



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.

July 19, 2026
8th Sunday after Pentecost

For Your Prayers - July 20-26, 2026

Lectionary readings for this week:

Mon – July 20: Nahum 1:1-13; Revelation 14:12-20; Psalm 75

Tue – July 21: Zephaniah 3:1-13; Galatians 4:21—5:1; Psalm 75

Wed – July 22: Daniel 12:1-13; Matthew 12:15-21; Psalm 75

Thu – July 23: 1 Kings 1:28-37; 1 Corinthians 4:14-20; Psalm 119:129-136

Fri – July 24: 1 Kings 1:38-48; Acts 7:44-53; Psalm 119:129-136

Sat – July 25: 1 Kings 2:1-4; Matthew 12:38-42; Psalm 119:129-136

Next Sunday: 1 Kings 3:5-12; Psalm 119:129-136; Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-22, 44-52

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, Carole Meyer, and Marie Nelson.**

Pray for those unable to come to worship: **Ailene Bartlett, Ed Brown, Pat Janot, Marilyn Johnson, Susan Kauffman, 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, Lisa Hill, Doris Hillenbrand, 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 Money-maker 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.

8th Sunday after Pentecost

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

Welcome

Centering Music

Praise and Thanksgiving

Sandra Eithun

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God, **we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

Opening Litany (*from enfleshed.com*)

The Spirit of God transforms our minds and hearts.

She stretches our imagination and expands our notions of possibility.

With hope, She urges us toward futures yet perceived.

Creation groans, awaiting collective freedom.

Redemption is coming. God will birth new worlds among us.

Through faith, we labor for renewal and restoration.

Come, Holy Spirit, and ready us for the Kin-dom to come.

Opening Prayer (*from enfleshed.com*)

Creative One, by your Spirit, free us from the constraints evil has placed upon our dreams. We struggle to hope outside of what we have known. We find it difficult to practice imagination that is not bound by our fears or tainted with cynicism. Open our minds. Fill us with grand visions of life abundant and love that frees, that we might not be a stumbling block to your transformation among us. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

Praise and Thanksgiving

ELW 689
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 Sing to the Lord of har - vest your songs of love and praise;
2 God makes the clouds drop fat - ness, the des - erts bloom and spring,
3 Bring to this sa - cred al - tar the gifts his good-ness gave,

with joy - ful hearts and voic - es your al - le - lu - ias raise;
the hills leap up in glad - ness, the val - leys laugh and sing.
the gold - en sheaves of har - vest, the souls Christ died to save.

by him the roll - ing sea - sons in fruit - ful or - der move;
God fills them with his full - ness, all things with large in - crease,
Your hearts lay down be - fore him when at his feet you fall,

sing to the Lord of har - vest a joy - ous song of love.
and crowns the year with good - ness, with plen - ty and with peace.
and with your lives a - dore him who gave his life for all.

Prayer of the Day

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

First Reading

Isaiah 44:6-8

There are no other gods besides God: the word of the Lord does not fail to come to pass. We can trust in God, through whom Israel—and we—are redeemed.

⁶ Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: I am the first, and I am the last; besides me there is no god. ⁷ Who is like me? Let them proclaim it; let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be. ⁸ Do not fear or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one. *Reader: The Word of the Lord. Response: Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 86:11-17



- ¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk | in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to re- | vere your name.
- ¹² **I will thank you, O Lord my God, with | all my heart,
and glorify your name for- | evermore. REFRAIN**
- ¹³ For great is your | love toward me;
you have delivered me from the | pit of death.
- ¹⁴ **The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people | seeks my life;
they have not set you be- | fore their eyes.**
- ¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are gracious and full | of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kind- | ness and truth.
- ¹⁶ **Turn to me and have mer- | cy on me;
give your strength to your servant, and save the child | of your handmaid.**
- ¹⁷ **Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be | put to
shame;
because you, LORD, have helped me and com- | forted me. REFRAIN**

Reading

Romans 8:12-25

For Paul, true spirituality means that we experience the reality of the Spirit, which enables us to pray as God's children, keeps us in solidarity with creation, and gives us unseen hope that God will liberate us and creation from bondage to death and decay.

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. ¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the

glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Jesus tells a parable about the coexistence of good and evil in this world. God's judgment will remove all evildoers and causes of sin, but not until the end of human history.

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

²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸ He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' ³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷ He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and

the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

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

Sermon *The Roots of the Kin-dom and the Spirit of Adoption* Pastor Jon Nelson

Hymn of the Day *For the Fruit of All Creation* ELW 679
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: God of grace, hear our prayer.

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

Offering Invitation

As all of creation yearns for freedom, we remember that all of life is bound up together. Our own spirits are entangled with the well-being of every living thing. With humility, let us acknowledge our own ongoing journeys of transformation as we seek to do our part in the collective labors of healing, justice, and companionship. In gratitude for the grace of God that sustains us, let us bring our offerings together.

