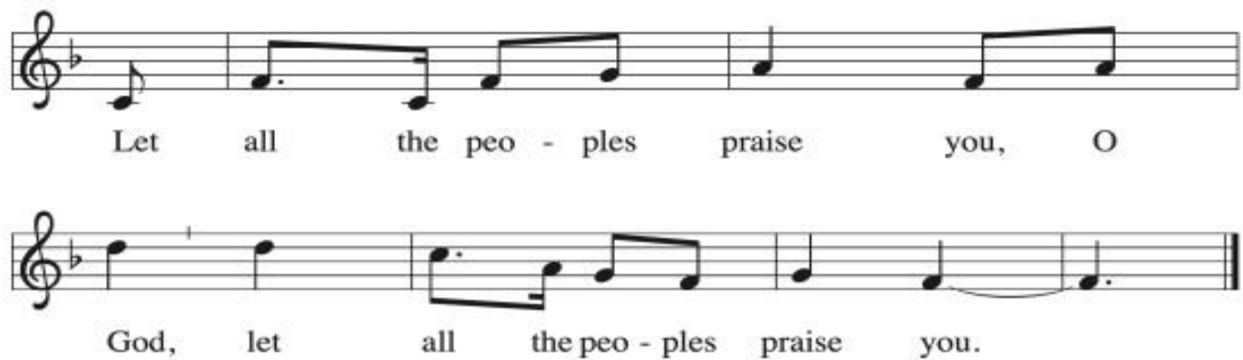
Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,
and hold fast my covenant—

⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

⁸Thus says the Lord GOD,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

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



¹May God be merciful to | us and bless us;
may the light of God's face | shine upon us.

²**Let your way be known | upon earth,
your saving health a- | mong all nations.**

³Let the peoples praise | you, O God;
let all the | peoples praise you.

⁴**Let the nations be glad and | sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the na- | tions on
earth. Refrain**

⁵Let the peoples praise | you, O God;
let all the | peoples praise you.

⁶**The earth has brought | forth its increase;
God, our own | God, has blessed us.**

⁷May God | give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth | stand in awe. *Refrain*

Second Reading

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.

[Paul writes:] ¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a}God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel

Matthew 15: 21-28

Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.

