



# **St. Stephen Lutheran Church**

**One of 13,000 Stephen Ministry Congregations Around the World**



***December 10, 2023***

## For Your Prayers –December 11-17, 2023

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

***Monday:*** Isaiah 26:7-15 Acts 2:37-42 Psalm 27

***Tuesday:*** Isaiah 4:2-6 Acts 11:1-8 Psalm 27

***Wednesday:*** Malachi 2:10—3:1 Luke 1:5-17 Psalm 27

***Thursday:*** Habakkuk 2:1-5 Philippians 3:7-11 Psalm 126

***Friday:*** Habakkuk 3:2-6 Philippians 3:12-16 Psalm 126

***Saturday:*** Habakkuk 3:13-19 Matthew 21:28-32 Psalm 126

***Next Sunday's Readings:*** Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 Psalm 126 (3) or Luke 1:46b-55 (52)  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 John 1:6-8, 19-28

***Join your prayers for healing*** with God's desires for **Aaren Battle, Ed Brown, Kristin Carter, Jack Harris, Sharon Jacobs, Marilyn Johnson, Evelyn Kernan, Jim Mayfield, Carole Meyer, Marie Nelson, 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:*** Benita, Paula Battle, Donald and Carol Baum, Rose Baumgarten, Sally Blackburn, Mary Bloom, Steve Boyles, Ann Bunn, Amy Carl, Jerry & Elijah Connor, Judy Craun, Doug Crinklaw, Katie Czajkowski, Sophia Czajkowski, Judy Drezek, Joel Gillespie, Joan and Frank Goodhart, Catherine Harbison, Deanna Harbison, Bradley Kim Joan and Laurie Heintzeman, Char Henry, Lisa Hill, Brian Johnson, Don Johnson, Connie Kendrick, the Kennedy family, Marnah Lund, Laura Margolin, Doug Mayes, Ed Moninger, John and Pollie Morison, Maddie Murray, Bob Myers, Silvana Oderisi, Lori Ogborn, Katie Orcutt, Paula Rega, Marci Ries, Sharon Rogers, Betty Roth, Lou Schuster, Inge Seiter, Kelsey Slay, Brant Smith, Vasili Soultoukis, Chad Strausbaugh, Charley Underdahl, and Caleb Winig.

# *December 10, 2023 Second Sunday of Advent*

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

### **Welcome**

**Centering Music**      *Prepare the Royal Highway*      **setting, Anna Laura Page**  
Handbell Sextet

### **Advent Candle Lighting Litany**

**Song**                      O Come, O Come, Emmanuel                      stanza 3

O come, O come, O Lord of might,  
as to your tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times you gave the law  
in cloud, and majesty, and awe.

*Refrain:* Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel.

### **Litany**

At every beginning there is a yearning for the one who is coming.  
O Emmanuel, **Prepare us for your coming.**

We gather together to get ready for what? Only heaven knows.  
O Emmanuel, **Prepare us for your coming.**

We wait for the day when God will create a prevailing peace on the earth, and natural-born enemies turn into newborn friends. O Emmanuel, **Prepare us for your coming.**

We get ready for God to come close by laying our lives open to Jesus, asking him to sort through all our mixed motives. O Emmanuel, **Prepare us for your coming.**

### **Prayer**

Jesus, we welcome your presence now with the lighting of these candles, whose flames bring warmth to winter and fill this place with the glow of hope. **Amen.**

**Song**                      O Come, O Come, Emmanuel                      stanza 4

O come, O Branch of Jesse, free  
your own from Satan's tyranny;  
from depths of hell your people save,  
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*

### **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.**

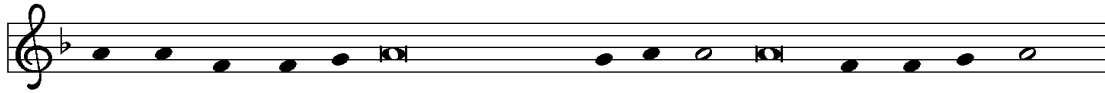
# Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-va-tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this ho-ly house, and for all who of-fer here their wor-ship and praise,



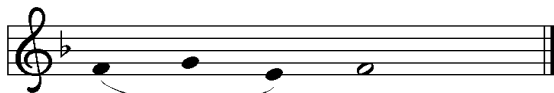
let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.



