



# St. Stephen Lutheran Church

Love God, Love People, Form Faith.

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.

***20th Sunday after Pentecost***

***October 15, 2023***



## For Your Prayers October 16-22, 2023

### Lectionary readings for this week:

**Monday:** Exodus 19:7-20 Jude 17-25 Psalm 34

**Tuesday:** Amos 9:5-15 Philippians 3:13-4:1 Psalm 34

**Wednesday:** Song of Solomon 7:10-8:4 John 6:25-35 Psalm 34

**Thursday:** Deuteronomy 17:14-20 1 Peter 5:1-5 Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]

**Friday:** Deuteronomy 17:14-20 1 Peter 5:1-5 Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]

**Saturday:** Isaiah 14:3-11 Matthew 14:1-12 Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]

**Next Sunday:** Isaiah 45:1-7 Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13] (7) 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10  
Matthew 22:15-22

**Join your prayers for healing** with God's desires for **Aaren Battle, Brian Bergh, Ed Brown, Preston Burton, Kristin Carter, Marcie Clark, Jack Harris, Sharon Jacobs, Marilyn Johnson, Evelyn Kernan, Julia Mahony, Jim Mayfield, Randy Punchard and Linda Reuben.**

**Prayer Request** We hold the family and friends of **JoAnn Wilkins** in prayer as they mourn her death earlier this week.

**Prayer Request** We hold the family and friends of **David Shoberg** in prayer as they mourn his death earlier this week.

**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**

**Pray for these loved ones of our congregation:** Dawn Allen, Paula Battle, Donald and Carol Baum, Rose Baumgarten, Sally Blackburn, Mary Bloom, Ann Bunn Jerry & Elijah Connor, Judy Craun, Doug Crinklaw, Sophia Czajkowski, Judy Drezek, Derald Edwards, Joel Gillespie, Cheryl Griffin & family, Joan and Frank Goodhart, Catherine Harbison, Deanna Harbison, Bradley Kim Joan and Laurie Heintzelman, Char Henry, Zac and Jen Holtzman and family, Brian Johnson, Don Johnson, Mason Jones, Connie Kendrick, The Kennedy family, Bob Lamoureux, Ron Luchetti, Julia Mahony, Marnah Lund, Doug Mayes, Laura McGolin, Detra Michaels, Maddie Murray, Bob Myers, Gina Peterson, Paula Rega, Marci Ries, Sharon Rogers, Betty Roth, Inge Seiter, David Shoberg, Kelsey Slay, Vasili Soultoukis, Chad Strausbaugh, Charley Underdahl, JoAnn Wilkins and Caleb Winig

# *20th Sunday after Pentecost*

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

Welcome

### **Centering Music**

8:30 *Now We Join in Celebration*

Arr. Thomas Keesecker

11:00 *Around You, O Lord Jesus*

Arr. Thomas Keesecker

St. Stephen Choirs

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be God,

the one who forms us,

✠Jesus who bears the cross,

the Spirit who makes our joy complete. **Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Steadfast and faithful God,

**you have revealed the ways of justice,**

**yet we fail to follow you.**

**We are overwhelmed**

**by the world's violence and suffering.**

**We are afraid to risk what we have**

**for the sake of others.**

**For the harm we have caused,**

**known and unknown, forgive us.**

**For the unjust demands we place on others**

**and your creation, forgive us.**

**For the ways we turn away**

**from you and our neighbor, forgive us.**

**Lead us back to you**

**and set us on the right path;**

**in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior Amen**

Beloved in Christ,

God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.

God's compassion is beyond compare.

In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.

In ✠Christ, you are already and always forgiven. **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**

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Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**II. Word: *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song*****First Reading****Isaiah 25:1-9**

*After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death—which in ancient Canaan was depicted as a monster swallowing up everyone—will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.*

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, you are my God;

I will exalt you, I will praise your name;  
for you have done wonderful things,  
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

<sup>2</sup>For you have made the city a heap,  
the fortified city a ruin;  
the palace of aliens is a city no more,  
it will never be rebuilt.

