



St. Stephen Lutheran Church

One of 11,000 Stephen Ministry Congregations Around the World

First Sunday of Christmas

January 01, 2023

Lessons and Carols

For Your Prayer - January 01, 2023 – January 8, 2023

Lectionary readings for this week:

Monday: Psalm 72;Genesis 12:1-7;Hebrews 11:1-12

Tuesday: Psalm 72;Genesis 28:10-22;Hebrews 11:13-22

Wednesday: Psalm 72;Exodus 3:1-5;Hebrews 11:23-31

Thursday: Psalm 72;Joshua 1:1-9;Hebrews 11:32—12:2

Friday:(Epiphany) Psalm 72:1-7,10-14;Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

Saturday: Psalm 72;1 Kings 10:1-13; Ephesians 3:14-21

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 42:1-9,Psalm 29;Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17

Join your prayers for healing with God's desires for **Ed Brown, Kristin Carter, Ginny Cummings, Karen Einarsen, Marj Gottschalk-Trone, Carol Harman; Sharon Jacobs, Marilyn Johnson ,Evelyn Kernan, Henry Mallue, Carole Meyer, Jeane Moore, Jim Mayfield, and Linda Reuben.**

Pray for those unable to come to worship: **Joyce Behlendorf, Martin Bleck, Birdie Burton, York Doerr, Bob and Angie Groom, Jack Harris, Edith Haecker, Pat Janot, Jeanne Nelson, Joanne Shue, Darlene Simon, Jerry Trone, and Kay Wasaff**

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: Gail & Bushmire family, Stephanie Altland, Philip A. Arnold, Jane Ayers, Gary Baumgarten, Rose Baumgarten, Susan Behrens, The Besser family, Toni Birch, Bill Blackburn & Sally Blackburn, John Butler, Lane Clark, Bob Cummings, Emmeline Daniels, Graham Darnell, Joyce Davito, Jeris and Tony DeKievit, Judy Drezek, Paul Dwiggin, Derald Edwards, Joan Fecondo, Gloria Flamm, Dan Flatin, Kay Flatin, Betty Frazee, Bob and Lois Friend, Andrea Gonzalez, Rex Harder, Andy Havola, Frank Hayes, Nicole Ingle, Crystal Isaac, Nate Jacklin, Sandy Kellogg, John Knestrick, Richard Kochanski, Rebecca Krueger, Monsignor Joseph Lehman ,Margaret Lewis, Jackie Locke, Isabelle Lutzle, Keith Margrey, Barry Marten, Micah Maris-Wolf, Doug Mayes, Patrick and Kristin McGraw, Judy Murphy, Jeremy Nelson, Lori Ott, Danielle Parrish, Phil Peters, Sue Plevelich, Pearl Retchin, Edith Roberts, Betty Roth, Shann Rufer, Paul Sampson, Inge Seiter, Cindy Sherwood, Patricia Simpson, Kelsey Slay, Mike Slyer, Brant Smith, Jerry and Evelyn Spear, Chad Strausbaugh , Kelly Theilen, Carolyn Williams, Travis Wilson, Kinnley, Teresa, and Robert Yazujian and the people of Ukraine

Fifth Lesson *Luke 2:8-16*
(*The shepherds go to the manger*)

Silence for reflection.

Hymn *’Twas in the Moon of Wintertime* Hymn 284

Sixth Lesson *Matthew 2:1-12*
(*The Wise Men are led to the manger*)

Silence for reflection.

Hymn *We Three Kings (stanzas 1 and 5)*

1 We three kings of Orient are;
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

Refrain

Oh, star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!

5 Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and Sacrifice;
heav’n sings alleluia:
alleluia the earth replies. *Refrain*

Seventh Lesson *John 1:1-14*
(*John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation*)

Silence for reflection.

Hymn *He Came Down* Hymn 253

Prayers

*Each petition concludes, “Lord in your mercy.” Response: “**Hear our prayer.**”*

Musical Offering *Yes! A Carol for Christmas* arrangement, Wayne Wold
Matins and Chancel Choirs

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:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us. Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people. Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.
Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.
Amen.



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 Music *Love Came Down at Christmas* arrangement, Jason W. Krug
Away in a Manger arrangement, Jason W. Krug
St. Stephen Handbell Quartet

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

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

Sending Hymn *Cold December Flies Away* Hymn 299

Blessing

**God bless you and keep you,
✠ Jesus grant you grace and truth,
and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,
now and forever.
Amen.**

Dismissal

**Christ the Savior is born!
Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.
Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Cold December Flies Away* arrangement, Jason W. Krug



Copyright Information

Yes a Carol for Christmas; Arrangement, Wayne Wold; © 2022 Augsburg Fortress

Love Came Down at Christmas; Arrangement, Jason W.Krug;

© 2013 Lorenz Publishing Company

Away in a Manger; Contributors, Jason W.Krug; © 2016 SoundForth, a division of The Lorenz Corporation (Admin. by Music Services)

The First Noel; Contributor, Jason W.Krug; © 2021 Agape, a div. of Hope Publishing Company

Cold December flies Away; Arrangement, Jason W.Krug; © 2021 Agape, a div. of Hope Publishing Company

One License Licensing Permission Reprinted/Streamed with permission under, One License #A721099

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.