A - men.

## **Prayer of the Day**

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; 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**

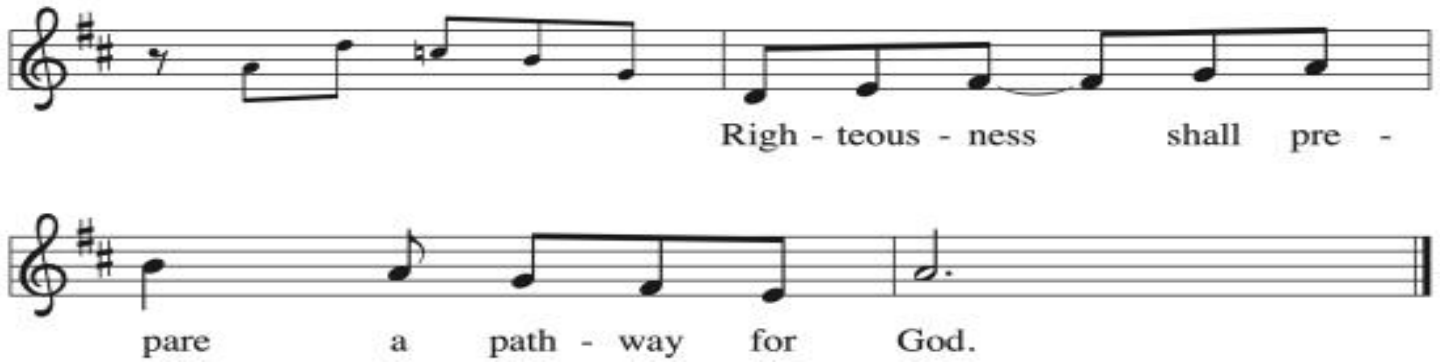
**Isaiah 40:1-11**

*In grand, flowing, poetic lines, the prophet announces that the exile of God's people in Babylon is over. God will deliver Israel and will care for her as a shepherd cares for the sheep. This word can be trusted, because the only enduring reality in life is the word of God.*

<sup>1</sup>Comfort, O comfort my people,  
says your God.  
<sup>2</sup>Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and cry to her  
that she has served her term,  
that her penalty is paid,  
that she has received from the LORD's  
hand  
double for all her sins.  
<sup>3</sup>A voice cries out:  
"In the wilderness prepare the way of  
the LORD,  
make straight in the desert a highway  
for our God.  
<sup>4</sup>Every valley shall be lifted up,  
and every mountain and hill be made  
low;  
the uneven ground shall become level,  
and the rough places a plain.  
<sup>5</sup>Then the glory of the LORD shall be  
revealed,  
and all people shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the LORD has  
spoken."  
<sup>6</sup>A voice says, "Cry out!"  
And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All people are grass,  
their constancy is like the flower of  
the field.  
<sup>7</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades,  
when the breath of the LORD blows  
upon it;  
surely the people are grass.  
<sup>8</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades;  
but the word of our God will stand  
forever.  
<sup>9</sup>Get you up to a high mountain,  
O Zion, herald of good tidings;  
lift up your voice with strength,  
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,  
lift it up, do not fear;  
say to the cities of Judah,  
"Here is your God!"  
<sup>10</sup>See, the Lord GOD comes with might,  
and his arm rules for him;  
his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.  
<sup>11</sup>He will feed his flock like a shepherd;  
he will gather the lambs in his arms,  
and carry them in his bosom,  
and gently lead the mother sheep.

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



- <sup>1</sup>You have been gracious to your | land, O LORD;  
you have restored the good for- | tune of Jacob.
- <sup>2</sup>**You have forgiven the iniquity | of your people  
and blotted out | all their sins.**
- <sup>8</sup>I will listen to what the LORD | God is saying;  
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their | hearts to you.
- <sup>9</sup>**Truly, your salvation is very near to | those who fear you,  
that your glory may dwell | in our land. Refrain**
- <sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness have | met together;  
righteousness and peace have | kissed each other.
- <sup>11</sup>**Faithfulness shall spring up | from the earth,  
and righteousness shall look | down from heaven.**
- <sup>12</sup>The LORD will indeed | grant prosperity,  
and our land will | yield its increase.
- <sup>13</sup>**Righteousness shall go be- | fore the LORD  
and shall prepare for | God a pathway. Refrain**