<sup>3</sup>Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;  
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

<sup>4</sup>For you have been a refuge to the poor,  
a refuge to the needy in their distress,  
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,

<sup>5</sup>the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,  
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;  
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

<sup>6</sup>On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,  
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

<sup>7</sup>And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,  
the sheet that is spread over all nations;

<sup>8</sup>he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,

and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the LORD has spoken.

<sup>9</sup>It will be said on that day,  
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.  
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

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

**Psalm:**

**Psalm 23**



<sup>1</sup>The LORD<sup>1</sup> is my shepherd;  
I shall not<sup>1</sup> be in want.  
<sup>2</sup>**The LORD makes me lie down<sup>1</sup> in green pastures  
and leads me be-<sup>1</sup>side still waters.**  
<sup>3</sup>You restore my<sup>1</sup> soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways<sup>1</sup> for your name's sake.  
<sup>4</sup>**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall<sup>1</sup> fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they<sup>1</sup> comfort me. Refrain**  
<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence<sup>1</sup> of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is<sup>1</sup> running over.  
<sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days<sup>1</sup> of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the<sup>1</sup> LORD forever. Refrain**

**Second Reading**

**Philippians 4:1-9**

*Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.*

<sup>1</sup>My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

<sup>2</sup>I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. <sup>3</sup>Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup>Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup>Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

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

### Gospel Acclamation

The image shows three staves of musical notation for the Gospel Acclamation. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4. The lyrics below are "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,". The second staff continues with notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4. The lyrics are "al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." The third staff is a single line with notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4. The lyrics are "Repeat alleluia".

This is the Lord for whom | we have waited;\* let us be glad and rejoice in | God’s salvation. (Isa. 25:9)

### Gospel

### Matthew 22:1-14

*Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God’s kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: <sup>2</sup>“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. <sup>3</sup>He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. <sup>4</sup>Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ <sup>5</sup>But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, <sup>6</sup>while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. <sup>7</sup>The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. <sup>8</sup>Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. <sup>9</sup>Go therefore into the main

streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ <sup>10</sup>Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

<sup>11</sup>“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, <sup>12</sup>and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. <sup>13</sup>Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ <sup>14</sup>For many are called, but few are chosen.”

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

**Sermon**

“The Trouble with Allegory”

Pastor Jon O. Nelson

*Silence for reflection and prayer in response to the sermon.*

**Hymn of the Day**

*Let Us Go Now to the Banquet*

ELW 523

Bulletin page 12

**Statement of Faith**

You, O God, are supreme and holy.  
You create our world and give us life.  
Your purpose overarches everything we do.  
You have always been with us.  
You are God.

You, O God, are infinitely generous,  
good beyond all measure.  
You came to us before we came to you.  
You have revealed and proved your love for us in Jesus Christ,  
who lived and died and rose again.  
You are with us now.  
You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit.  
You empower us to be your Gospel in the world.  
You reconcile and heal;  
you overcome death.  
You are God.  
We worship you.

*From Oremus III, the worship book of the Lutheran Student Movement, USA (campus ministry).*