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

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

Sermon

Fully Human

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

Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace

ELW 716

Bulletin page 12

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

8:30 *My Faith Looks up to Thee*

arr. Robert Buckley Farlee

Karen Shoberg, Soprano

11:00 *Meditation from "Thais"*

Jules Massenet/arr. Merle J. Isaac

Erika Cave- Clarinet

Offertory Prayer

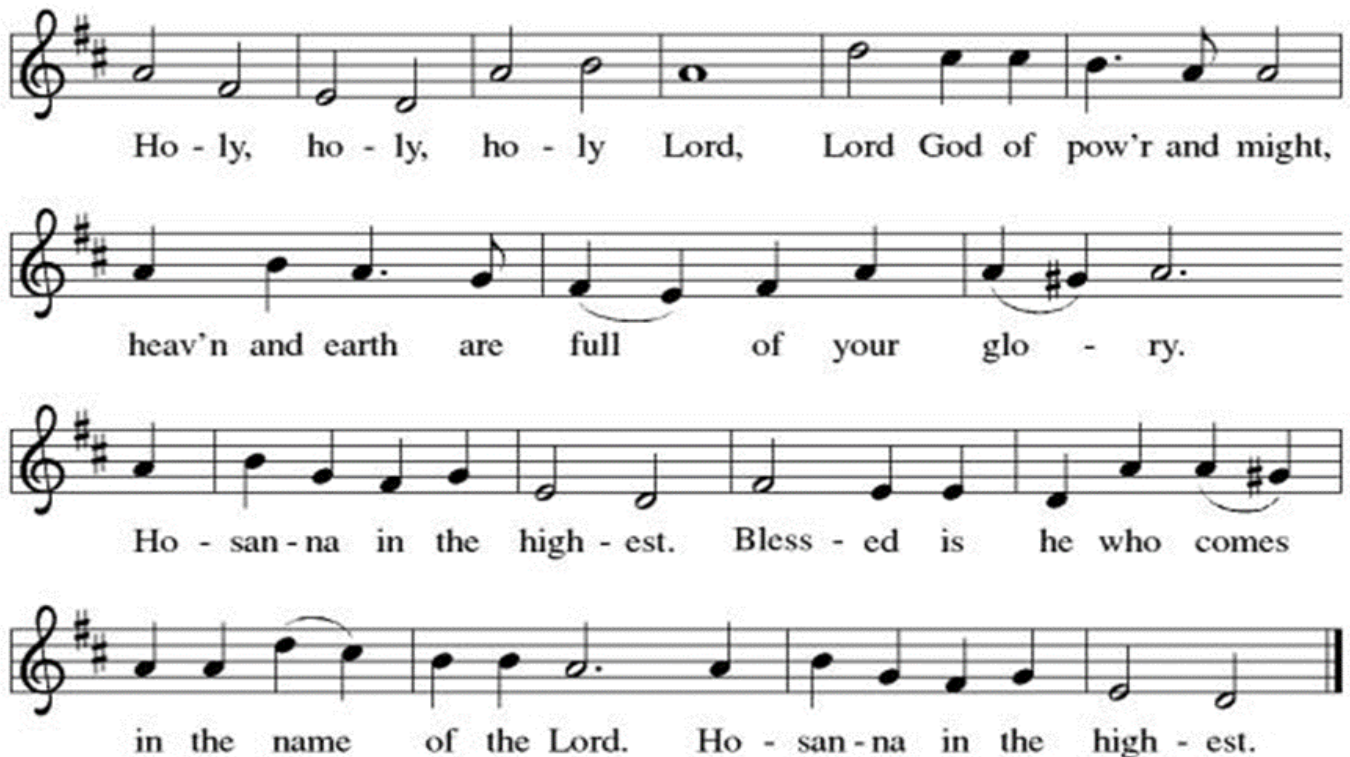
The Great Thanksgiving

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Music:

8:30 *One Bread, One Body*

setting, Ron Schmoltze

11:00 *Communion*

Charles Callahan

Erika Cave- Clarinet

Communion Hymn *One Bread, One Body*

ELW 496

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Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

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

Sending Hymn

In Christ There Is No East or West

ELW 650
Bulletin page 14

Blessing

**The God who calls across the cosmos
and speaks in the smallest seed
✠ bless, keep, and sustain you
now and to the end of the age.
Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the harvest. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

In Christ There Is No East or West

setting, Michael Hassell



Copyright Information

For the Beauty of the Earth

Contributors: Charles Callahan

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Return to the Lord Your God with Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Piano Weavings Vol 3

Contributors: Sherri Hansen

Tune: Setting © 2019 Augsburg Fortress

My Faith Looks up to Thee

Contributors: Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Robert Buckley Farlee

