



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.

Aug 9, 2026
11th Sunday after Pentecost

For Your Prayers - August 10-16, 2026

Lectionary readings for this week:

Mon – Aug 10: Genesis 7:11—8:5 2 Peter 2:4-10 Psalm 18:1-19

Tue – Aug 11: Genesis 19:1-29 Romans 9:14-29 Psalm 18:1-19

Wed – Aug 12: Job 36:24-33; 37:14-24 Matthew 8:23-27 Psalm 18:1-19

Thu – Aug 13: Isaiah 45:20-25 Revelation 15:1-4 Psalm 67

Fri – Aug 14: Isaiah 63:15-19 Acts 14:19-28 Psalm 67

Sat – Aug 15: Isaiah 56:1-5 Matthew 14:34-36 Psalm 67

Next Sunday: Isaiah 61:7-11 Psalm 34:1-9 (3) Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 1:46-55

Join your prayers for healing with God's desires for **Kristin Carter, Ginny Cummings, Craig Eichfeld, Edith Haecker, Dave Hoyer, Jim Ivey, Sharon Jacobs, Marilyn Johnson, Donna Kittelson, Terri Larsen, and Carole Meyer.**

Pray for those unable to come to worship: **Ailene Bartlett, Ed Brown, Pat Janot, Marilyn Johnson, Jon Lund, Darlene Simon, and Kay Wasaff.**

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: Bob Alt, Thomas Alt, Randy Altona, Phyllis Andrews, Sam Areheart, Kristin Carter, Philip Baker, Bob Bastian, Carol Baum, Robi Bayard, Lila Bradley, Carol Bergh, Mary Bloom, Doug Bolick, Robert Bunn, David Carr, John Coski, Amaree Cluff, Ronnie Dodson, Pat D'Orazio, Dru Dowdy, Judy Drezek, Danny Gass, Keith and Debbie Glenn, Joan Goodhart, Charee Hampton, Sue Hassan and family, Andy Havola, Nick Havola, Bradley, Kim, Joan and Laurie Heintzelman, Char Henry, Henry Hespenheide, Lisa Hill, Doris Hillenbrand, Bob Hirsch, Michelle Holdsworth, Jaxon Ireland, Don Johnson, Connie Kendrick, Jenn Kramer, Bob Loubach, Pat Layton, Marnah Lund, Doug MacKenzie, Keara Mahony, Trish Macerelli, Laura Margolin, Barry and Mabel Martin, Ellen Martin, Mabel Mater, Jackie Mazzone, Jimmy Mitchell, Carolyn Moneyemaker, Marian Mongelli, Liz Montalvo, Chuckie Moore, Bob Myers, Jeanette Osborn, Rodger Osborn, Maricel Paulin, Dima Pavlenko, Coral Pumley, Scott Radley, Kurt Recktenwald, Paula Rega, Carol Sue Repass, Brian Ritter, Ruth Sandoval, Lou Schuster, Pamela Sharp, Kelsey Slay, Valerie Smith, Vasili Soultoukis, Laura Spencer, Charlie Stayton, Chad Strausbaugh, Al Stern, Monika Stern, Lara Templin, Lenorah Thomas, Karli Wallace Thompson, Betty Lou Tulloh, Elaine Wrich, Lynda Wright, and Bev Utrich.

11th Sunday after Pentecost

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

Welcome

Centering Music

God, When Human Bonds Are Broken

Jayne Southwick Cool

Call to Worship

In the midst of all that tosses us to and fro,
In the heart of what makes us most afraid,
God gathers us together.

Grounding us in our collective power,
nurturing our faith,
drawing upon wells of wisdom, ancient and new,
our Spirits are renewed in the presence of God.

We take heart.

We share the load together.

We trust that fear will not overpower us.

**Courage is our inheritance;
a legacy of the faithful.**

Thanks be to God,
the Spirit of Liberation who upholds us.