**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 *Around You, O Lord Jesus*

Arr. Thomas Keesecker

St. Stephen Choirs

11:00 *Praise and Thanksgiving*

Setting, Thomas Keesecker

#### Offertory Prayer

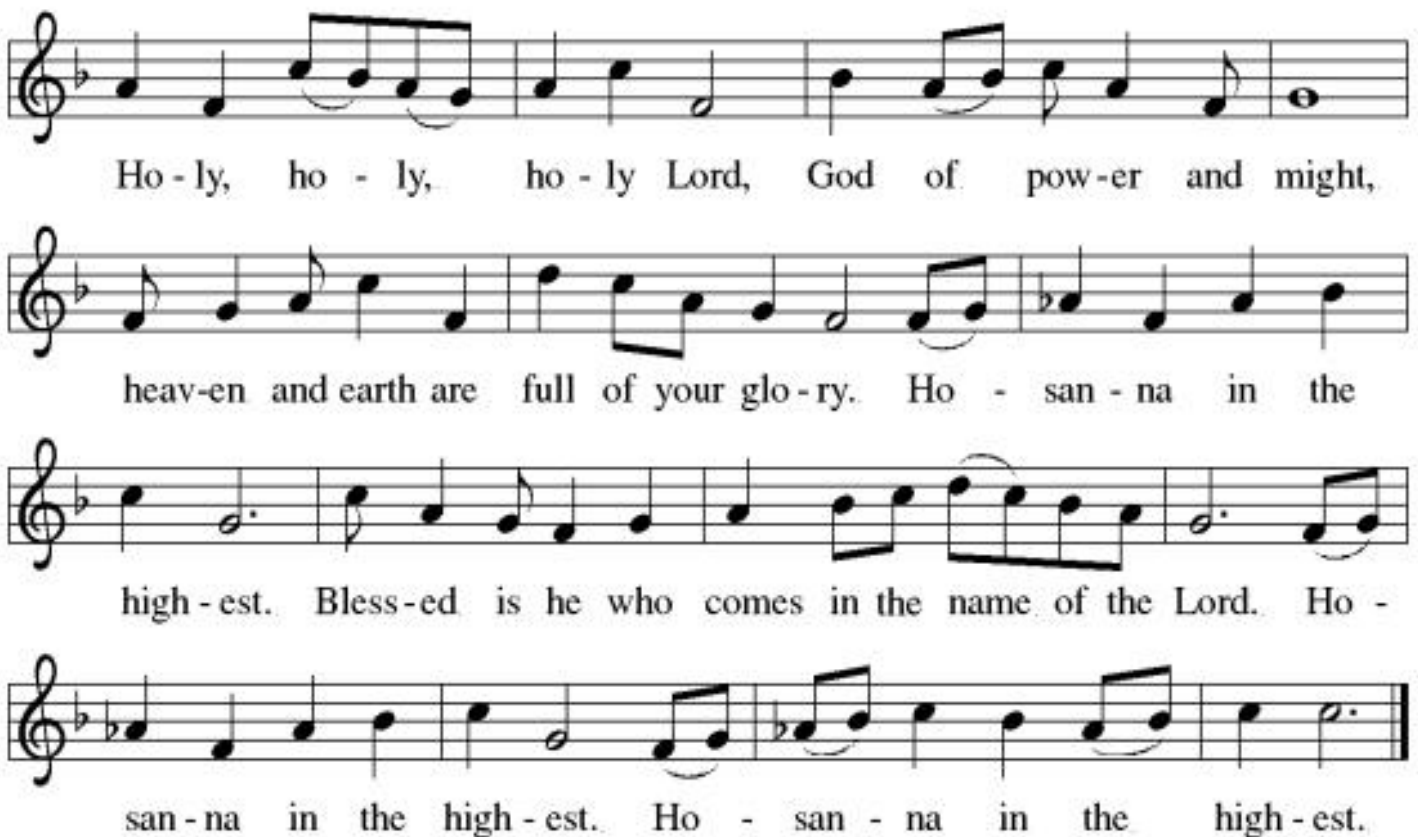
##### The Great Thanksgiving

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, God of pow - er and might,  
heav - en 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. 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.

**Communion Hymn:** *As We Gather at your Table*

*ELW 522*

Bulletin page13

**Communion Music:** 8:30 *They are Gone and In Babilone* Thomas Keesecker

**Table Blessing**

**Prayer after Communion**

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

**Sending Hymn**      *Thine the Amen*

ELW 826  
Bulletin page 14

### **Blessing**

**The God of glory,**

**✠ Jesus Christ, name above all names,**

**and the Spirit who lives in you,**

**bless you now and forever.**

**Amen.**

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. God is at work in you. **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude** 8:30 *Hymn to Joy*  
11:00 *Thine the Amen*