Tune: © 2008 Augsburg Fortress

In Christ There Is No East or West

Contributors: Michael Hassell

Tune: © 1998 Augsburg Fortress

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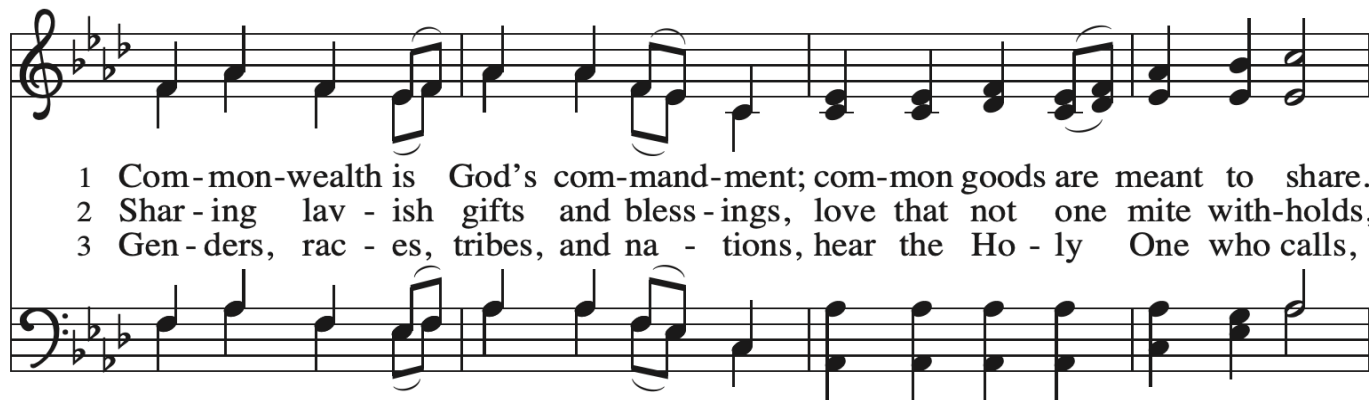
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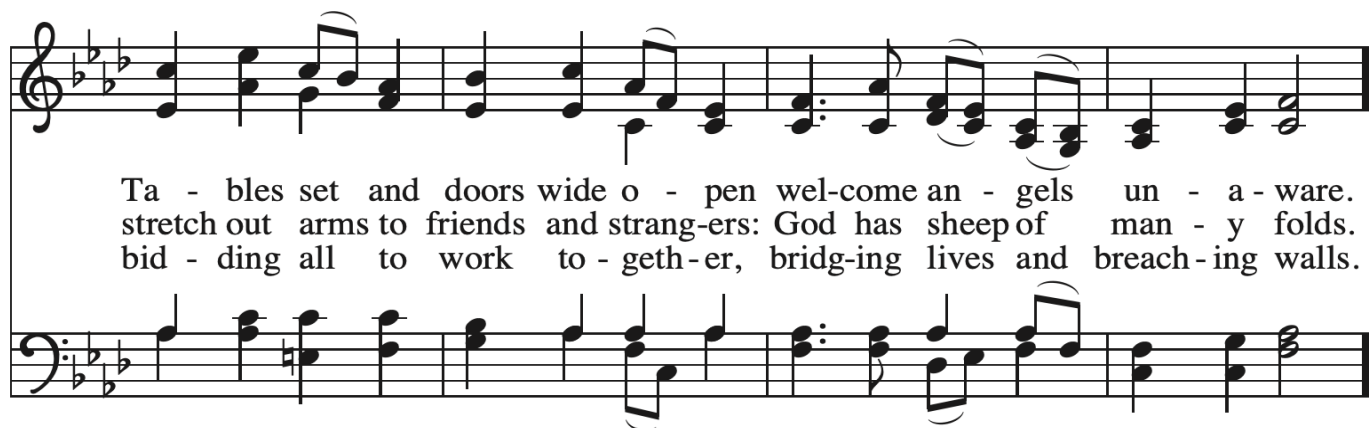
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Commonwealth Is God's Commandment

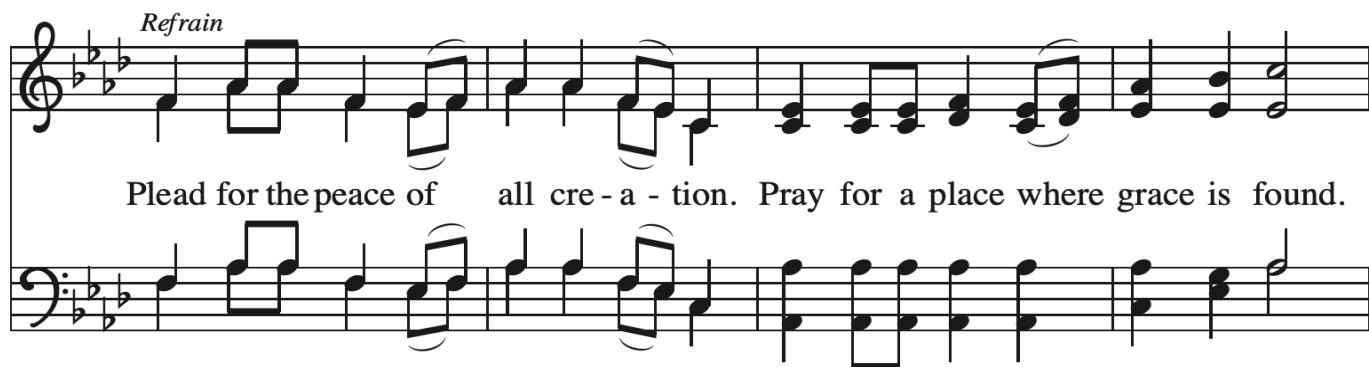


1 Com-mon-wealth is God's com-mand-ment; com-mon goods are meant to share.
2 Shar-ing lav-ish gifts and bless-ings, love that not one mite with-holds,
3 Gen-ders, rac-es, tribes, and na-tions, hear the Ho-ly One who calls,



Ta-bles set and doors wide o-pen wel-come an-gels un-a-ware.
stretch out arms to friends and strang-ers: God has sheep of man-y folds.
bid-ding all to work to-geth-er, bridg-ing lives and breach-ing walls.

