

# **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.

# All Saints' Sunday November 5, 2023

**Lectionary readings for this week:** 

Monday: Jeremiah 5:18-31 1 Thessalonians 2:13-20 Psalm 5
Tuesday: Lamentations 2:13-17 Acts 13:1-12 Psalm 5
Wednesday: Proverbs 16:21-33 Matthew 15:1-9 Psalm 5
Thursday: Amos 1:1–2:5 Revelation 8:6–9:12 Psalm 70
Friday: Amos 3:1-12 Revelation 9:13-21 Psalm 70
Saturday: Amos 4:6-13 Matthew 24:1-14 Psalm 70
Next Sunday's Readings: Amos 5:18-24; Psalm 70 (5); 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18;
Matthew 25:1-13

*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, and Linda Reuben.

<u>Pray for those unable to come to worship</u>: 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, Katie Czajkowski, 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, Marnah Lund, Laura Margolin, Doug Mayes, Maddie Murray, Bob Myers, Katie Orcutt, Gina Peterson, Paula Rega, Marci Ries, Sharon Rogers, Betty Roth, Inge Seiter, Kelsey Slay, Vasili Soultoukis, Chad Strausbaugh, Charley Underdahl, and Caleb Winig.

# November 5, 2023 ~ All Saints' Sunday

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

#### Welcome

**Centering Music** 

Shall We Gather at the River St. Stephen Ringers arr. Jason W. Krug

All Saints' Liturgy

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray:

God of the ages, we give you thanks for the saints of all times who passed down the stories of Jesus, whose example nurtures us in faith, whose model encourages us to follow as disciples. Give us the ability to follow their example, to cultivate their expectant hope, and to live so that others will see your love reflected in what we say and do.

God of all time, we praise you for all your servants who have done justice, loved mercy, and walked humbly with their God. For all those who have faithfully served you, witnessed bravely, and died in the faith, who are still shining lights in the world, we praise you, O God.

You are the God of Abraham and Sarah, of Moses and Miriam.

You are the God of Joshua and Deborah, of Ruth and David.

You are the God of the Old Testament priests and prophets, of the New Testament apostles and martyrs.

You are the God of our mothers and fathers, the God of our children, the God of all people through all the generations.

We give you thanks for those who have died during the past year, who, by their faithful obedience and steadfast hope have shown the same mind that was in Christ Jesus:

#### (The names are read)

Into your hands we commend them, O merciful Savior, sheep of your own fold, lambs of your own flock, sinners of your own redeeming.

# Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them. Amen.

For All The Saints

Hymn 422 Bulletin page 10& 11

#### **Prayer of the Day**

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

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

First Reading: Daniel

#### Revelation 7:9-17

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches in western Asia Minor during a time of great oppression. Today's reading is a response to the question asked in 6:17: "Who is able to stand?" The writer gives the faithful the assurance of God's protection and a vision of victory.

<sup>9</sup>After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup>They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" <sup>11</sup>And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup>singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom

and thanksgiving and honor

and power and might

be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

<sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" <sup>14</sup>I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

<sup>15</sup>For this reason they are before the throne of God,

and worship him day and night within his temple,

and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

<sup>16</sup>They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;

the sun will not strike them,

nor any scorching heat;

<sup>17</sup>for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,

and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,

and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

Psalm 34:1-10, 22



#### Second Reading

#### 1 John 3:1-3

A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God's purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.

<sup>1</sup>See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

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



They are before the <sup>|</sup> throne of God,\* and the one who is seated on the **Choir:** throne will | shelter them. (rev.7:15)

#### Gospel

**Matthew 5:1-12** 

In the Beatitudes, Jesus provides a unique description of those who are blessed with God's favor. His teaching is surprising and shocking to those who seek wealth, fame, and control over others. Response after announcement of the Gospel: "Glory to you, O Lord."

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup>"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

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

Anthem	Shine Like the Sun Ingrid Brown, Violin	Arr. Karen E Black
Sermon	Blessed Saints Silence for reflection and prayer.	Pastor Jon Nelson
Hymn of the Day	Give Thanks for Saints	ELW 42

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** Death Be Never Last

Ray Makeever and David Sims

#### **Offertory Prayer**



**Great Thanksgiving** 

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way.

... For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen. **Amen.** 

Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen. **Amen.** 

Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty father, now and forever. **Amen.** 

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Prayer after Communion** 

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, please stand 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	Solemn Procession St. Stephen Ringers	Michael Burkhardt
	<i>Jerusalem, My Happy Home</i> St. Stephen Ringers	Anne Krentz Organ
Table Blessing		

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

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Blessing May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always. Amen.

#### Dismissal

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 

Postlude

When the Saints Go Marching In Euphonium Theo Bergh Arr. T. Curd

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## For All the Saints





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# Give Thanks for Saints



Text: Martin E. Leckebusch, b. 1962 Music: REPTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918 Text © 2003 Kevin Mayhew Ltd. Used by permission.

# Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In



Text: African American spiritual Music: WHEN THE SAINTS, African American spiritual; arr. hymnal version Arr. © 2020 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.

**<u>Health Update</u>**: 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.

<u>Flowers this morning</u> are given to the Glory of God by **Susan Kauffman** in Memory of her parents **Carl** and **Helen Herzog.** 

**Education: Explore Spiritual Practices.** Christina Nelson will lead an exploration of various spiritual practices **for 2 more 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.