Thomas Keesecker  
Setting, Sherri Hansen

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*Praise and Thanksgiving/Morning Has Broken from The Quiet Harvest*  
Contributors: Cathy Moglebust  
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*THINE*  
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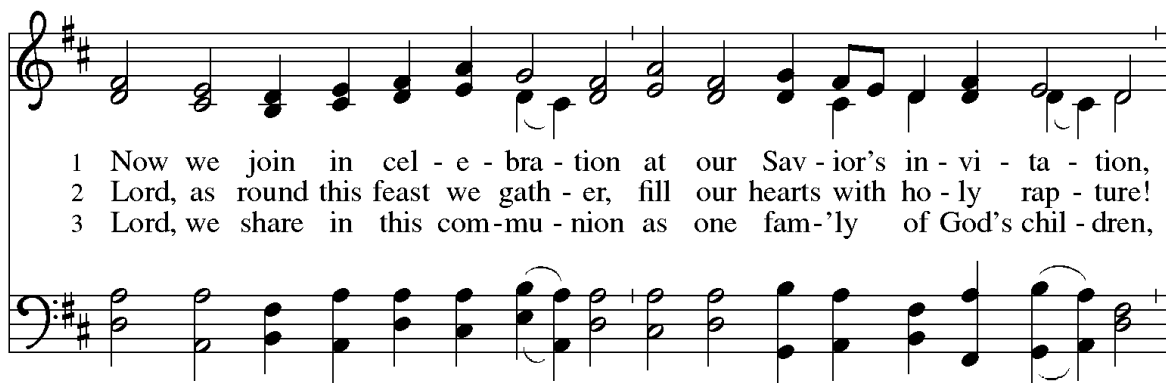
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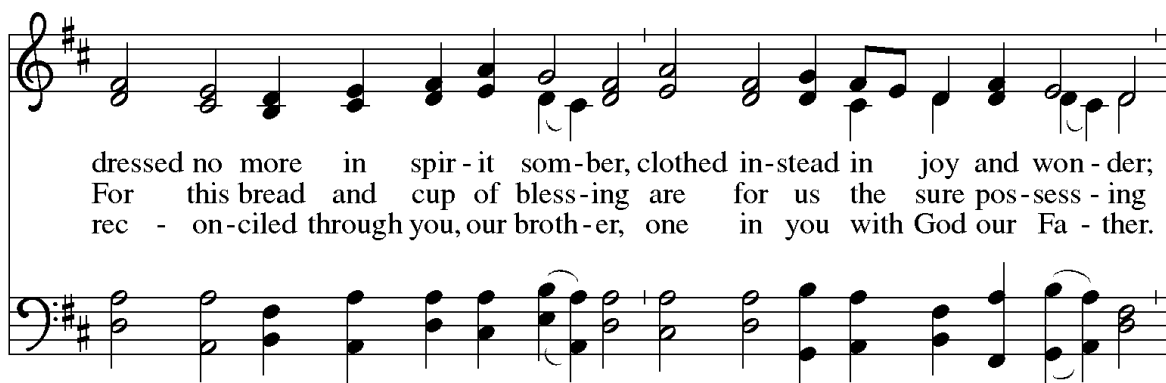
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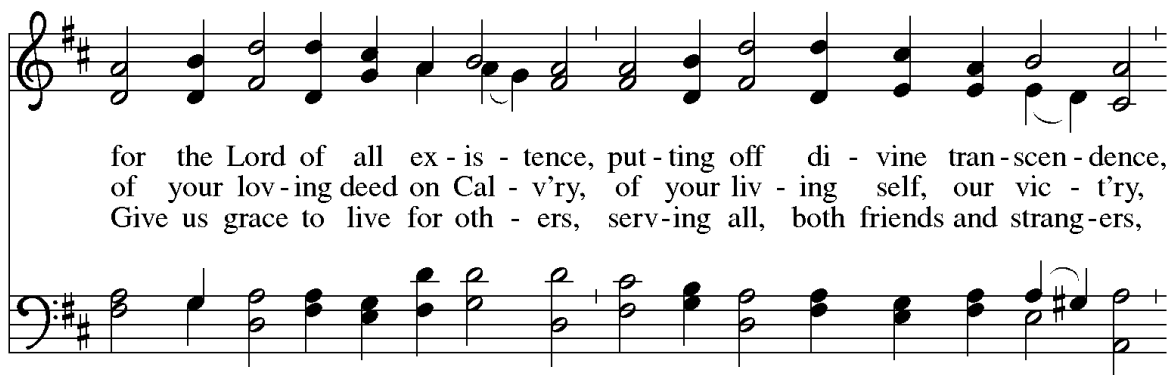
# Now We Join in Celebration