**Second Reading**

**2 Peter 3:8-15a**

*This short letter deals with pressing concerns regarding the final advent of Jesus, especially concerns that could arise over its apparent delay. The author of the letter calls on Christians to anticipate the promised coming of the Lord through conduct dedicated to God.*

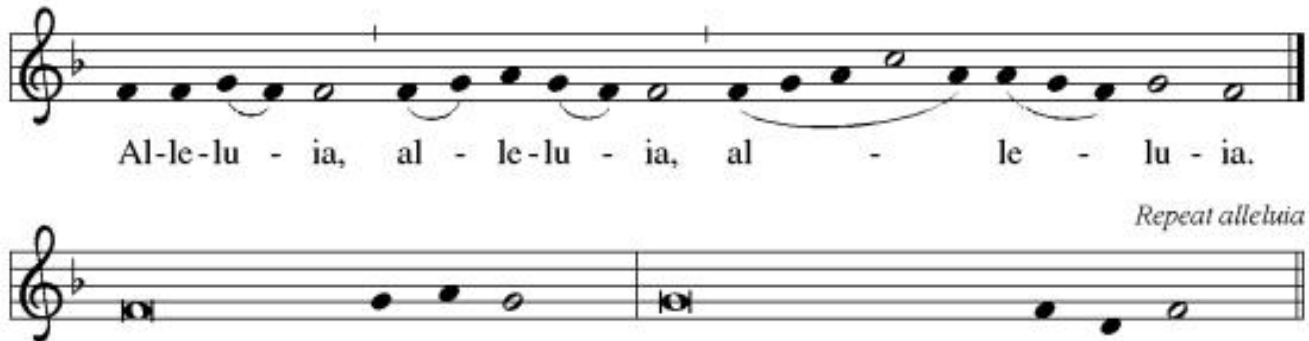
<sup>8</sup>Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. <sup>9</sup>The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. <sup>10</sup>But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

<sup>11</sup>Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup>waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? <sup>13</sup>But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

<sup>14</sup>Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; <sup>15a</sup>and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

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

### Gospel Acclamation



**Cantor:** Prepare the way | of the Lord.\* All flesh shall see the salva- | tion of God. (Luke 3:4, 6)

### Gospel

**Mark 1:1-8**

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

*The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a story of Jesus' birth but with the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord.*

<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

<sup>2</sup>As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;

<sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight,'"

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

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

**Sermon**

*Cold Comfort*  
*Silence for reflection and prayer.*

Pastor Jon O Nelson

**Prayers**

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

**III. Meal: God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ****Offering**

*An offering is 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** *There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying* arr. Anne Krentz Organ

8:30 Matins Choir; Thom Recktenwald - Flute

11:00 Chancel Choir; Erika Cave - Clarinet

**Offertory Prayer**

God our provider, by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

**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 to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r 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.

## 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. The 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. A - men.

**Communion Music**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

arr. Albert Zabel

St. Stephen Ringers

Organ: 8:30AM - Ina Berkey; 11:00AM - Erika Cave

**Table Blessing**

**Prayer after Communion**

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

**Sending Hymn**

*Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding*

ELW 246

Bulletin page 13

**Blessing**

**The God of peace bless you,  
the love of Christ sustain you in hope,  
and the anointing of the Spirit ✠ remain upon you  
now and forever. Amen.**

**Dismissal**

**Go in peace. Keep awake. Thanks be to God.**

St. Stephen Ringers



Copyright Information

*Prepare the Royal Highway; Anna Laura Page; Piano reflections on Advent tunes*

© 2018 Choristers Guild

*There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying; Setting, Anne Krentz Organ ;*

© 2013 Augsburg Fortress

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel; Albert Zabel;*

© 1987 Harold Flammer, Shawnee press

*People, Look East; Sandra Eithun;*

© 2023 Choristers Guild

*One License Licensing Permission Reprinted/Streamed with permission under*

*One License #A721099; CCLI Permission Reprinted/Streamed with permission under CCLI License #11256031;*

*Permission granted, St. James Press*

*New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.*

*Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.*

*Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License # SB164403*



# Hark, the Glad Sound!

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior  
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's  
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff in G major. The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are numbered 1 through 4, corresponding to the four vocal parts.