Opening Prayer

Holy Comforter, we crave your gentle and knowing presence. We are rattled by collective losses and shaken by acts of cruelty near and far. Let your Word be a steadying force; a source of confidence in our ability to face our fears together. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

God, When Human Bonds Are Broken

ELW 603

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**

Hymn of Praise



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

Prayer of the Day

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

First Reading

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

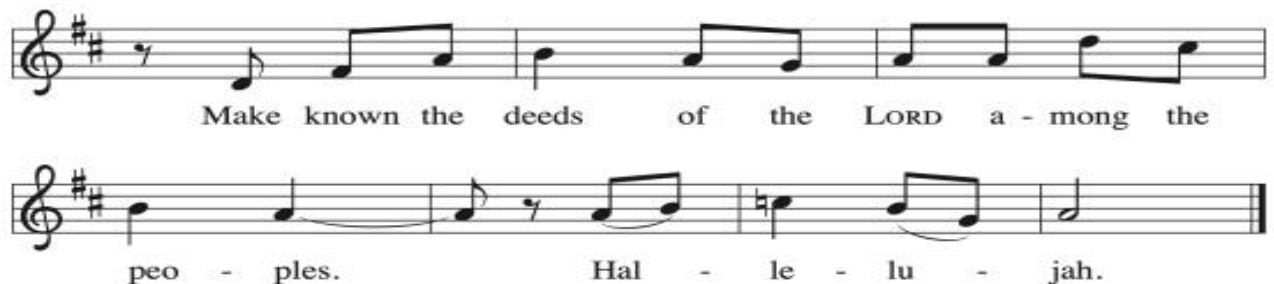
Though Joseph was Jacob's favorite son, his jealous brothers sold him into slavery. Judah, who protected Joseph's life, later gives a moving speech before Joseph in Egypt, indicating that the brothers had changed their ways (44:18-34).

¹ Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. ² These are the descendants of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives, and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. ³ Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children because he was the son of his old age, and he made him an ornamented robe. ⁴ But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him. ¹² Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. ¹³ And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing

the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them.” He answered, “Here I am.” ¹⁴ So he said to him, “Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock, and bring word back to me.” So he sent him from the valley of Hebron. He came to Shechem, ¹⁵ and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, “What are you seeking?” ¹⁶ “I am seeking my brothers,” he said; “tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock.” ¹⁷ The man said, “They have gone away, for I heard them say, ‘Let us go to Dothan.’ ” So Joseph went after his brothers and found them at Dothan. ¹⁸ They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them they conspired to kill him. ¹⁹ They said to one another, “Here comes this dreamer. ²⁰ Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams.” ²¹ But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, “Let us not take his life.” ²² Reuben said to them, “Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him”—that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. ²³ So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the ornamented robe that he wore, ²⁴ and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it. ²⁵ Then they sat down to eat, and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. ²⁶ Then Judah said to his brothers, “What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? ²⁷ Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh.” And his brothers agreed. ²⁸ When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

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

Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b



- ¹ Give thanks to the LORD and call up- | on God's name;
make known the deeds of the LORD a- | mong the peoples.
- ² **Sing to the | LORD, sing praises,**
and speak of all God's | marvelous works.
- ³ Glory in God's | holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the | LORD rejoice.
- ⁴ **Search for the strength | of the LORD;**
continually | seek God's face. REFRAIN
- ⁵ Remember the marvels | God has done,
the wonders and the judgments | of God's mouth,
- ⁶ **O offspring of Abra- | ham, God's servant,**
O children of Jacob, God's | chosen ones.
- ¹⁶ Then God called for a famine | in the land

and destroyed the sup- | ply of bread.
¹⁷ **The LORD sent a | man before them,**
Joseph, who was sold | as a slave. REFRAIN
¹⁸ They bruised his | feet in fetters;
his neck they put in an | iron collar.
¹⁹ **Until his prediction | came to pass,**
the word of the LORD | tested him.
²⁰ The king sent | and released him;
the ruler of the peoples | set him free,
²¹ **setting him as a master o- | ver his household,**
as a ruler over all | his possessions,
²² to instruct his princes according | to his will
and to teach his elders wisdom. ^{45b} | Hallelujah! **REFRAIN**

Reading

Romans 10:5-15

A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.

⁵ Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” ⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), ⁹ because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. ¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” ¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

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

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.

Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Gospel

Matthew 14:22-33

Matthew's gospel typically portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith," who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.

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

²² [Jesus] made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee,] while he dismissed the crowds.²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea.²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear.²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."²⁸ Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."²⁹ He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus.³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!"³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

Sermon

Pastor Harvey Nelson

Hymn of the Day

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

ELW 756

Bulletin page 12

Ancient and Ecumenical Nicene Creed *(see note at end of bulletin)*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers

Each petition concludes: Merciful God, receive our prayer.