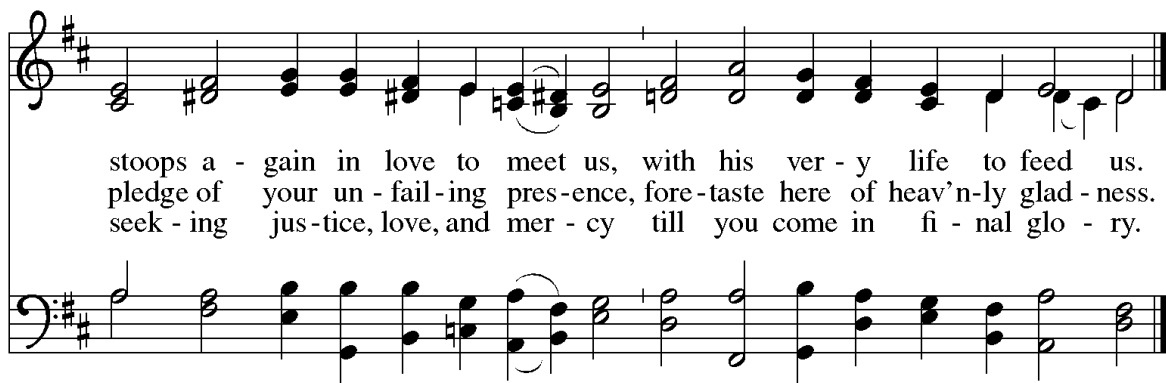
1 Now we join in cel - e - bra - tion at our Sav - ior's in - vi - ta - tion,  
2 Lord, as round this feast we gath - er, fill our hearts with ho - ly rap - ture!  
3 Lord, we share in this com - mu - nion as one fam - 'ly of God's chil - dren,



dressed no more in spir - it som - ber, clothed in - stead in joy and won - der;  
For this bread and cup of bless - ing are for us the sure pos - sess - ing  
rec - on - ciled through you, our broth - er, one in you with God our Fa - ther.



for the Lord of all ex - is - tence, put - ting off di - vine tran - scen - dence,  
of your lov - ing deed on Cal - v'ry, of your liv - ing self, our vic - t'ry,  
Give us grace to live for oth - ers, serv - ing all, both friends and strang - ers,



stoops a - gain in love to meet us, with his ver - y life to feed us.  
pledge of your un - fail - ing pres - ence, fore - taste here of heav' n - ly glad - ness.  
seek - ing jus - tice, love, and mer - cy till you come in fi - nal glo - ry.

Text: Joel W. Lundeen, 1918-1990  
Music: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662  
Text © Joel W. Lundeen, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

# Let Us Go Now to the Banquet

## *Vamos todos al banquete*

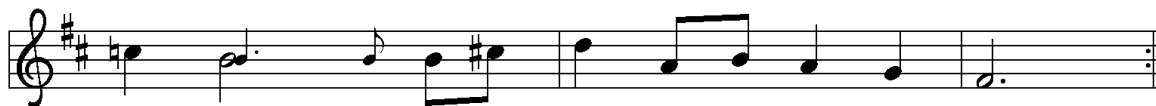
*Refrain / Estribillo*



Va - mos to - dos al ban - que - te, a la  
Let us go now to the ban - quet, to the



me - sa de la crea - ción; ca - da cual con su ta - bu -  
feast of the u - ni - verse. The ta - ble's set and a place is



re - te tie - ne un pues - to y u - na mi - sión.  
wait - ing; come, ev - 'ry - one, with your gifts to share.



1 Hoy me le - van - to muy tem - pra - no; ya me es -  
1 I will rise in the ear - ly morn - ing; the com -  
2 God in - vites all the poor and hun - gry to the  
3 May we build such a place a - mong us where all



pe - ra la co - mu - ni - dad; voy su - bien - do a - le - gre la  
mu - ni - ty's wait - ing for me. With a spring in my step I'm  
ban - quet of jus - tice and good where the har - vest will not be  
peo - ple are e - qual in love. God has called us to work to -

*Refrain / Estribillo*



cues - ta, voy en bus - ca de tu a - mis - tad.  
walk - ing with my friends and my fam - i - ly.  
hoard - ed so that no one will lack for food.  
geth - er and to share ev - 'ry - thing we have.

