



# 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.

***21st Sunday after Pentecost***

***October 22, 2023***



## **For Your Prayers October 23-29, 2023**

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

***Monday:*** Daniel 3:1-18 Revelation 18:1-10, Psalm 98

***Tuesday:*** Daniel 3:19-30 Revelation 18:21-24 Psalm 98

***Wednesday:*** Daniel 6:1-28 Matthew 17:22-27 Psalm 98

***Thursday:*** Numbers 5:5-10 Titus 1:5-16 Psalm 1

***Friday:*** Deuteronomy 9:25– 10:5 Titus 2:7-8, 11-15 Psalm 1

***Saturday:*** Proverbs 24:23-34 John 5:39-47 Psalm 1

***Next Sunday:*** Jeremiah 26:(1-6) 7-16 Psalm 11 (1) 1 John 4:1-6 John 14:21-27

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

***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, 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, Marnah Lund, Doug Mayes, Laura McGolin, Maddie Murray, Bob Myers, Katie Orcutt, Paula Rega, Marci Ries, Sharon Rogers, Betty Roth, Inge Seiter, Kelsey Slay, Vasili Soultoukis, Chad Strausbaugh, Charley Underdahl, and Caleb Winig

# *21st Sunday after Pentecost*

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

**Welcome**

**Centering Music** *Rock of Ages*

Setting, Donald Busarow

**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.**

**Gathering Hymn** *God Is Here*

ELW 526

Bulletin page 11

## 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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Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## II. Word: *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song*

### First Reading

**Isaiah 45:1-7**

*The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the LORD has anointed to end Israel's exile. The LORD makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this LORD as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the LORD claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.*

<sup>1</sup>Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,

whose right hand I have grasped  
to subdue nations before him  
and strip kings of their robes,  
to open doors before him—  
and the gates shall not be closed:

<sup>2</sup>I will go before you

and level the mountains,  
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze  
and cut through the bars of iron,

<sup>3</sup>I will give you the treasures of darkness  
and riches hidden in secret places,  
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,  
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

<sup>4</sup>For the sake of my servant Jacob,  
and Israel my chosen,

I call you by your name,  
I surname you, though you do not know me.

<sup>5</sup>I am the LORD, and there is no other;  
besides me there is no god.

I arm you, though you do not know me,  
<sup>6</sup>so that they may know, from the rising of the sun  
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;  
I am the LORD, and there is no other.

<sup>7</sup>I form light and create darkness,  
I make weal and create woe;  
I the LORD do all these things.

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



<sup>1</sup>Sing to the LORD<sup>1</sup> a new song;  
sing to the LORD,<sup>1</sup> all the earth.

<sup>2</sup>Sing to the LORD, bless the name<sup>1</sup> of the LORD;  
proclaim God's salvation from<sup>1</sup> day to day.

<sup>3</sup>**Declare God's glory a-<sup>1</sup>mong the nations  
and God's wonders a-<sup>1</sup>mong all peoples.**

<sup>4</sup>**For great is the LORD and greatly<sup>1</sup> to be praised,  
more to be feared<sup>1</sup> than all gods. *Refrain***

<sup>5</sup>As for all the gods of the nations, they<sup>1</sup> are but idols;  
but you, O LORD, have<sup>1</sup> made the heavens.

<sup>6</sup>Majesty and magnificence are<sup>1</sup> in your presence;  
power and splendor are in your<sup>1</sup> sanctuary.

<sup>7</sup>**Ascribe to the LORD, you families<sup>1</sup> of the peoples,  
ascribe to the LORD hon-<sup>1</sup>or and power.**

<sup>8</sup>**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the<sup>1</sup> holy name;  
bring offerings and enter the courts<sup>1</sup> of the LORD. *Refrain***

<sup>9</sup>Worship the LORD in the beau-<sup>1</sup>ty of holiness;  
tremble before the LORD,<sup>1</sup> all the earth.

<sup>10</sup>Tell it out among the nations: "The<sup>1</sup> LORD is king!

The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the  
peo-<sup>1</sup>ples with equity."

<sup>11</sup>**Let the heavens rejoice, and let the<sup>1</sup> earth be glad;**

**let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that<sup>1</sup> is  
therein.**

<sup>12</sup>**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your com-<sup>1</sup>ing, O LORD,  
for you come to<sup>1</sup> judge the earth.**

<sup>13</sup>You will judge the<sup>1</sup> world with righteousness  
and the peoples<sup>1</sup> with your truth. *Refrain*

## **Second Reading**

## **1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

*Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.*

<sup>1</sup>Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:  
Grace to you and peace.