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

Offering Invitation

In community, we are buoyed by love. We are made capable of doing hard things, taking risks, and bravely facing the circumstances that surround us. With gratitude for this place of belonging, and for God's presence with us, let us bring what we have together.

Offering of Music:

Amazing Grace

Marianne Kim

Thom Recktenwald, Flute; Linda Baumgarten, bassoon; Ina Berkey and Karen Ives, piano

Offertory Prayer

Courageous One, nurture in us the seeds of faith you have planted. We believe in the transformative power of love. We believe in each other. We believe in your creative presence in the world around us. But God, we struggle to live our beliefs. As we bring together our resources, we pray for your blessing upon our shared labor. May all that we do reflect the radical and abundant faith to which you have called us. **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 ... and join their unending hymn:



The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff begins with a repeat sign, indicating the unending nature of the hymn.

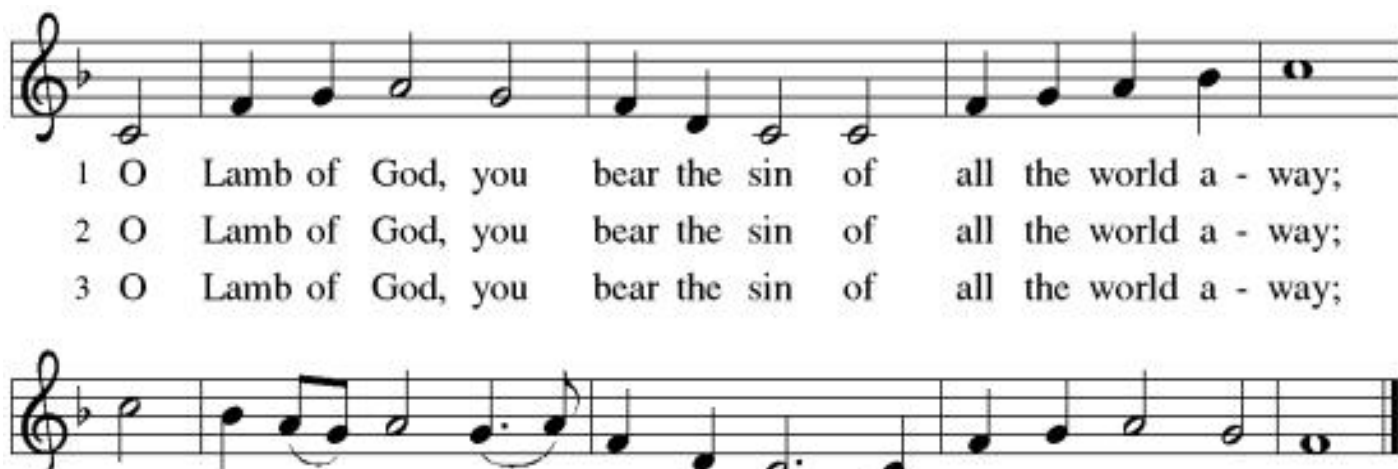
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Holy Communion *When receiving Communion, either stand or kneel at the Rail. Pastor will distribute the bread and a Communion Assistant will come with a tray of pre-filled cups of wine and grape juice. The juice will be in the middle of the tray. Gluten-free wafers are available as an alternative to bread. All are welcome to the Lord's Supper.*



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Communion Hymns

Amazing Grace

ELW 779
Bulletin page 13

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

ELW 773
Bulletin page 14

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

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

Sending Hymn

God of Grace and God of Glory

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Bulletin page 15

Blessing

**Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, † one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.
Amen.**