## **Upcoming**

<u>Preschool Spirit Night</u>! Mark your calendars for this **Tuesday, November 14,** for Preschool Spirit Night! Our event will be at **Sal's by Victor on Richmond Road from 5:00 – 9:00 PM**. You may dine in, carry out, or have curbside delivery! Come out and support our Preschool! <u>Communal Life: Breakfasts.</u> Come to build and deepen relationships – at the Colonial Pancake House, on the corner of Page Street and Penniman Road. Gatherings take place at 8:00 AM.

Tuesday, November 7 - Women are invited to join together for breakfast.



<u>Photo Directory Online Scheduling Available!</u> Wednesday December 13<sup>th</sup> (both Monday and Tuesday are fully booked). 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.

<u>Communal Life: Board Game Night.</u> The LSA would like to invite the congregation to a board game night on **Friday, November 10th starting at 5:00 PM**. Please bring a dish to share and your favorite board/card game!

**Communal Life: New Member Welcome.** We have welcomed five new members by transfer from other ELCA congregations in the last six months, but we haven't officially welcomed them in worship! **Join us on Sunday, November 12th as we welcome our new members in worship and celebrate with a reception between services**. Have you been considering joining SSLC? Contact Pastor Jon if you would like to be a part of this new member cohort.

<u>Communal Life: Afternoon Fall Social.</u> 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 PM – 2:00 PM. Finger foods and light refreshments will be provided. 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.

**Education: Bible Study.** We have our weekly Bible Study on **Mondays at 1:30 PM in the Library/Conference Room**. You are welcome to join us as we look ahead at the upcoming Sunday's appointed texts. Service: 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 <u>vbi104@hotmail.com</u>.

**The holiday season is fast approaching**. This year the Social Ministry is giving you a trifecta of ways to remember Christ's birthday and all the blessings we have. It was not difficult to find causes that could use some concrete offerings from us of His love. There are many needs so please give to one or more of these.



Locally we will be sponsoring a coat drive for FISH through the end of January. The need is for clean, gently used or new garments for sizes five through adult. Hooded sweatshirts are also welcome in sizes for teenagers. Men's hats and gloves are also needed.



The House of Mercy's toy drive is our second choice. Toys can be purchased and dropped at the church or directly at the House of Mercy. Watch the bulletin for information on a way to purchase and have them shipped directly from Amazon.

Your third option of the trifecta will be routed through Lutheran World Relief which has a long history of working with our civilian neighbors in Israel and Gaza. For weeks the world has witnessed the horrific needs of this area. Monetary donations will be used for critical, essential supplies of food, water, and medicine.

Please watch upcoming bulletins, Quill, and displays in the narthex for further information. Please consider your contributions carefully. "Given choices, take them all!"

#### Our worship service is available on our website <u>www.saintstephenlutheran.net</u>, click on "Worship with Us" and "Services."

#### SUNDAY, November 5

### 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

## MONDAY, November 6

Preschool Closed Teacher work day

- 10:00 AM Staff meeting
- 1:30 PM Bible Study (Library/Conference Room)
- 6:00 PM Directory Meeting (Library/Conference Room)

#### **TUESDAY**, November 7

- 8:00 AM Women's Breakfast (Colonial Pancake House)
- 11:30 AM Preschool Chapel (Worship Space)

#### WEDNESDAY, November 8

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

- 7:00 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir (Worship Space)

## THURSDAY, November 9

- 12:00 PM Staff Bulletin Review (Library/Conference Room)
- 5:30 PM St. Stephen Ringers Rehearsal (Worship Space)

#### FRIDAY, November 10

5:00 PM LSA Board game night(Fellowship Hall)

#### SATURDAY, November 11

5:30 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

#### SUNDAY, November 12

#### 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 New Member Welcome (Gathering Space)
- 9:45 AM Explore Spiritual Practices (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:00 AM Faith Formation (Preschool Room)

#### 11:00 AM Worship – Holy Communion

# Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

-	
Altar Guild	
Bread Baker	Paula Agor
Cantors	Choir
Communion Assistants	
	(11:00) Lori Janke & Liam Janke
Flower Delivery	Carol Wiers
Greeters/Hosts	(8:30) Paul & Rita Kristiansen (11:00) Ned & Sue Neidlinger
Lectors	
Preacher	
Tellers	Jane Gingerich, Ursula Recktenwald, & Russ White
Ushers	



## St. Stephen Lutheran Church 612 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185 <u>www.saintstephenlutheran.net</u> (757) 229-6688

Love God, Love People, Form Faith.

(St. Stephen Lutheran Church Vision Statement)

All of Us, Called Through Our BaptismsDoing Ministry in the WorldPastor Jon Nelson (320-295-8861)Pastorin@saintstephenlutheran.netPastor Alex Sheppard-Witt (717-434-5037)Pastorasw@saintstephenlutheran.netKaren Ives – Director of Music (757-229-6688)MusicDir@saintstephenlutheran.netHollie Jones – Parish Administrator (229-6688)Office@saintstephenlutheran.netDiana Tiller-Dichtel – Parish Nurse (232-5924)Parishnurse@saintstephenlutheran.netHolly Ready – Preschool Director (229-6688)Preschool@saintstephenlutheran.netPeninsula Pastoral Counseling Center (873-2273; counselors are in Williamsburg on Thursdays)Doing Ministry in the World

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

*November 5, 2023* 

Name:
For guests and members with changes:
Address (Home)
City/StateZip
Telephone #
E-Mail Address
Guests Only: I belong to
Church Address
Please check as many as pertain:
Member
First time guest
Regular guest
Guest (out of town)
Student at William & Mary
Looking for a church home
Desire to speak with pastor
Would like more information about Stephen Ministry
Would like a Parish Nurse to contact me
Any comments? Please be sure your name is above, so we may respond

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 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).