2 *Dios invita a todos los pobres a esta mesa común por la fe, donde no hay acaparadores y a nadie le falta el conqué. Estribillo*

3 *Dios nos manda a hacer de este mundo una mesa donde haya igualdad, trabajando y luchando juntos, compartiendo la propiedad. Estribillo*

# As We Gather at Your Table

1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,  
2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;  
3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.  
where tri - um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.

Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;  
There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,

teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.  
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.  
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932

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# Thine the Amen



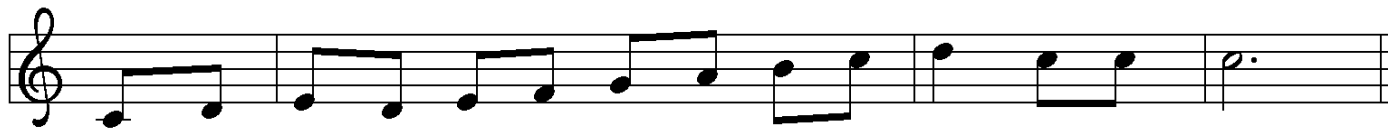
1 Thine the a - men thine the praise al - le - lu - ias an - gels raise  
2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly thine the prom - ise let there be  
3 Thine the tru - ly thine the yes thine the ta - ble we the guest  
4 Thine the king - dom thine the prize thine the won - der full sur - prise  
5 Thine the glo - ry in the night no more dy - ing on - ly light



thine the ev - er - last - ing head thine the break - ing of the bread  
thine the vi - sion thine the tree all the earth on bend - ed knee  
thine the mer - cy all from thee thine the glo - ry yet to be  
thine the ban - quet then the praise then the jus - tice of thy ways  
thine the riv - er thine the tree then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly



thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry thine the har - vest then the cup  
gone the nail - ing gone the rail - ing gone the plead - ing gone the cry  
then the ring - ing and the sing - ing then the end of all the war  
thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry then the wel - come to the least  
then the ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee



thine the vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.  
gone the sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.  
thine the liv - ing thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.  
then the won - der all in - creas - ing at thy feast at thy feast.  
thine the splen - dor thine the bright - ness on - ly thee on - ly thee.

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926

Music: THINE, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929

Text and music © 1983 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## 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.

## Items of Note

**Flower Sponsors!** We certainly enjoy flowers in our Worship Space that are dedicated to the Glory of God. There are four weeks remaining that need sponsors: November 12th, November 19<sup>th</sup>, December 3, or December 31st. Please sign the Flower Sheet in the Gathering Space if you wish to sponsor any of these dates.

**Do you enjoy coffee, tea and fellowship on Sunday mornings?** Please consider donating to the coffee and tea fund, simply place a dollar or so in the cup on top of the Keurig this will help us stay within budget! You can also donate by scanning the QR code its fun and easy!



**Support our St. Stephen Preschool**

Is your *Harris Teeter* card linked to St. Stephen Preschool for its "*Together in Education*" program? Our number is **1216**.

See **Holly Ready** if you have any questions!

## What's Happening Today

**Flowers this morning** are given by Jim Weilmuenster in memory of Linda Laity Hite.

**Education: Thomas Keesecker Concert.** Join us between services today **Sunday, October 15th** for a concert by Thomas Keesecker. Thomas retired in 2019 after serving as a church musician for over 40 years in Lutheran and Roman Catholic parishes in Virginia, Montana, and Maryland. In his retirement he travels the country sharing his piano collections in informal recitals which incorporate hymn singing, readings, and poetry.

### Upcoming

**Communal Life: Kidsburg & Kickball.** We have reserved the shelter closest to the playground at Veterans Park (on Ironbound) for **3:00 PM on Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>**. Snacks and drinks will be provided. The playground will be nearby and we will play some all-ages kickball too!

**Education: Explore Spiritual Practices.** Starting **October 22<sup>nd</sup>**, Christina Nelson will lead an exploration of various spiritual practices **for four weeks between services**. Come to learn more about how to develop and/or deepen your faith practices. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall with a Zoom option as well.