<sup>2</sup>We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly <sup>3</sup>remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, <sup>5</sup>because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup>And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup>so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. <sup>8</sup>For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. <sup>9</sup>For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, <sup>10</sup>and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

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

### Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*

Shine like stars | in the world,\* holding fast to the | word of life. (Phil. 2:15, 16)

### Gospel

**Matthew 22:15-22**

*After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God’s people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.*

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

<sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. <sup>16</sup>So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. <sup>17</sup>Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” <sup>18</sup>But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? <sup>19</sup>Show me the coin used

for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. <sup>20</sup>Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” <sup>21</sup>They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” <sup>22</sup>When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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

**Sermon**

*God Things*

Pastor Alex Sheppard-Witt

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

**Hymn of the Day**

*O God of Every Nation*

ELW 713

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 *Take This Moment*  
Matins Choir

Arr. John L. Bell

11:00 *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* Setting, Richard Hillert  
Chancel Choir, Violin – Ingrid Brown

## 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:** *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*

ELW 623  
Bulletin page 13

**Table Blessing**

**Prayer after Communion**

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

**Sending Hymn** *God of Grace and God of Glory*

ELW 705  
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**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** *God of Grace and God of Glory*

Setting, Walter Pelz

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*Rock of Ages*  
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*God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*  
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© Published by Agape (Catalog # HSA105, UPC: 763628146306)

*God of Grace and God of Glory*  
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# God Is Here!



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer  
2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long  
3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's  
4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of



praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure  
need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;  
flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,  
change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the  
here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -  
Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants  
help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts  
ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,  
of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore  
ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.  
here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.  
what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.  
we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

# O God of Every Nation



1 O God of ev - 'ry na - tion, of ev - 'ry race and land,  
 2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,  
 3 Lord, strength-en all who la - bor that all may find re - lease  
 4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,



re - deem your whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand;  
 from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc-tion through the night,  
 from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;  
 when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,



where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,  
 from pride of race and sta - tion and blind-ness to your way,  
 when hope and cour-age fal - ter, Lord, let your voice be heard;  
 till dawns the morn-ing glo - rious when truth and love shall reign,



in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.  
 de - liv - er ev - 'ry na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.  
 with faith that none can al - ter, your ser - vants un - der - gird.  
 and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.



Text: William W. Reid Jr., b. 1923

Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.

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# Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;  
2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;  
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling.  
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,

let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,  
could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,  
Na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less, look to thee for grace;  
when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,

be of sin the dou - ble cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.  
all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.  
foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.  
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–1778  
Music: TOPLADY, Thomas Hastings, 1784–1872

# God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple  
 2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -  
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to  
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;  
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us  
 your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,  
 we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
 free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.  
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

## 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 two weeks remaining that need sponsors: November 19<sup>th</sup>, and December 31<sup>st</sup>. Please sign the Flower Sheet in the Gathering Space if you wish to sponsor any of these dates.

### **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 Shoenfelt Family to the glory of god.

**Education: Explore Spiritual Practices.** Starting today October 22nd, 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: 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!

## **Upcoming**

**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)).

**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.





**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 22-29 , 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 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)

### MONDAY, October 23

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

### TUESDAY, October 24

- 11:30 AM**   **Preschool Chapel (Worship Space)**
- 7:00 PM    Preschool Committee meeting ( Library/Conference Room)

### WEDNESDAY, October 25

- 11:30 AM**   **Preschool Chapel (Worship Space)**
- 6:15 PM    OrchaBand Rehearsal (Worship Space)
- 7:00 PM    AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:00 PM    Chancel Choir (Worship Space)

### THURSDAY, October 26

- 12:00 PM   Bulletin review (Library/Conference Room)
- 5:30 PM    OrchaBand Rehearsal (Worship Space)

### FRIDAY, October 27

### SATURDAY, October 28

- 11:30 AM   OrchaBand Rehearsal (Worship Space)
- 5:30 PM    AA Meeting (Library/Conference room)

### SUNDAY, October 29

- 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 (Preschool Room)
- 11:00 AM**   **Worship – Holy Communion**

## **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.

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) Stan York  
.....(11:00) Alina Dabel  
Altar Guild..... (8:30) Rita Kristiansen and Amy Bergh  
.....(11:00) Heidi Flatin  
Audio-Visual Team ..... (8:30) Beth Grant (11:00) Tobias Janke  
Bread Baker..... Pat Fretz  
Cantors ..... (8:30) Ina Berkey (11:00) Marj Gottschalk-Trone  
Communion Assistants ..... (8:30) Bill Dichtel and Diana Tiller-Dichtel  
.....(11:00) Margaret Krull Steel and Marj Gottschalk-Trone  
Flower Delivery.....Rosemary Stimson  
Greeters/Hosts ..... (8:30) Diana Tiller-Dichtel (11:00) Alison Carney  
Lectors.....(8:30) George Martin (11:00) Jeanne Garrison  
Preacher..... Pastor Alex Sheppard Witt  
Presider ..... Pastor Jon O Nelson  
Tellers..... John McCurry, Carol Harman, Sandy Croushore  
Ushers..... (8:30) Brian Agor & Bob Harman (11:00) Art Nelson

### ***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 22, 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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