

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

Love God, Love People, Form Faith.

One of 13,000 Stephen Ministry Congregations Around the World

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 13, 2024

For Your Prayers - Oct 14-20, 2024

Lectionary readings for this week:

Monday: Obadiah 1-9 Revelation 7:9-17 Psalm 26 *Tuesday*: Obadiah 10-16 Revelation 8:1-5 Psalm 26 *Wednesday*: Obadiah 17-21 Luke 16:19-31 Psalm 26

Thursday: Genesis 14:17-24 Romans 15:7-13 Psalm 91:9-16

Friday Isaiah 47:1-9 Revelation 17:1-18 Psalm 91:9-16 *Saturday*: Isaiah 47:10-15 Luke 22:24-30 Psalm 91:9-16

Next Sunday's Lessons Isaiah 53:4-12; Psalm 91:9-16; Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45

<u>Join your prayers for healing</u> with God's desires for Karen Bailey, Ed Brown, Kristin Carter, Marcie Clark, Bob Cummings, Jack Harris, Sharon Jacobs, Jim Mayfield, Carole Meyer and Helen Nelsen.

<u>Pray for those unable to come to worship</u>: Martin Bleck, Ed Brown, Birdie Burton, York Doerr, Bob and Angie Groom, Pat Janot, Marilyn Johnson, Jeanne Nelson, Darlene Simon, George Vonderheide and Kay Wasaff.

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: Bob Alt, Charles Baugh, Donald and Carol Baum, , Eleftheria Beck, Sally Blackburn, June Brantley, Sharon Brown, Linda Bonfiglio, Mary Bloom, Amy Carl, Karin Cavanaugh, Amaree Cluff, Ruth Ann Coski, Judy Craun, Judy Drezek, Becky Drury, Darrin and Rosemary Dunn, Tanya Friz, David Gade, Joel Gillespie, Greg Gildner, Joan and John Goodhart, Sue Hassan and family, Andy Havola, Nick Havola, Bradley Kim Joan and Laurie Heintzelman, Char Henry, Lisa Hill, Jaxon Ireland, Claudia Jacobik, The Jacobs Family, Brian Johnson, Don Johnson, Connie Kendrick, The Kennedy family, Chantal Lacroix, Marnah Lund, Trish and Sara and Matthew Macerelli, Keara Mahony, Laura Margolin, Jack Mayfield, Doug MacKenzie, The Keith Meins family, Liz Montalvo, Ed Moninger, Mya Moore, Kim Morris, Bob Myers, Silvana Oderisi, Denise Ogborn, Lori Ogborn, Coral Pumley, Kurt Recktenwald, Kurtis Schultz, Lou Schuster, Inge Seiter, Chad Strausbaugh, Charley Underdahl, Brenda Webster, Caleb Winig and Elaine Wrich.

21st Sunday after Pentecost

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

Welcome

Centering Music God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending Carol Wahl

Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us.
We confess that we have honored you with our lips,
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.
The cravings at war within us
cause conflicts and disputes.
In our desire to be first
we make distinctions among ourselves.
We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.
In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.
Draw near to us with grace in time of need,
and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of \pm Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

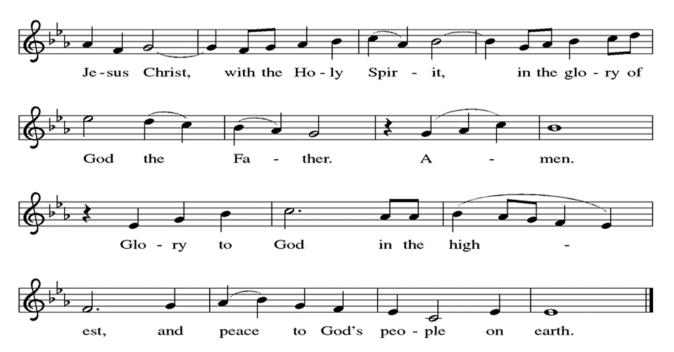
Amen.

Gathering Hymn Faith Begins by Letting Go ACS 1004

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 and ever-living God, increase in us your gift of faith, that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what lies ahead, we may follow the way of your commandments and receive the crown of everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, **Amen.**

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

First Reading Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

Amos was a herdsman by profession and a prophet by God's call. During a time of great prosperity in the northern kingdom of Israel, the prophet speaks to the wealthy upper class. He warns his listeners that fulfilling God's demand for justice brings blessing, while corruption and oppression incur God's wrath.

⁶Seek the LORD and live, or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire, and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it.

⁷Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood, and bring righteousness to the ground!

¹⁰They hate the one who reproves in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks the truth.