Offering of Music: *Sing to the Lord of Harvest* Cathy Moglebust

Offertory Prayer

Spirit of Solidarity, wherever there is ache, you are there. You groan with those who suffer. You cry out through prophets calling for justice. You stir the spirits of the complacent and trouble the hearts of the indifferent. With thanks for your presence that transforms and your hope that endures, we bring our offerings and pray that we may be faithful companions to one another and every neighbor in struggle. **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 score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, using eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are: 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

The Reign of God, like Farmer's Field

ACS 952
 Bulletin page 13

Communion Music

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Jason Krug

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

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

ELW 693
 Bulletin page 14

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

For the Fruit of All Creation

John Turner

Praise and Thanksgiving

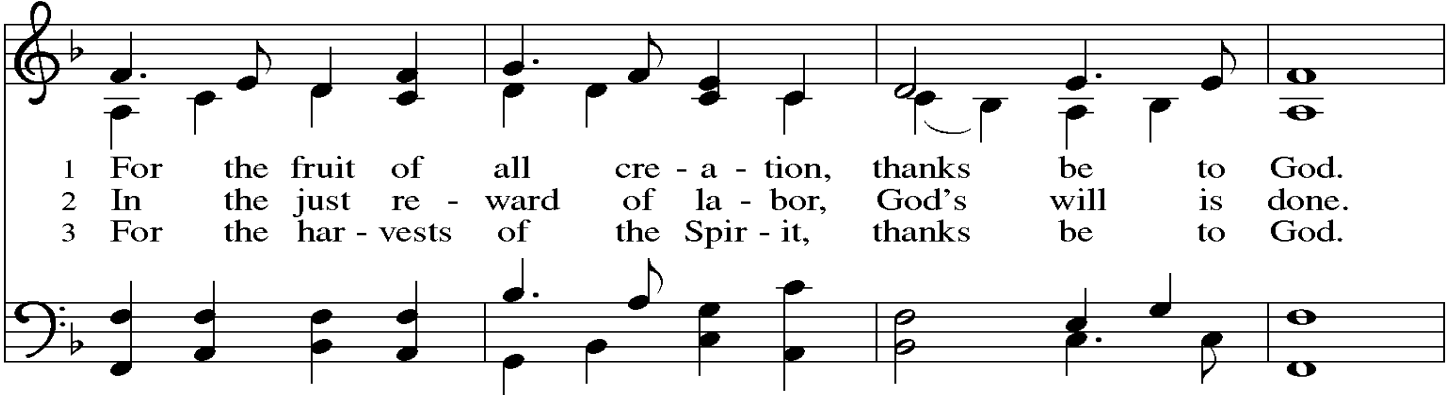
1 Praise and thanks-giv-ing, God, we would of-fer for all things
 2 God, bless the la-bor we bring to serve you, that with our
 3 Fa-ther, pro-vid-ing food for your chil-dren, by Wis-dom's
 4 Then will your bless-ing reach ev-'ry peo-ple, free-ly con-

liv-ing, you have made good: har-vest of sown fields, fruits of the
 neigh-bor we may be fed. Sow-ing or till-ing, we would work
 guid-ing teach us to share one with an-oth-er, so that, re-
 fess-ing your gra-cious hand. Where you are reign-ing, no one will

or-chard, hay from the mown fields, blos-som and wood.
 with you, har-vest-ing, mill-ing for dai-ly bread.
 joic-ing with us, all oth-ers may know your care.
 hun-ger; your love sus-tain-ing show-ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.
 Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version
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 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

For the Fruit of All Creation



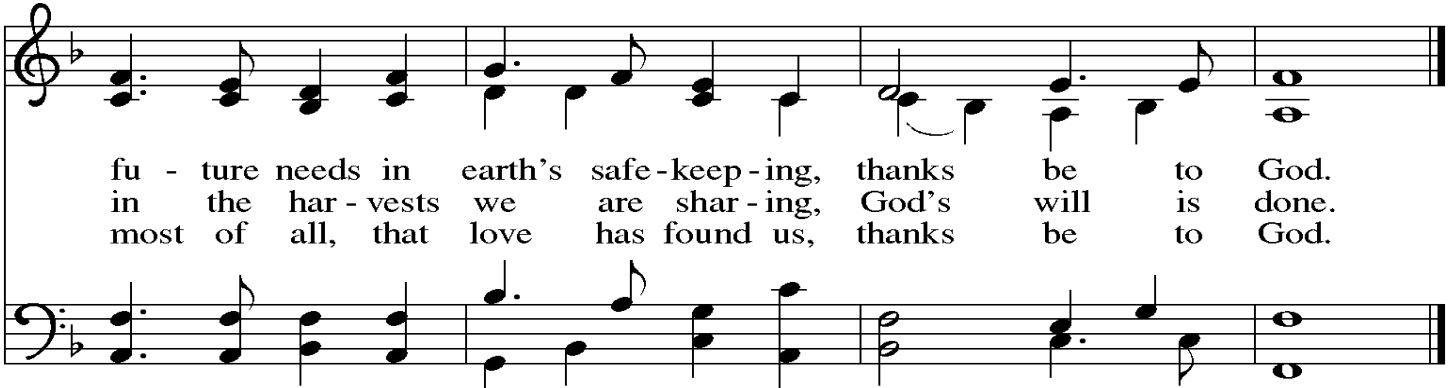
1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

