

# **St. Stephen Lutheran Church**

One of 13,000 Stephen Ministry Congregations Around the World

# 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Lectionary 33

November 13, 2022

# For Your Prayers – November 13-20, 2022

### Lectionary readings for this week:

*Monday*: Joel 1:1-13; Revelation 18:15-24; Luke 14:12-24 *Tuesday*: Joel 1:15—2:11; Revelation 19:1-10; Luke 14:25-35 *Wednesday*: Joel 2:12-19; Revelation 19:11-21; Luke 15:1-10 *Thursday:* Joel 2:21-27; James 1:1-15; Luke 15:1-2, 11-32 *Friday:* Joel 2:28—3:8; James 1:16-27; Luke 16:1-9 *Saturday*: Joel 3:9-17; James 2:1-13; Luke 16:10-18 *Christ the King Sunday Readings:* Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 46; Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43

*Join your prayers for healing* with God's desires for **Ed Brown, Kristin Carter**, **Steve Grant, Angie Groom, Edith Haecker, Sharon Jacobs, Evelyn Kernan**, **Henry Mallue, Carole Meyer, Jeane Moore, Jim Mayfield**, and Linda Reuben.

<u>Pray God's peace</u> for Aaren Battle and his family in the midst of grief over the loss of **Douglas Birch**, Aaren's grandpa

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

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: Anastasia, Chris and Solveigh, Brian Allebach, Bob Alt, Stephanie Altland, Benny Anton, Philip A. Arnold, Jane Ayers, Gary Baumgarten, Rose Baumgarten, Susan Behrens, The Besser family, Toni Birch, Pamela Bosserman, Harrison Bryant, Bob Burdette, John Butler, Lane Clark, Bob Cummings, Josephine Curcio, Emmeline Daniels, Graham Darnell, Jeris and Tony DeKievit, Jen Dieter, Judy Drezek, Paul Dwiggins, Derald Edwards, Joan Fecondo, Samuel Fisher, Gloria Flamm, Kay Flatin, Betty Frazee, Linda Gamble, Andrea Gonzalez, Rex Harder, Michael Harris, Andy Havola, Frank Hayes, Bradley Heintzelman, Nicole Ingle, Crystal Isaac, Nate Jacklin, Hilde Janke, Kirsten Johnston, Sandy Kellogg, John Knestrick, Richard Kochanski, Rebecca Krueger, Margaret Lewis, Jackie Locke, Mary Lott, Isabelle Lutzle, Jonathan Manning, Keith Margrey, Barry Marten, Doug Mayes, Patrick and Kristin McGraw, Harriett Meeks, Lisa Berg Melciouri, Detra Michaels, Judy Murphy, Jeremy Nelson, Lori Ott, Danielle Parrish, Louise Peardon, Phil Peters, Vincent Petty, Pastor Jennifer Phelps, Sue Plevelich, Michelle Raphael-Britt, Pearl Retchin, Edith Roberts, Betty Roth, Shann Rufer, Richard Schmaldinst, Inge Seiter, Patricia Simpson, Kelsey Slay, Mike Slyer, Brant Smith, Jerry and Evelyn Spear, Ken Steinberg, Chad Strausbaugh, Charley Underdahl, Owen Werthmann, Carolyn Williams, Heath Wilson, Travis Wilson, and the people of Ukraine

# November 13, 2022 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost ~ Lectionary 33

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

### Welcome

Centering	Music
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Abundant Praise! St. Stephen Ringers Arranged Sandra Eithun

### **Gathering Litany**

In the loving of neighbor and the sharing of love together we shall go on In the celebration of life and the sharing of that life together together we shall go on In the caring of the earth and the sharing of her harvest together we shall go on In the variety of people and the sharing of our talents together we shall go on In the laughter we make and the sharing of the journey together we shall go on In the love of this community and the sharing of our faith together we shall go on In the love of this community and the sharing of our faith together we shall go on

Gathering Hymn Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow

Hymn 327 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**

Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

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

### **First Reading**

### Malachi 4:1-2a

Malachi, whose name means "my messenger," warns that "the day is coming." On that day, the evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, but the "sun of righteousness" will shine on those who honor God.