Dismissal

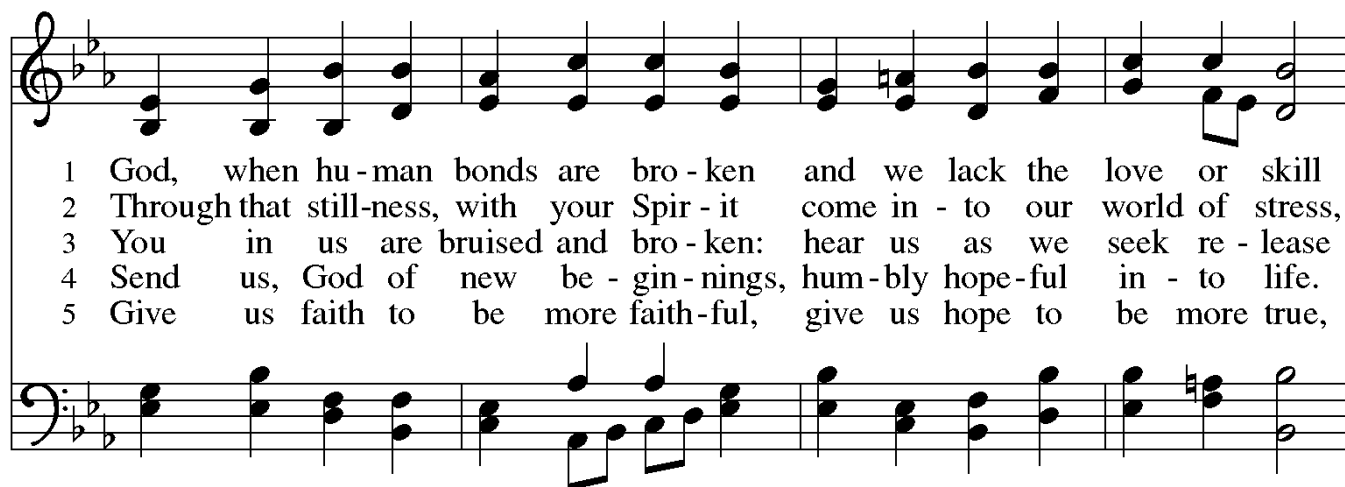
Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Postlude

God of Grace and God of Glory

Paul Manz

God, When Human Bonds Are Broken



1 God, when hu-man bonds are bro-ken and we lack the love or skill
2 Through that still-ness, with your Spir-it come in-to our world of stress,
3 You in us are bruised and bro-ken: hear us as we seek re-lease
4 Send us, God of new be-gin-nings, hum-bly hope-ful in-to life.
5 Give us faith to be more faith-ful, give us hope to be more true,



to re-store the hope of heal-ing, give us grace and make us still.
for the sake of Christ for-giv-ing all the fail-ures we con-fess.
from the pain of ear-lier liv-ing; set us free and grant us peace.
Use us as a means of bless-ing: make us stron-ger, give us faith.
give us love to go on learn-ing: God, en-cour-age and re-new!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823–1889

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Eternal Father, Strong to Save

1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm has bound the
 2 O Sav - ior, whose al - might - y word the winds and waves sub -
 3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, who didst brood up - on the cha - os
 4 O Trin - i - ty of love and pow'r, all trav - 'lers guard in

rest - less wave, who bade the might - y o - cean deep its
 mis - sive heard, who walked up - on the foam - ing deep, and
 dark and rude, and bid its an - gry tu - mult cease, and
 dan - ger's hour from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -

own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: oh, hear us when we
 calm a - mid the storm didst sleep: oh, hear us when we
 give, for wild con - fu - sion, peace: oh, hear us when we
 tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall

cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
 rise to thee glad hymns and praise from land and sea.

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
 Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

773



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,
and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,



Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.



Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

God of Grace and God of Glory

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

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

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

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

As We Gather

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 or Facebook 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. Both services are live streamed.

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 "playground") 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.

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 this morning are given by Dave and Bev Hoyer in honor of James Hoyer's 3rd birthday.

Thank you to our Orcha-Band.

Summer Film Series: Our next movie is Rain (1932; Unrated) Walter Huston is a conflicted missionary who tries to force Crawford's former prostitute to adopt his faith and values, but his own self-righteous standards gradually decay until the tables are turned. **Aug 9 at 2:00 – Rain 1932**

Information & Upcoming

Preschool Summer Carnival August 29th 11am-2PM. We're collecting **raffle baskets, gift cards, and donated items(must be new)** for our Preschool Scholarship Fund fundraiser. Every donation helps provide preschool opportunities for children in our community. Thank you for your generosity and support. Please drop off items no later than Monday Aug 24th to the church

New Member Welcome: We will have a new member welcome at the end-of-summer church picnic on Sunday, September 6th, at Freedom Park. On Sunday August 30th we invite all new members/transfers for a class and lunch after service. If you are attending either event, please fill out the insert so that we can plan food for both activities.