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 is 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 York County, Williamsburg and James City County are high. The CDC and Virginia Department of Health have advised that everyone wear a mask in public, indoor settings.
- Masks are available in the Gathering Space for those who need them.

Health Update

While COVID rates remain "low" in our area we find ourselves in the midst of the worst flu season in over a decade. In order to try to keep ourselves and our neighbors healthy **we strongly encourage the wearing of masks in our building** at this time, especially for those who are more vulnerable to viral illnesses. 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 **Jane DeSolms** in memory of her aunt, Helen Weard.

Information & Upcoming

The Church Office will be closed through January 3. If you have emergency need for pastoral care please call **Pastor Nelson**.

St. Stephen Preschool Registration for the 2023-2024 year is now open to members of St. Stephen, who receive a *10 percent discount on tuition!* Please contact Preschool Administrator **Kristie Kelly** in the Preschool Office for more information.

VA Synod Assembly Voting Members Needed. The 2023 VA Synod Assembly will be held in Roanoke from June 9-11. On top of the typical business of the Synod, there will also be an election for a new Bishop. At our January meeting St. Stephen will elect two voting members to attend Synod Assembly and two alternates (we will be sending one who identifies as male, and one who identifies as female) on behalf of St. Stephen. **If you would like to be on the ballot at the January meeting for this position, please mark the White Sheet.** Expenses to attend the Assembly are covered by the church.

“Lutherans in America” The Rev. Dr. Harvey Nelson will be offering a five-week series on "Lutherans in America" between services (9:45-10:45 AM) in the Fellowship Hall. The first session, "Pietism and Orthodoxy" will be Sunday, January 15th and the series will continue weekly as we explore the chronological history of Lutheranism in our nation. A digital option for participation will be offered as well. If you are interested in the digital option please fill out the white sheet or call the Office.

Our annual congregation meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 22, 2023 at 12:30 PM.**

Have Fun and Support our St. Stephen Preschool during our annual Winter Carnival **Sunday, January 29, 2:00 – 4:00 PM.** Want to help with Winter BINGO, Ice Fishing, Winter Putt-Putt, Penguin Bowling, and more? Would you like to bake a festive cake or cookies! See the insert and mark the white sheet if you're able to help!

Health Ministry

A Safe and Healthy New Year

I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a Happy New Year.

A New Year's Prayer

As we head into the New Year, it remains important to be vigilant and stay safe. A few things you can do to plan ahead for events:

- Be extra careful days ahead of an event.
- Focus on hand washing and wearing masks in crowded indoor spaces.
- Make sure you are up to date on your vaccines.
- Always be respectful of others and enjoy a little space if they give that indication.

Also, be aware that after the holidays, suicide rates go up. If you know someone who has extreme mood swings, talks about being hopeless or is obsessed with death, reach out to them and let them know you are there for them. You can also call or text **988** and talk to a trained counselor.

My door is always open and my phone is always on. Reach out to me if you need someone to listen.

Diana Tiller-Dichtel
Parish Nurse

St. Stephen Calendar – January 1, 2023- January 8, 2023

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

SUNDAY, January 1 ~ *First Sunday of Christmas/Lessons & Carols*

10:00 AM **Worship – Holy Communion** (*livestreamed on our YouTube channel*)

8:00AM-8:00PM Alkothon (Fellowship Hall)

MONDAY, January 2

Office closed

TUESDAY, January 3

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

10:00 AM Bible Study (Library/Conference Room)

WEDNESDAY, January 4

7:00 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

THURSDAY, January 5

8:00 AM Men’s Breakfast (Colonial Pancake House)

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

FRIDAY, January 6

SATURDAY, January 7

5:30 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

SUNDAY, January 8 ~ *Baptism of Our Lord*

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

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

9:30 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)

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

10:00 AM Faith Formation (Undercroft/Preschool Room)

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

11:00 AM **Worship – Holy Communion**

Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

Acolyte/Crucifer..... (10:00)John McCurry
Altar Guild (10:00) Diane McCurry & Carol Wiers
Audio-Visual Team..... (10:00)
Bread Baker..... Paula Agor
Communion Assistants..... (10:00) John and Diane McCurry
Greeters/Hosts (10:00) Diane McCurry
Lectors in order:Diane McCurry, Jane deSolms, Randy Punchard,
..... Sandy Croushore, Hans Tiefel, and Christina Nelson
Tellers Jane Gingerich, Ursula Recktenwald, & Russ White
Ushers (10:00)

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

612 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

www.saintstephenlutheran.net

(757) 229-6688

We gather to worship and study God's Word to deepen our faith and live our Christian witness and service in the community.

(St. Stephen Lutheran Church Vision Statement)

All of Us, Called Through Our Baptisms

Pastor Jon Nelson (320-295-8861)

Karen Ives – Director of Music (229-6688)

Hollie Jones – Parish Administrator (229-6688)

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

Kristie Kelley – 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

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.*

January 1, 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*:

(please note all names will be removed at the end of the following month, if you wish for someone to be added back on to the prayer list please resubmit their names here)

Name: _____

Please **remove** from prayer concerns:

Name: _____

_____ I need a name tag

_____ I will volunteer with the winter carnival

_____ I will bake/bring a festive cake, or cookies for the Winter carnival

_____ I would like to receive the digital information for:
"Lutherans in America"

_____ I would like to be put on the Ballot as the voting member for the
2023 VA Synod Assembly