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -  
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -  
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures  
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

The second system continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are aligned with the notes in the treble staff.

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.  
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

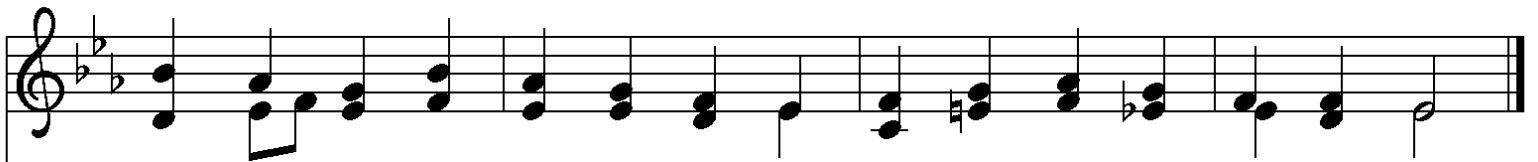
The third system concludes the piece with a double bar line. The melody and bass line end with a final cadence.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751  
Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

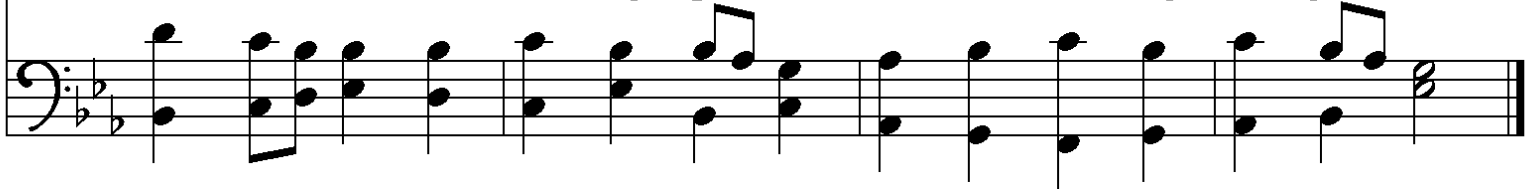
# Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!



1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing! "Christ is near," we hear it say.  
2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;  
3 See the Lamb, so long ex - spect - ed, come with par - don down from heav'n.  
4 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the world is wrapped in fear,  
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son



"Cast a - way the works of dark-ness, all you chil-dren of the day!"  
Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn-ing skies.  
Let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all, to be for - giv'n;  
he will shield us with his mer - cy and with words of love draw near.  
with the ev - er - last - ing Spir - it while un - end - ing a - ges run!



Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878  
Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823-1889

## 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.

## What's Happening Today

**Flowers are given** by Helen Allen in memory of John E. Allen and Erwin and Mina Kreitzer.

## Upcoming

**Committee chairs, Council officers and staff: Annual Reports for 2023** are due to the church office no later than **Friday, December 22**. Please send your annual reports electronically to Parish Administrator Hollie Jones.

**From the Financial Secretary** Remember, the last day for all 2023 contributions is Sunday, **December 24**. Anything received after that date will be credited to 2024. Also, please return your pledge card to the office if you have not yet done so.

**Dining Groups Shuffle.** The consensus reached at our meeting recently was that we would reshuffle the dining groups every six months to encourage new connections and relationships (you are welcome to keep meeting with your old group too). Sign up on the insert if you would like to join a dining group for the first half of 2024.

**Photo Directory Online Scheduling Available! Tuesday December 19<sup>th</sup> (12pm -6pm has been added to Calander) This will be the Last day!** To schedule your



photography appointment online, simply go to [www.ucdir.com](http://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 any questions please contact Hollie Jones in the office. You can also scan the QR code below and follow the instructions above. You will need to arrive 15 min prior to your appointment and enter through the office or Preschool side doors. Photos will take place in the Library.

**Christmas Decorating! Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00pm.** If you would like to help us decorate the sanctuary for Christmas services, please sign up on the insert sheet.

**Christmas Caroling.** We will go Christmas Caroling on **Sunday, December 17 starting at 4:00 PM.** Groups of carolers will visit several families of our congregation, singing to them outside their homes. Returning to Church, we will enjoy chili and cornbread. Come join us as we bring some Christmas cheer to our sick and home-bound members. Bring your favorite chili and/or cornbread to share afterward in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up on the insert if you will be able to attend.