Refrain



Plead for the peace of all cre-a-tion. Pray for a place where grace is found.



Shan-ti, pax, sha-lom, mas-la-ha: com-mon good is ho-ly ground.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
Music: RESTORATION, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835
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Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace



1 Lord of all na - tions, grant me grace to love all
 2 Break down the wall that would di - vide thy chil - dren,
 3 For - give me, Lord, where I have erred by love - less
 4 Give me thy cour - age, Lord, to speak when - ev - er
 5 With thine own love may I be filled and by thy



peo - ple, ev - 'ry race; and in each per - son may I
 Lord, on ev - 'ry side. My neigh - bor's good let me pur -
 act and thought - less word. Make me to see the wrong I
 strong op - press the weak. Should I my - self the vic - tim
 Ho - ly Spir - it willed, that all I touch, wher - e'er I



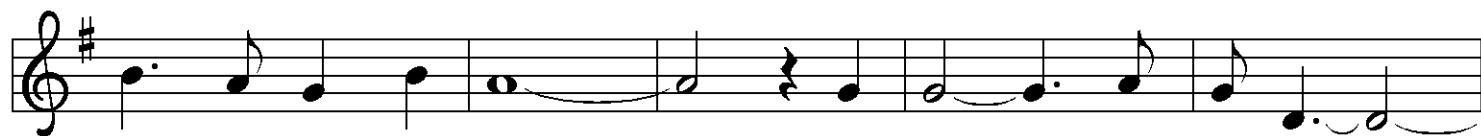
see my kin - dred, loved, re - deemed by thee.
 sue; let Chris - tian love bind warm and true.
 do will cru - ci - fy my Lord a - new.
 be, help me for - give, re - mem - b'ring thee.
 be, may be di - vine - ly touched by thee.

Text: Olive Wise Spannaus, b. 1916, alt.
 Music: BEATUS VIR, *Šamotulský Kancionál*, 1561
 Text © 1969 Concordia Publishing House.

One Bread, One Body



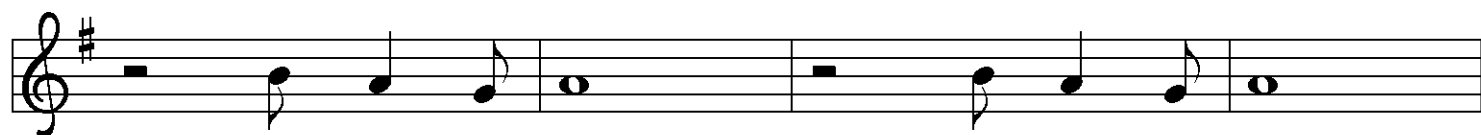
One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



- | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|-----|---------|--------------|-----|--------|
| 1 | Gen - tile | or | Jew, | ser - vant | or | free, |
| 2 | Man - y | the | gifts, | man - y | the | works, |
| 3 | Grain for | the | fields, | scat - tered | and | grown, |



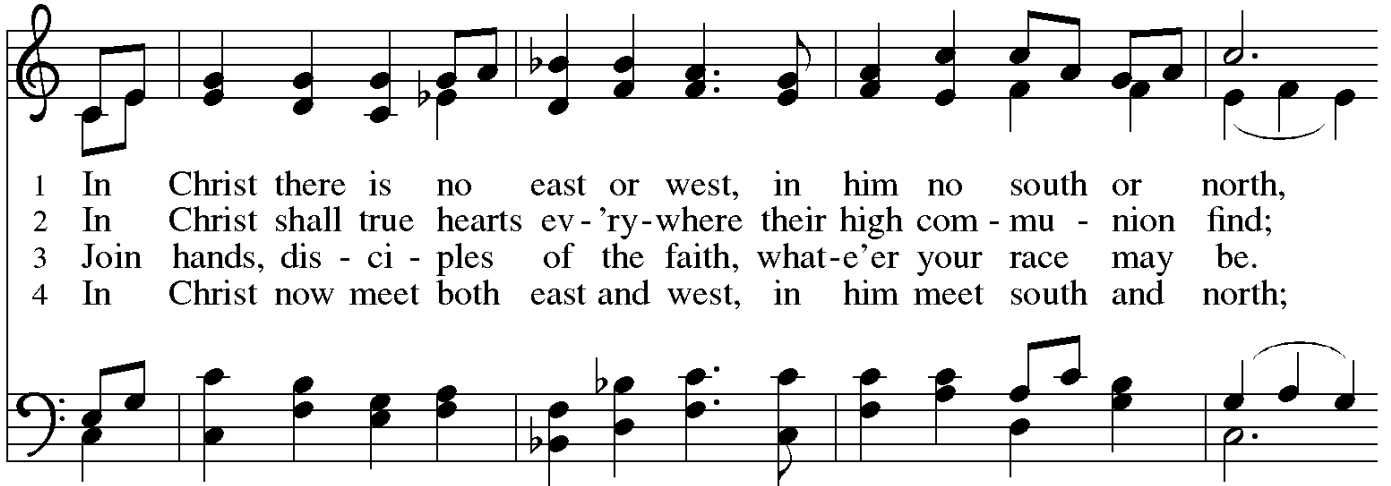
wom - an	or	man,	no	more.
one in	the	Lord	of	all.
gath - ered	to	one	for	all.