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2a</sup>But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings

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

#### **Psalmody**





Psalm 98:9

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

<sup>1</sup>Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done <sup>|</sup> marvelous things,

whose right hand and holy arm have <sup>|</sup> won the victory.

<sup>2</sup>O LORD, you have made <sup>|</sup> known your victory,

### you have revealed your righteousness in the sight <sup>|</sup> of the nations.

<sup>3</sup>You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the <sup>|</sup> house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory <sup>|</sup> of our God.

### <sup>4</sup>Shout with joy to the LORD, <sup>1</sup> all you lands;

- lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing. *Refrain*
- <sup>5</sup>Sing to the LORD<sup>|</sup> with the harp,

with the harp and the <sup>|</sup> voice of song.

<sup>6</sup>With trumpets and the sound | of the horn

shout with joy before the <sup>|</sup> king, the LORD.

<sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar, and <sup>|</sup> all that fills it,

the world and those who <sup>|</sup> dwell therein.

### <sup>8</sup>Let the rivers <sup>1</sup> clap their hands,

# and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to <sup>|</sup> judge the earth.

<sup>9</sup>The LORD will judge the <sup>|</sup> world with righteousness and the peo- <sup>|</sup> ples with equity. *Refrain* 

### Second Reading

### 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Some members of the Thessalonian community, because of their belief in the nearness of Christ's return, had ceased to work, living off the generosity of other members of the community. The writer of this letter warns them bluntly that if they want to eat, they need to work.

<sup>6</sup>Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. <sup>7</sup>For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, <sup>8</sup>and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. <sup>9</sup>This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. <sup>10</sup>For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. <sup>11</sup>For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. <sup>12</sup>Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. <sup>13</sup>Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

### **Gospel Acclamation**



**Cantor:** Stand up and <sup>|</sup> raise your heads,\* because your redemption is <sup>|</sup> drawing near. *Alleluia. (Luke 21:28)* 

### Gospel

Luke 21:5-19

As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.

### Response after announcement of the Gospel: "Glory to you, O Lord."

<sup>5</sup>When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, <sup>6</sup>"As for these things that

you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

<sup>7</sup>They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" <sup>8</sup>And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

<sup>9</sup>"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." <sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; <sup>11</sup>there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

<sup>12</sup>"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. <sup>13</sup>This will give you an opportunity to testify. <sup>14</sup>So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; <sup>15</sup>for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup>You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. <sup>17</sup>You will be hated by all because of my name. <sup>18</sup>But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup>By your endurance you will gain your souls."

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

Sermon

Apocalypse Now

Pastor Jon Nelson

The Hymn of the Day will be announced in a few moments. First, please take time during the silence: What are your prayers in response to the sermon?

Hymn of the Day God Alone Be Praised

Hymn ACS 1023 Bulletin page 12 page 105

**Apostles' Creed** 

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

#### 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**

How Firm A Foundation

Arr. Dan Forrest



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:



The Lord be with you.

### And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

### We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

### It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.Hosanna in the highest.Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.Hosanna in the highest. 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.

page 112

<b>Communion Music</b>	How Firm a Foundation	Setting, Charles Maggs
	O God, Our Help in Ages Past	Setting, William Croft
	St. Stephen Ringers	

#### **Table Blessing**

**Prayer after Communion** 

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

Sending Hymn	O God, Our Help in Ages Past	Hymn ELW 362 Bulletin page 13
Blessing		
Dismissal		
Postlude	Joy and Delight St. Stephen Ringers	Setting, Brenda Austin
	da Austin is the Artistic Director for the D	

She is the Editor in charge of the Handbell Catalogue at Hope Publishing. She has over 60 published handbell compositions. Today's postlude features several handbell techniques including malleting, martellato and martellato lift (ask a handbell ringer what that means), ring-touch, and shaking.

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### Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow



Text: Bernhardt S. Ingemann, 1789–1862; tr. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924, alt. Music: EBENEZER, Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944

# God Alone Be Praised



Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952, based on Psalm 46 Music: AD LUCEM, Zebulon M. Highben, b. 1979 Text © 2016 Susan R. Briehl, admin. Augsburg Fortress Music © 2016 Zebulon M. Highben, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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# O God, Our Help in Ages Past



- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all our years away; we fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, still be our guard while troubles last and our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt. Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678–1727

# 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.

# COVID-19 Guidelines:

- Community transmission of COVID-19 in Williamsburg is low; James City County is low; and York County is low.
- Masks are available in the Gathering Space for those who would like to use them.