¹¹Therefore because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. ¹²For I know how many are your transgressions, and how great are your sins— you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and push aside the needy in the gate.

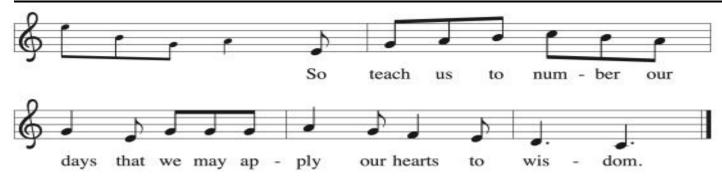
¹³Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time; for it is an evil time.

¹⁴Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said.

¹⁵Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

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

Psalm 90:12-17



- ¹²So teach us to num- | ber our days that we may apply our | hearts to wisdom.
- ¹³Return, O LORD; how long | will you tarry? Be gracious | to your servants. *Refrain*
- ¹⁴Satisfy us by your steadfast love | in the morning; so shall we rejoice and be glad | all our days.
- ¹⁵Make us glad as many days as you af- | flicted us and as many years as we suf- | fered adversity.
- ¹⁶Show your ser- | vants your works, and your splendor | to their children.
- ¹⁷May the graciousness of the Lord our God | be upon us; prosper the work of our hands; pros- | per our handiwork. *Refrain*

Second Reading Hebrews 4:12-16

We cannot hide our thoughts, desires, and actions from God, to whom we are completely accountable. Nevertheless, Jesus understands our human weakness and temptations, because he also experienced them. Therefore we can approach the throne of grace to receive divine mercy from Christ.

¹²Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

¹⁴Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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

Gospel Acclamation



Blessed are the | poor in spirit,* for theirs is the king- | dom of heaven (Matt. 5:3)

Gospel Mark 10:17-31

Jesus has been teaching his disciples about what is most valued in God's eyes. Now, a conversation with a rich man brings his message home to the disciples in a way that is surprising but unforgettable.

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

¹⁷As [Jesus] was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ¹⁸Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. ¹⁹You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" ²⁰He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." ²¹Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." ²²When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

²³Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" ²⁴And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." ²⁶They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" ²⁷Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

²⁸Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." ²⁹Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, ³⁰who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

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

Sermon

Receivers of a Hundredfold Silence for prayer and reflection.

Pastor Jon Nelson

Hymn of the Day

Commonwealth Is God's Commandment

ACS 1036 Bulletin page 12

Prayers

Each petition concludes, "God of grace," 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 What Shall We Give to God? 11:00 Take My Life, That I May Be

Robert A. Benson Mark Sedio

Offertory Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

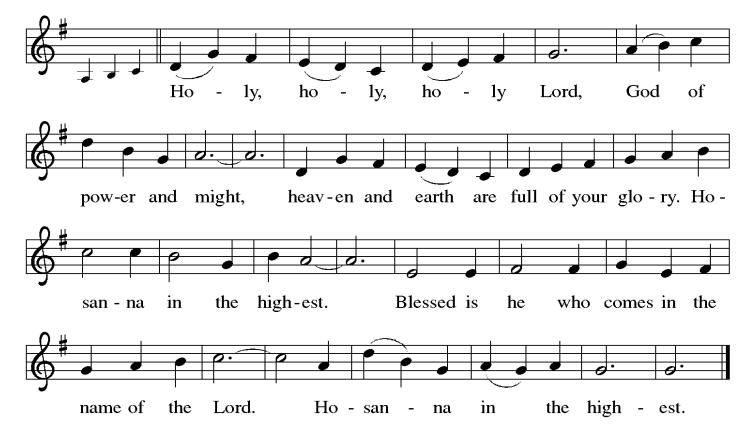
The Lord be with you. And also with you.

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:





Words of Institution

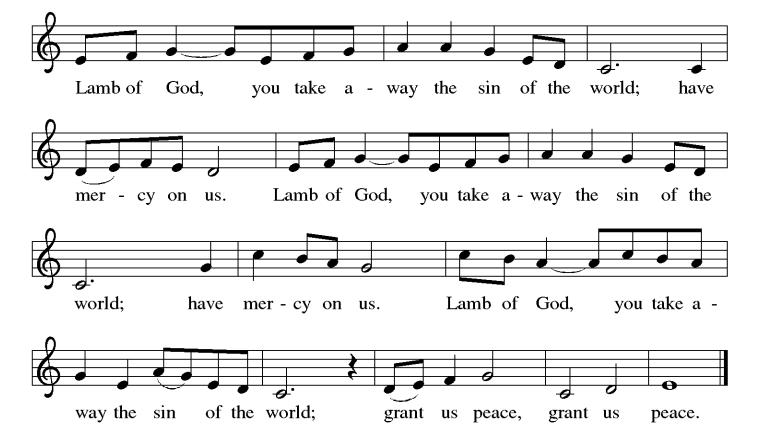
The Lord's Prayer

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.