Ever thought about baking bread for communion? There is an easy to follow recipe. Bread can be dropped off Sunday morning or Saturday. You get input into when you are available to bake. It averages about once every two to three months. Sign up on the insert or email: sslcbreadbakers@gmail.com

Church Building Closed. The church will be closed **the week of August 10th-15th** for floor stripping and waxing. The floors and stairwell will be inaccessible this week. **We would welcome your help moving furniture following worship on August 9th.**

Pastor Jon will be on vacation from August 3rd - 18th. If you need pastoral care during this time, please contact Pastor Harvey Nelson or Pastor Gerry Johnson.

Flower Sign UP! Please sign up for flowers for the fall. We have lots of dates still available. Please sign a green sheet and drop it off in the collection plate or in the office.

Dining Small Groups Are Back After a Break: Sign Up Now For The Next Round
Consisting of about 7-9 people, each dining group will set its own "approach" for meals, such as: dinner out, brunch or lunch at a group member's house, potluck after Sunday worship, take-out, picnic, etc. Do whatever works best for the group! Each group is asked to meet three times between late September and the end of January. Of course you are free to meet more often if that works for your group. Sign up on the bulletin insert or call the church office; the **deadline to sign up is Sept. 20.** Contact Alison Carney or Diane McCurry with questions.

St. Stephen Calendar: Aug 9-16, 2026

SUNDAY, Aug 9 ~ 11th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM Coffee and Fellowship (Gathering Space)

9:45 AM **Worship – Communion** (*livestreamed on our YouTube channel*)

2:00 PM Movie (Fellowship Hall)

MONDAY, Aug 10

Church Building CLOSED all week

TUESDAY, Aug 11

WEDNESDAY, Aug 12

THURSDAY, Aug 13

FRIDAY, Aug 14

SATURDAY, Aug 15

SUNDAY, Aug 16~ 12th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM Coffee and Fellowship (Gathering Space)

9:45 AM **Worship – Communion** (*livestreamed on our YouTube channel*)

God, When Human Bonds Are Broken; Contributor: Jayne Southwick Cool©2006 Augsburg fortress

Amazing Grace; Contributor: Marianne Kim©2026 Augsburg fortress

God of Grace and God of Glory; Contributor: Paul Manz ©1974 Concordia

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Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

Acolyte/Crucifer.....(9:45) Stan York
Altar Guild (9:45) Nancy Egloff
Audio-Visual Team..... (9:45) Tim Judy & Nancy Carter
Bread Baker..... Ursula Recktenwald
Cantor (9:45) Terry Larsen
Communion Assistants (9:45) Nancy & Keith Egloff
Flower DeliveryNelia Lamoureux
Greeters/Hosts(9:45) Alison Carney
Lectors..... Tom Peterkin and George Bass
PastorPastor Harvey Nelson
Tellers..... Jane deSolms, Susan Britcher and Jim Larsen
Ushers.....(9:45) Glenn Joppa and Jim Weilmuenster



Did you enjoy our service this morning? If so, please consider donating to our general fund by scanning the QR code. This helps us with various ministries in our community and abroad. Thank You!

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

Love God, Love People, Form Faith.
(St. Stephen Lutheran Church Vision Statement)

All of Us, Called Through Our Baptisms

Pastor Jon Nelson (320-295-8861)

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

Hollie Jones – Parish Administrator (229-6688)

Jessica Kimball – Preschool Director (229-6688)

LSA Pastor Gerry Johnson(703)209-3599

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

Doing Ministry in the World

Pastorjn@saintstephenlutheran.net

MusicDir@saintstephenlutheran.net

Office@saintstephenlutheran.net

Preschool@saintstephenlutheran.net

pastorgfj@gmail.com

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

Aug 9, 2026

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
- _____ LSA member
- _____ Looking for a church home
- _____ Desire to speak with pastor
- _____ Would like more information about Stephen Ministry

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 am a **new member** and will be attending:

_____ Sunday **August 30th** Class/meal

_____ I / We will be attending Sunday **September 6th** picnic in the park:

of Attending _____

Dining Small Groups Sign Up:

Your Name (if signing up for more than one person, include names of all participants):

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

I would like to be in a group that does **not** meet for meals out in restaurants: (check here) (☐)

I am willing to be the point of contact for my new dining small group: (circle one) Yes No

_____ I would like to be a bread baker

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