**Communal Life: LSA Sunday Dinners.** Want to get to know our LSA members? Host a meal for them! Sign up to host a Sunday evening meal for LSA on the chart in the Gathering Space. If you haven't hosted before, instructions are available.

**FISH Volunteer Opportunity** November is the month we volunteer at FISH. Once again, they have asked us to size clothing. The dates are Tuesdays, Nov. 7, 14, & 28, from 10AM to 12PM. We need four persons each day. Please sign up on the poster in the Gathering Space or phone, text, or email **Virginia Ivey at 757-608-8989 or vbi104@hotmail.com**.

**For all the Saints...** All Saints' Sunday is **November 5**. During worship we will name loved ones who have died during the past year. Please write the names of those you wish to remember on the sheet in the Gathering Space, mark the Insert Sheet, or send names to **Hollie Jones** ([office@saintstephenlutheran.net](mailto:office@saintstephenlutheran.net)).





**Photo Directory Online Scheduling Available!** Monday **Dec 11<sup>th</sup>** and Tuesday **December 12<sup>th</sup>**. To schedule your photography appointment online, simply go to **www.ucdir.com**, click on photography appointment scheduling login on the right side, enter **VA234** in the Church Code field and enter **photos** in the Church Password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 6 or more in your family please use 2 consecutive time slots. Everyone who is photographed will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a directory! Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time. If you have any questions please contact Hollie Jones in the office. You can also scan the QR code below and follow the instructions above.

**Community Life: Afternoon Fall Social (Come one, come all--drivers are available!)**

Reconnect with old friends and make new friends at St. Stephen's Afternoon Fall Social! Come and enjoy an hour of fellowship, with seating at tables in the Fellowship Hall, on Wednesday, November 15, 1:00-2:00 p.m. Finger foods and light refreshments are being provided.

We especially want this social to be welcoming to those of you who may need assistance with transportation; we already have a growing crew of drivers ready to be at your service!

In this fall season of giving thanks, we are grateful for you and look forward to this time together. Sign up on the insert or contact the church office to indicate your interest in attending, as well as whether you need a ride or can provide a ride to others.

**Support our St. Stephen Preschool Scholarship fund at our PJs & Pancakes**

**Supper Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> from 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM.** Tickets are \$10.00 per person (children 2 and under are free) for fellowship and pancakes. Our Preschoolers invite you to join in their fun as they wear their PJs to have dinner! Can you help in the kitchen or with ticket sales? Please mark the insert if you are able to attend and if you are able to help.

## St. Stephen Calendar –October 8-15 , 2023

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

### SUNDAY, October 15

- 8:30 AM**    **Worship – Holy Communion (live-streamed on our YouTube channel)**
- 9:45 AM    Affirmation Of Baptism (Library/Conference Room)
- 9:45 AM    **Thomas Keesecker Concert** (Worship Space)
- 10:00 AM   Faith Formation (Preschool Room)
- 11:00 AM**   **Worship – Holy Communion**

### MONDAY, October 16

- 10:00 AM   Staff Meeting (Pastor Jon’s Office)
- 1:30 PM    Bible Study (Library/Conference Room)
- 2:30 PM    Stephen Ministries (Library Conference room)

### TUESDAY, October 17

- 11:30 AM**   **Preschool Chapel (Worship Space)**

### WEDNESDAY, October 18

- 11:30 AM**   **Preschool Chapel (Worship Space)**
- 7:00 PM    AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:00 PM    Chancel Choir (Worship Space)

### THURSDAY, October 19

- 10:00 AM   CMU meeting(Fellowship Hall)
- 12:00 PM   Bulletin review (Library/Conference Room)
- 5:30 PM    St. Stephen Ringers Rehearsal (Worship Space)

### FRIDAY, October 20

- 12:30 PM   Mulch Party (preschool playground)

### SATURDAY, October 21

- 5:30 PM    AA Meeting (Library/Conference room)

### SUNDAY, October 22

- 8:30 AM**    **Worship – Holy Communion (live-streamed on our YouTube channel)**
- 9:45 AM    Affirmation Of Baptism (Library/Conference Room)
- 9:45 AM    Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)
- 9:45 AM    Explore Spiritual Practices( Fellowship Hall)
- 10:00 AM   Faith Formation (Worship Space/Preschool Room)
- 11:00 AM**   **Worship – Holy Communion**
- 3:00 PM    Kidsburg & Kickball (Veterans Park)

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

### **COMMUNITY OF FAITH MISSION HOMELESS EMERGENCY SHELTER**

It is season 12 of this ministry and St. Stephen has been able to serve from the very beginning due to everyone's generous support.