# What's Happening Today

**<u>Flowers this morning</u>** are given to the Glory of God by **Sandy Croushore** in memory of her parents and father, John Croushore.

**Inquirer's Class.** Today is the first session for those who would like to learn more about St. Stephen Lutheran Church, and meet others who are new to our congregation. Join us today after the second service, at **12:30 PM**, in the Fellowship Hall. Children are welcome!

# **Upcoming**

<u>Weekly Bible Study</u>. Come join us as we study the upcoming Sunday's texts! Tuesday's at 10:00 AM in the Library/Conference Room. It will be led by the Rev. Jim Larsen and the Rev. Harvey Nelson <u>Preschool Spirit Night</u>! Mark your calendars for this **Tuesday, November 15,** for the first Preschool Spirit Night in two years! 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>**Historic Area Religions Together**</u> Monday November 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00PM, Walsingham Academy will host their annual Multi-faith Thanksgiving Service. All are welcome and encouraged to spread the word!

<u>Christmas is coming</u>! Children are invited to participate in our Christmas program! Music Director Karen Ives will be teaching the children songs and drumming that will tell the Christmas story! Practice will begin on Sunday, November 27 at 10:00 AM. Meet in the Fellowship Hall.

**Poinsettias and Jean Kuhn Memorial Fund.** Please let the Office know if you want to order poinsettias for Christmas Eve (\$15.00 each) and/or contribute to the Jean Kuhn Memorial Fund for Christmas. This fund helps with those ministries needing assistance during the year for which we have not budgeted. *Deadline for poinsettias is Monday, November 28.* 

Lost & Found Retreat. We are excited to be sending a small but mighty group to the 7th & 8th grade retreat in Lynchburg next weekend. We invite the congregation to hold them in prayer as they travel, meet, sing, pray, learn, and grow with others from around the synod.

# **Items of Note**

In addition to Sunday morning themes, the liturgical calendar includes festivals and commemorations that fall on the same date each year. This week we commemorate:

### Elizabeth of Hungary, renewer of society, died 1231 Thursday, November 17, 2022

Born in Hungary, Elizabeth was betrothed to the son of the Landgrave of Thuringia, and at age four was taken to be raised with him at the Wartburg Castle. Ten years later they were married. She was very generous to the poor, and after her husband's death she lived in cruel hardship until her own death at age twenty-four.

### **Health Ministry**

# Is the flu dangerous?

While the flu virus is often paralleled with a common cold, it is definitely more serious. The flu puts a lot of stress on your system as it works to fight off the infection. While they do share symptoms such as Cough, fever and overall malaise, the flu symptoms hit harder and last longer. Severe cases of flu can lead to pneumonia, cardiac problems including heart attack or myocarditis, and stroke.

People who have preexisting conditions such as asthma, COPD, diabetes, heart disease, kidney disease or lung disease are more at risk for developing severe flu with complications. Also at greater risk are the youngest and those over 65 years old. Prevention is the best way to help improve your chances of not getting the flu or getting a less severe case. The best prevention is the flu vaccine or "flu shot". Getting a flu vaccine lowers your risk by of getting sick by 40% - 60%.

A study in 2021 found that getting the flu vaccine lowered the risk of ICU admission by 26% and death by 31%. Other ways to prevent getting the flu include: 1) wear a mask

- 2) wash your hands and don't put hands to your mouth
- 3) avoid direct contact with people who are sick
- 4) take care of your overall health by exercising and eating healthy.

If you feel like you have the flu, you should call your doctor. Testing and medications are available that can help to lessen symptoms. Of course, drink plenty of fluids and rest to alleviate symptoms. Don't take anything for granted. Always talk to a health professional if you feel you are at risk and have symptoms.

### Diana Tiller-Dichtel Parish Nurse

parishnurse@saintstephenlutheran.net 757-232-5924

## Worship and Fellowship for Advent and Christmas –

<u>Behold our Light</u> Allow the Spirit to nourish you with some moments of contemplation, as we gather at **7:00 PM** on these Wednesdays in Advent:

- November 30, **7:00PM**
- December 15, 7:00PM
- December 7, 7:00PM

Children's Christmas Program

• Sunday, <u>December 18 at our 11:00 AM</u> Worship Service

Christmas Caroling outside to some of our ill and homebound folks Sunday, December 11

- 4:00 PM We meet in the Fellowship Hall to organize.
- **6:00 PM** We'll return to the Fellowship Hall to share a meal together. Bring chili and/or cornbread to share! (If you're not able to make the caroling, feel free to join the meal gathering – and vice versa!)