**Holiday Trifecta** While you are hopefully counting all your blessings and feeling the love of family and friends during Thanksgiving, please do not forget the Social Ministry's Holiday Trifecta. They are offering us not one, not two, but **THREE** ways to show Christ's love. In the lobby are several decorated cartons. One is for toys for House of Mercy. Toys can be taken either directly to House of Mercy or brought to St. Stephen's Gathering Space no later than **TODAY Sunday, December 10.** The second box is to gather new or clean, gently used coats for children size 5 through adults. Hooded sweatshirts for teenagers are also needed. The third way to help goes in the collection plate marked for Lutheran World Relief. Monies collected will be used in the relief efforts in devastated Palestine/Israel.

**Have Fun and Support our St. Stephen Preschool** during our annual Winter Carnival **Sunday, January 21, 2:00 – 4:00 PM.** Want to help with Winter BINGO, Ice Fishing, Winter Putt-Putt, Penguin Bowling, and more? See the insert and mark the insert sheet if you're able to help!

## **TOY DRIVE!**

St. Stephen is again blessed to be able to assist the Williamsburg House of Mercy (WHOM) help over 700 children in our community enjoy Christmas morning this year! Gifts are for the children of Greater Williamsburg Area families, age's birth to eighteen years.

### **What/Where can I buy?**

- Age-appropriate gifts including clothes, shoes, toys, small electronics

### **What do I do with the gifts when I buy them?**

- Drop them off at church, downstairs in Hollie's office
- Drop them off at church, in the Gathering Space
- Contact Jim Ivey and I will arrange to have them picked up from your porch/home
- Order online and send them to the church at 612 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg VA 23185, Attn: WHOM Gifts

### **When is the deadline?**

- Gifts should be at the church or picked up no later than **TODAY Sunday, December 10**

**Who do I contact if I have questions?** Jim Ivey 757-608-8990, [jvivey@cox.net](mailto:jvivey@cox.net)

- If you are unable to bring toys to the church, please contact Jim and he can get on Monday, December 11.







# LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

## **Lutheran World Relief Christmas Project Matching Funds**

With your kind donations to St. Stephen's Memorial Funds, the St. Stephen's Social Ministry is in a position to match congregational donations to our Lutheran World Relief Christmas project – up to a total of \$3,000 for all donations made by Sunday, Christmas Eve, and will be designated for:

**Israel And Gaza, Civilians Caught In Danger Need You** - Lutheran World Relief has a long history of reaching our neighbors in Israel and Gaza. We join you in praying urgently, and we thank you for standing ready to care for innocent civilians caught in the crossfire. Your love has long been reaching our neighbors caught in conflict. With your support, together, we will not abandon these neighbors now. Your caring gift will deliver critically needed resources like medical care, food, water and essential supplies where they are needed most.

**The Ukraine, Citizens Have Fled, Some Are Going Back, And Millions Are In Dire Need Within Their Country** - Lutheran World Relief has committed millions of dollars in response this crisis, and we expand our response to reach more Ukrainians as we secure additional funding. We have deployed technical staff to support our relief operations, including program managers, a health advisor, and an advisor to lead our efforts to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse in Ukraine and for Ukrainian refugees.

**HOW TO DONATE:** Online at the St. Stephen website, go to “Contact Us,” “Giving,” “Supporting St. Stephen Now.” And “...VANCO service by clicking here.” and click on the “Lutheran World Relief” icon; By Check, make checks payable to - St. Stephen Lutheran Church; For: LWR; or Cash in an Envelope Marked for Lutheran World Relief.



Lutheran World Relief

## **Worship and Fellowship for Advent and Christmas –**

Allow the Spirit to nourish you with some moments of contemplation, as we gather at **7:00 PM** on these **Wednesdays in Advent**:

- December 13, **7:00PM** (Trust)
- December 20, **7:00PM** (Lament)
- Dec 21, **7:00PM** at **Our Saviors Lutheran Church** Longest Night Service

### **Children's Christmas Program**

- **Sunday, December 17** at our **11:00 AM** Worship Service

**Christmas Caroling** outside to some of our ill and homebound folk.

#### **Sunday, December 17**

- **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!)