This year Host Partners have covered food and volunteers for all but three weeks. With the help of local hotels, COFM is providing shelter for those three weeks. They need meals and volunteer support staff for those three weeks. One of those is the week after Christmas. Temple Beth El is covering Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Because of your generous donations to our Homeless Ministry Fund, the Social Ministry Coordinating Committee has agreed to provide Dinner and bag lunches to the Homeless Guests at the Shelter on **December 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>**. The hotel will provide breakfast.

For each of those evenings, nights, and early mornings, we need a grand total of eight volunteers in multiple shifts outlined in the schedule in the gathering space. Sign up there, or you can contact Hollie Jones at the church office if you are able to volunteer for any date(s) and shift(s), [Office@saintstephenlutheran.net](mailto:Office@saintstephenlutheran.net).

We need to have a good estimate of those able to volunteer no later than Sunday, October 29, 2023, since the COFM In-Person Volunteer Training is Wednesday, November 1, 2023 as noted from COFM as follows:

*"...Volunteer Training: **Wednesday, November 1, 6:30 p.m. - 8:00**, Williamsburg Community Chapel, Teen Room/Traditional shelter area (NORTH entrance). Anyone who volunteers at the shelter is required to attend training"*

Please note that if you cannot attend training or if you sign up late, you can watch recorded training on the COFM website (not YouTube). Also, if you decide to volunteer very late you can volunteer on "Sign-Up Genius" on that COFM website ([www.cofm.info](http://www.cofm.info)).

In 2022 there were 419 homeless persons on any given night per Newport News, /Virginia Peninsula Chamber of Commerce. To quote COFM, "...our commitment to serving the homeless community remains unwavering..." Sign up if you can and please say a prayer for this special, giving homeless ministry.

Love and peace,  
Jim Ivey, Social Ministry Coordinating Committee

## Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

Acolyte/Crucifer..... (8:30) Bill Dichtel  
..... (11:00) Alina Dabel  
Altar Guild .....(8:30) Rosalie Frey  
..... (11:00) Linda Vonderheide and Ingrid Brown  
Audio-Visual Team..... (8:30) JR & Diana Lyons (11:00) Doug Moore  
Bread Baker..... Karen Schlicht  
Cantor ..... Terri Larsen  
Communion Assistants ..... (8:30) Paula Agor and Rosalie Frey  
.....(11:00) Jennifer Dabel and Alina Dabel  
Flower Delivery .....Nelia Lamoureux  
Greeters/Hosts ..... (8:30) Bob & Carol Harman (11:00) Linda & George Vonderheide  
Lectors..... (8:30) Ursula Recktenwald (11:00) Hans Tiefel  
Preacher.....Jon O Nelson  
Presider .....Jon O Nelson  
Tellers..... Jeanne Garrison, Linda Vonderheide, Joe Beene  
Ushers..... (8:30) Reed & Karen Nester (11:00) Glenn 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.***

***October 15, 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:

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Please **remove** from prayer concerns:

Name:

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

Please add the following name/names to “ *For All the Saints...* ”

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I/WE Would like to attend the Afternoon Fall Social, Wed., Nov. 15, 1:00-2:00pm. \_\_\_\_\_ How many?

\_\_\_\_\_ Would appreciate a ride to the social and back home. \_\_\_\_\_ Ride needed for how many?\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Will be happy to be a driver for social attendee(s).

\_\_\_\_\_ I/We will Attend the Pancake Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> Dinner \_\_\_\_\_# of attendees

\_\_\_\_\_ I/We will volunteer to help at the Pancake Dinner

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