Communion Hymn

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

ELW 678 Bulletin Page 13

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

Sending Hymn

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

ELW 551 Bulletin page 14

Blessing

God all mighty,
God most merciful

→ bless you, keep you,
and give you peace. Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Follow Jesus. Thanks be to God.

Postlude Commonwealth is God's Commandment

Greg Bottomley

Faith Begins By Letting Go



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

Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, Choralbuch, 1815

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Commonwealth Is God's Commandment



Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

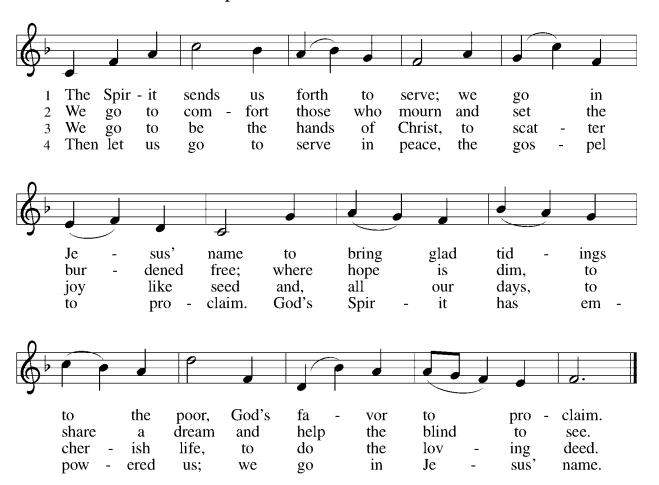
Music: RESTORATION, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835 Text © 2018 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending



Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1915–2006 Music: RUSTINGTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918 Text © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve



Text: Delores Dufner, osв, b. 1939

Music: CHESTERFIELD, attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

Text © 1993 Delores Dufner, admin. OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

As We Gather

Restrooms & First Aid

- ❖ A gender-neutral, family restroom and a Women's restroom can be found in the hallway behind our Worship Space.
- ❖ Additional Men's and Women's restrooms can be found on the lower level of the church building.
- ❖ A first aid kit and an A.E.D. can be found hanging on the wall in the hallway behind our Worship Space.

Live-streaming

❖ We regularly live-stream our services and cannot guarantee that you will not appear on our YouTube channel. Sitting in the East Wing or the NE section of the Worship Space will minimize your chances of being on screen. We can also bring communion to you if you inform an usher of that desire.

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.org)
- ❖ When parents and children need to take a break for a few minutes, there's a play area (aka "prayground") with toys and books in the East wing of 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.

<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

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

Walk & Talk. We will meet on the St. Stephen forecourt today, October 22 at 6:00 PM for a walk through the William & Mary campus. (weather permitting).

<u>Crockpot Ministries.</u> Are you ever hungry? So are some of our neighbors but we can help alleviate theirs through the Crockpot Ministry. Ingredients are needed from the list on the trifold in the Gathering Space for helping six families on Thursday, October 24. **Please return your contributions to the Church by no later than Tuesday morning October 21**. Refrigerated items can be labeled and placed in the kitchen refrigerator. Questions? Contact **Jane Gingerich** or **Susan Neidlinger**.

Upcoming

<u>For all the Saints</u>... All Saints' Sunday is **November 3**. 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 or send names to **Hollie Jones** (<u>office@saintstephenlutheran.net</u>).

ST. STEPHEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT FISH FISH, Inc. Volunteer Opportunities...November is the month we volunteer at FISH. Once again, they have asked us to size clothing. The dates are each Tuesday, Nov. 5, 12, 19, & 26, from 10AM to Noon. We need four persons each Tuesday. Thank you for signing up on the poster in the Gathering Space.

OrchaBand. The OrchaBand is back and currently seeking new and old members. Dust off those instruments and join us on Sunday, November 3 to accompany the congregational song for our All-Saints' Sunday Festival worship. Rehearsals will be 6-6:50 pm Wednesday, October 30 and Saturday, November 2, 11:30-noon. Come see Karen to pick up music for violin, viola, cello, euphonium, trombone, French horn, trumpet, flute, saxophone, clarinet or any instrument that you do not see named.