Blue Christmas Eve (also called the Longest Night Eve) This worship service honors people that have lost loved ones and are experiencing grief.

• Tuesday, December 21 at 7:00 PM

Christmas Eve (all services with candle light):

- 7:30 PM Worship featuring sermon, choir and Holy Communion
- 10:00 PM Worship featuring sermon, choir and Holy Communion

# First Sunday of Christmas, December 25:

• 10:00 AM – Worship and Holy Communion

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

### SUNDAY, November 13

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

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

- 9:45 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)
- 9:45 AM Affirmation of Baptism Class (Library/Conference Room)
- 10:00 AM Faith Formation (Undercroft/Preschool Room)
- 10:30 AM Chancel Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)

### 11:00 AM Worship – Holy Communion

6:00 PM Lutheran Student Association Dinner (College Room)

## MONDAY, November 14

10:00 AM Staff meeting10:00 AM Women's Retreat Meeting(Library/Conference room)7:00 PM Book Study (Fellowship Hall)

### **TUESDAY, November 15**

10:00 AMBible Study (Library/Conference Room)7:00 PMCongregation Council (Library/Conference Room)

## WEDNESDAY, November 16

7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)

7:00 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

## **THURSDAY**, November 17

1:00 PMStaff Bulletin Review (Library/Conference Room)1:30 PMBook Study (Fellowship Hall)

## FRIDAY, November 18

# SATURDAY, November 19

5:30 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

## **SUNDAY, November 20** ~ Christ the King Sunday

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

- 8:30 AM Worship Holy Communion (*livestreamed on our YouTube channel*)
- 9:45 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)
- 9:45 AM Affirmation of Baptism Class (Library/Conference Room)
- 10:00 AM Faith Formation (Undercroft/Preschool Room)
- 10:30 AM Chancel Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)
- 11:00 AM Worship Holy Communion

# Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

Audio-Visual Team(8:30) Nancy Carter & JR & Diana Lyons (11:00)Bread BakerJoe BeeneCantors(8:30) Ina Berkey (11:00) Sandy CroushoreCommunion Assistants(8:30) Paula Agor & Theo Bergh(11:00) Nancy & Keith Egloff
Cantors
Communion Assistants
Flower DeliveryKaren Nestor
Greeters/Hosts
Lectors
TellersJane deSolms, Susan Britcher, Kelly Horst
Ushers

# St. Stephen Lutheran Church

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

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

(St. Stephen Lutheran Church Vision Statement)

All of Us, Called Through Our BaptismsDoing Ministry in the WorldPastor Cheryl Ann Griffin (876-6371)Pastorg@saintstephenlutheran.netPastor Jon Nelson (320-295-8861)Pastorjn@saintstephenlutheran.netKaren Ives – Director of Music (828-242-1133)MusicDir@saintstephenlutheran.netHollie Jones – Parish Administrator (229-6688)Office@saintstephenlutheran.netDiana Tiller-Dichtel – Parish Nurse (232-5924)Parishnurse@saintstephenlutheran.netKristie Kelley – Preschool Director (229-6688)Preschool@saintstephenlutheran.netPeninsula Pastoral Counseling Center (873-2273; counselors are in Williamsburg on Thursdays)

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

*November 13, 2022* 

Name:
For guests and members with changes:
Address (Home)
City/State Zip
Telephone #
E-Mail Address
Guests Only: I belong to
Church Address
Please check as many as pertain: Member First time guest Regular guest Guest (out of town) Student at William & Mary Looking for a church home
Desire to speak with pastor
Would like more information about Stephen Ministry
Would like a Parish Nurse to contact me

Any comments? Please be sure your name is above, so we may respond, if necessary.

# **Prayer Requests**

Please **add** to the prayer list in this month's bulletin and next month's *Quill*:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please **remove** from prayer concerns:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_I need a nametag! \_\_\_\_\_