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

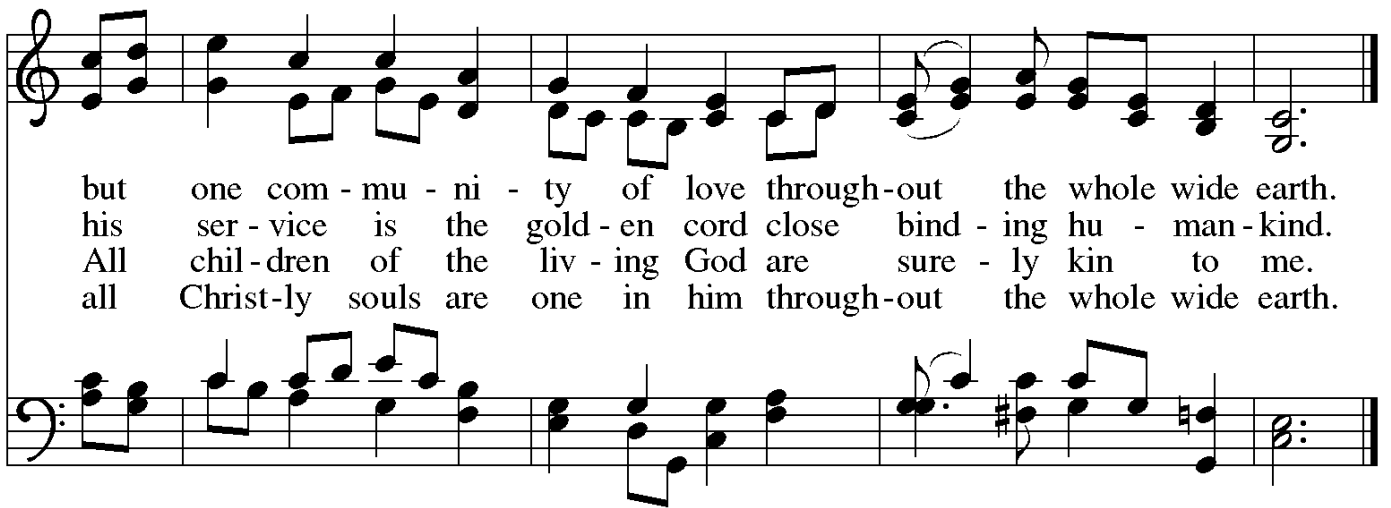
Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, SJ

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In Christ There Is No East or West



1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev-'ry-where their high com-mu-nion find;
3 Join hands, dis-ci-ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.
4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;



but one com-mu-ni-ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.
his ser-vice is the gold-en cord close bind-ing hu-man-kind.
All chil-dren of the liv-ing God are sure-ly kin to me.
all Christ-ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

Text: John Oxenham, 1852–1941, alt.

Music: MCKEE, African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866–1949

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.

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 to the **Glory of God!**

Matins Choir rehearsals will begin again today between services!

Upcoming

Next Sunday, August 27, we will bless backpacks and celebrate the vocations of teaching and learning!

- **Students (of any age!) and teachers** – bring your school backpacks and book bags to worship – either service. We will bless school bags and pray God’s blessings on the new academic year.