Hurricane Relief. While we hope to put a trip together to help with clean up and recovery, that cannot happen until they are ready for groups. In the meantime, the VA Synod is collecting "Flood buckets" to help with the eventual clean up. There are instructions on how to put one together in the additional insert in your bulletin. We are also staring a sign up for those that may be interested in the upcoming year in participating in a trip to North Carolina for a service trip. If interested please sign up on the insert sheet. More information to follow as it becomes available.

ELCA FACT Survey. Our congregation has the unique opportunity to participate in a national study of worship attenders. The study is being conducted by Faith Communities Today (FACT), a research partner of the ELCA. Since 2000, FACT has

conducted research that provides religious leaders of all traditions with critical information about the changing nature of congregational life and how to respond effectively. Anyone 18 or older who is a regular participant at St. Stephen can complete the survey. It should take between 12 to 15 minutes. To take the survey, please scan this QR Code:

Please complete the survey by Friday, Nov. 22.

<u>Guest Preacher.</u> We are excited to be welcoming the Rev. Janell Nickols to St. Stephen's pulpit on Sunday, October 20th.

BECAUSE OF GOD'S GREAT MERCY

"...in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."

I Peter 2:9

God has made us God's own people "in order that" we might proclaim through word and deed all that God has done in our lives. We do that individually as we live our faith in our daily lives. We also do that collectively in our congregation.

Our congregation proclaims God's mighty acts within our walls through worship, through Christian education for our children and youth, through the many groups that meet to learn and serve. Our congregation proclaims God's mighty acts in our community as we make a difference for good in the lives of people around us who are in need. Our congregation proclaims God's mighty acts across our country and around the world as we support important ministries that are making a difference near and far.

Your giving to our congregation makes all of this possible. Because of you, we "proclaim the mighty acts of him" who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

St. Stephen Calendar -Oct 13-20, 2024

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

SUNDAY, October 13 ~ 21st Sunday after Pentecost

8:30 AM	Worship – Holy	Communion ((live-streamed on	our YouTube channel)
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- 9:45 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)
- 9:50 AM Catechism Discussion (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:50 AM Faith Formation: Ministry Highlight (Preschool Room)

11:00 AM Worship - Holy Communion

- 6:00 PM LSA Dinner (College Room)
- 6:00 PM Walk & Talk (Meet at the Forecourt)

MONDAY, October 14

- 10:00 AM Staff Meeting (Office)
- 1:30 PM Bible Study (Library/Conference Room)
- 3:00 PM Finance Committee (Library/Conference Room)

TUESDAY, October 15

- 7:00 PM Council meeting (Library/Conference Room)
- 7:00 PM Choral Guild Council meeting (Fellowship Hall)

WEDNESDAY, October 16

- 8:55 AM Yoga (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)
- 7:00 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

THURSDAY, October 17

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

FRIDAY, October 18

SATURDAY, October 19

- 9-11:00AM Alpha Phi Omega Charity pancake breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:30 PM AA Meeting (Library/Conference Room)
- 5:30 PM Al-ANON Family Meeting (Gathering space)

SUNDAY, October 20 ~ 21st Sunday after Pentecost

8:30 AM Worship – Holy Communion (live-streamed on our YouTube channel)

- 9:45 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)
- 9:50 AM Adult Education: Truth & Healing Video (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:50 AM Faith Formation (Preschool Room)

11:00 AM Worship – Holy Communion

6:00 PM LSA Dinner (College Room)

Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

Acolyte/Crucifer	(8:30) Diana Tiller-Dichtel
	(11:00) Sonja Cave
Altar Guild	(8:30) Carol Wiers and Diana Tiller-Dichtel
	(11:00)
	(8:30) Beth & Steve Grant (11:00) David Nelson
Bread Baker	Paula Agor
Cantors	(8:30) Randy Punchard (11:00) Sandy Croushore
Communion Assistants	(8:30) Carol Wiers and Karen Sanderlin
	(11:00) Cyndy Touhsaent and Sonja Cave
	Rosemary Stimson
	(8:30) Chris Punchard (11:00) Ned Neidlinger
Lectors	(8:30) Chris Punchard, (11:00) Jeane Moore
Preacher	
Tellers	Jane deSolms, Susan Britcher, Jim Larsen

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 Baptisms

Pastor Jon Nelson (320-295-8861)

Karen Ives – Director of Music (757-229-6688)

Hollie Jones – Parish Administrator (757-229-6688)

Jessica Kimball -Preschool Director (757-229-6688)

Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center (757-873-2273; counselors are in Williamsburg on Thursdays)

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

October 13, 2024

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 Stephen Minister 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/Wa naad a nama tag:
I/We need a name tag:
I/We are interested in doing a service trip in early 2025 to North Carolina