**Christmas Eve** (all evening services with candlelight):

- **9:45 AM** – Worship and Holy Communion (**Advent 4**)
- **7:30 PM** – Worship featuring sermon, choirs, and Holy Communion
- **10:00 PM** – Contemplative Worship Service with Holy Communion

**Christmas Day** at **Our Saviors Lutheran Church** 10:30am Service

**New Years Eve, December 31:**

- **9:45 AM** – Lessons and Carols with Holy Communion

## St. Stephen Calendar: December 10 – December 17, 2023

### SUNDAY, December 10 ~ Advent 2

- 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)
- 10:00 AM Christmas Program Rehearsal (Worship Space)
- 11:00 AM** Worship – Holy Communion

### MONDAY, December 11

- 10:00 AM Staff meeting (Pastor Jon's Office)
- 1:30 PM Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
- 2-8 PM Photos (Library/Conference Room)
- 7:00 PM Finance Committee (Fellowship Hall)

### TUESDAY, December 12

- 11:30 AM** Preschool Chapel (Worship Space)
- 2-8 PM Photos (Library/Conference Room)
- 7:00 PM Church Council (Fellowship Hall)

### WEDNESDAY, December 13

- 2-8 PM Photos (Library/Conference Room)
- 7:00 PM** Advent Evening Prayer – *Trust* (Worship Space)
- 7:00 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)

### THURSDAY, December 14

- 10:00 AM** Preschool Christmas Program (Worship Space)
- 12:30 PM Staff Bulletin Review (Library/Conference Room)
- 5:30 PM St. Stephen Ringers Rehearsal (Worship Space)

### FRIDAY, December 15

- 10:00 AM** Preschool Christmas Program (Worship Space)

### SATURDAY, December 16

- 11:00 AM Christmas Program Rehearsal (Worship Space)
- 5:30 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

### SUNDAY, December 17 ~ Advent 3

- 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) (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:00 AM Christmas Program Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:00 AM** Worship – Holy Communion & Christmas Program
- 4:00 PM Christmas Caroling (Fellowship Hall)

## Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

Acolyte/Crucifer..... (8:30) Stan York  
.....(11:00) Liam Janke  
Altar Guild .....(8:30)Rita Kristiansand and Diana Tiller- Dichtel  
..... (11:00) Nancy Egloff and Karen Arledge  
Audio-Visual Team..... (8:30)JR and Diana Lyons (11:00) Tobias Janke  
Bread Baker.....Janice Svendsen  
Cantors .....(8:30) Ina Berkey (11:00) Marj Gottschalk-Trone  
Communion Assistants ..... (8:30) Susan Bosworth and Karen Sanderlin  
.....(11:00) Keith & Nancy Egloff  
Flower Delivery ..... Nelia Lamoureux  
Greeters/Hosts .....(8:30) Diana Tiller-Dichtel (11:00) Susan Kauffman  
Lectors..... (8:30) Chris Punchard (11:00) Keith Egloff  
Preacher & Presider ..... Rev. Jon O. Nelson  
Tellers.....Jane deSolms, Susan Britcher, Jim Larsen  
Ushers.....(8:30) Denny & Diana Krieger (11:00) Russ Dabel and Art Nelson

## *St. Stephen Lutheran Church*

*612 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185*

*[www.saintstephenlutheran.net](http://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](mailto:Pastorjn@saintstephenlutheran.net)

[Pastorasw@saintstephenlutheran.net](mailto:Pastorasw@saintstephenlutheran.net)

[MusicDir@saintstephenlutheran.net](mailto:MusicDir@saintstephenlutheran.net)

[Office@saintstephenlutheran.net](mailto:Office@saintstephenlutheran.net)

[Parishnurse@saintstephenlutheran.net](mailto:Parishnurse@saintstephenlutheran.net)

[Preschool@saintstephenlutheran.net](mailto: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.*

*December 10, 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Please **remove** from prayer concerns:

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

\_\_\_\_\_ I need a name tag

\_\_\_\_\_ I will help decorate the sanctuary

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to help with the Preschool Winter Carnival

\_\_\_\_\_ Set up/work at a game station: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Bake a cake for the cake walk

\_\_\_\_\_ Bake or provide goodies for the snack stand

\_\_\_\_\_ I/we will be Caroling on Dec 17<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I/We would like to be a part of the next round of dining groups.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am willing to be a convener of a dining group