Outdoor Worship at Chickahominy Park. Given the fun we had at our start of summer picnic at Freedom Park we decided to do it again, this time with worship! We will have an outdoor worship service on **Sunday, September 3rd at 10:30 AM** in the shelter between the playground and pool at Chickahominy Park. We have invited OSLC to join us. 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.

God’s Work. Our Hands Sunday. This year “God’s Work. Our Hands.” Sunday is set for **September 10th**. For our project we will be **assembling Care Kits between services** in the Fellowship Hall. These Care Kits are intended for people experiencing homelessness and will include: **(all items should be travel sized) shampoo and conditioner, body wash, lotion, disposable razor and shaving cream, a comb, deodorant, tissues, hand sanitizer, wet wipes, toothpaste and a tooth brush, and a pair of socks.** If you would like to donate money to cover the cost of supplies you can send donations to the church office designated for “Care Kits”, or if you would like to donate the supplies themselves, there will be a box in the Gathering Space beginning in August.

Crockpot Ministries

Feed my sheep. . .(John21:16)

Please support the Crockpot Ministry as we continue to feed two homeless families every Thursday. Hopefully they will receive from us two recipes suitable for preparing in a crockpot each Thursday along with the ingredients to make dinner on Thursday and Friday. Since their refrigerator space is limited, perishables will be purchased with any monetary donations received for the project or please advise that they are in the refrigerator at St. Stephen. Below are the ingredients needed at the church by August 23 for next week. If you cannot help this week there will be one more opportunity.

Questions can be addressed to Jane Gingerich or Susan Neidlinger and thanks for helping.

Crockpot Chicken Pasta

4 cans of chicken	4 oz. cans chicken broth
2 16oz. boxes of penne pasta	4 8oz. slabs of cream cheese
2 pkgs. of ranch dressing mix	2 pkgs. of precooked bacon
1 bunch green onions	2 pkgs. of shredded cheddar cheese

Beefy Nacho Casserole

2 small onions	4 cloves of garlic
2 16 oz. chunky red salsa	2 8oz, jars taco sauce
2 cans beef broth	2 can black beans
2 medium bags of tortilla chips	2 pkgs. shredded Mexican blend cheese

St. Stephen Calendar – August 13 - August 20 , 2023

*Our worship service is available on our website www.saintstephenlutheran.net,
click on “Worship with Us” and “Services.”*

SUNDAY, August 20

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

9:45 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal - Come join us! (Worship Space)

11:00 AM **Worship – Holy Communion**

MONDAY August 21

10:00 AM Staff meeting (Pastor office)

TUESDAY, August 22

WEDNESDAY, August 23

7:00 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 PM Chancel Choir (Worship Space)

THURSDAY, August 24

12:00 PM Bulletin review (Library/Conference Room)

7:00 PM SMCC meeting (Library/Conference Room)

FRIDAY, August 25

SATURDAY, August 26

5:30 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

SUNDAY, August 27

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

9:45 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal - Come join us! (Worship Space)

11:00 AM **Worship – Holy Communion**

Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

Acolyte/Crucifer..... (8:30) Sandy Peterkin
..... (11:00) David Nelson
Altar Guild(8:30) Amy Bergh
..... (11:00) Nancy Egloff and Karen Arledge
Audio-Visual Team..... (8:30) Tobias Janke
Bread Baker.....Amy Bergh
Cantors (8:30) Karen Shoberg (11:00) Erika Cave
Communion Assistants (8:30) Tom & Sandy Peterkin
..... (11:00) Harvey Nelson and David Nelson
Flower Delivery
Greeters/Hosts (8:30) JR & Diana Lyons (11:00) George & Linda Vonderheide
Lectors..... (8:30) Chris Punchard (11:00) Rosemary Stimson
Tellers.....Jeanne Garrison, Linda Vonderheide, Joe Beene
Ushers..... (8:30) Reed and Karen Nester (11:00) Glen Joppa

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

612 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

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)

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

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

Hollie Jones – Parish Administrator (229-6688)

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

Holly Ready – Preschool Director (229-6688)

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

Doing Ministry in the World

Pastorjn@saintstephenlutheran.net

Pastorasw@saintstephenlutheran.net

MusicDir@saintstephenlutheran.net

Office@saintstephenlutheran.net

Parishnurse@saintstephenlutheran.net

Preschool@saintstephenlutheran.net

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

August 20, 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:

____ 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 outdoor service on Sept 3 # _____