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Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

The Reign of God Like Farmer's Field

1 The reign of God, like farm - er's field, bears
 2 The reign of God is like a pearl on
 3 Though hid - den now, the reign of God may,
 4 Like mus - tard tree, the reign of God from
 5 The reign of God is come in Christ; the

weeds a - long with wheat; the good and bad are
 bar - ren land con - cealed. If once you find that
 yet un - no - ticed, grow; from deep with - in it
 ti - ny seed will spread, till birds of ev - 'ry
 reign of God is near. A - blaze a - mong us,

in - ter - twined till har - vest is com - plete.
 pre - cious pearl, go out and buy that field.
 ris - es up, like yeast in swell - ing dough.
 feath - er come to nest, and there be fed.
 kin - dling hearts, the reign of God is here!

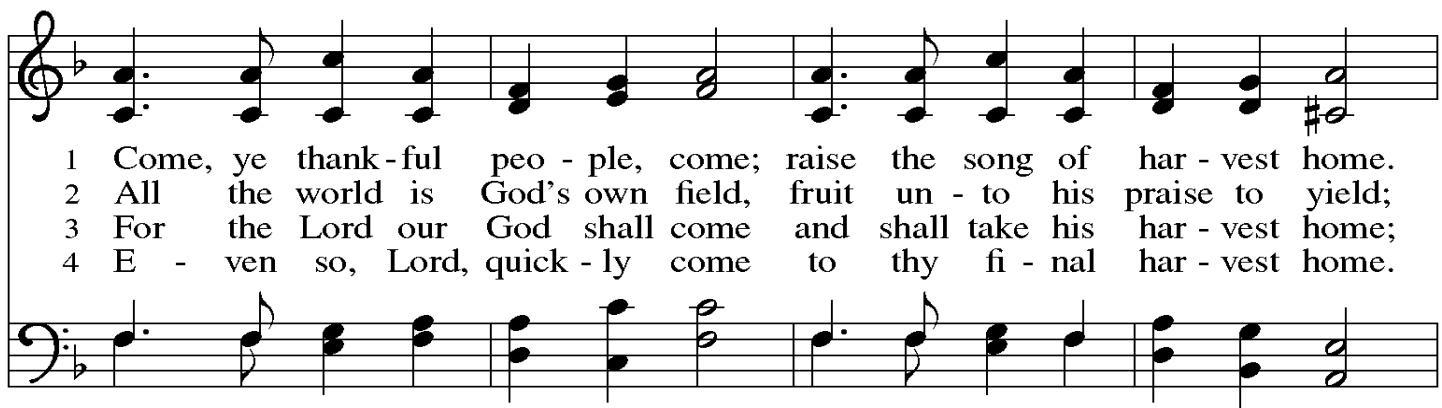
Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: DUNLAP'S CREEK, Samuel McFarland, fl. 1816; arr. *With One Voice*, 1995

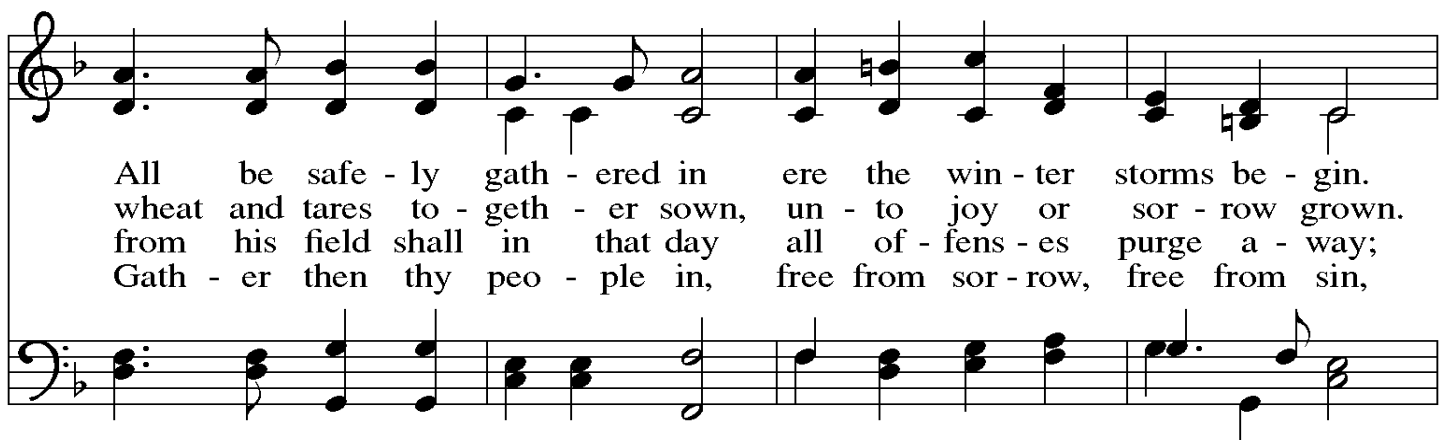
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Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



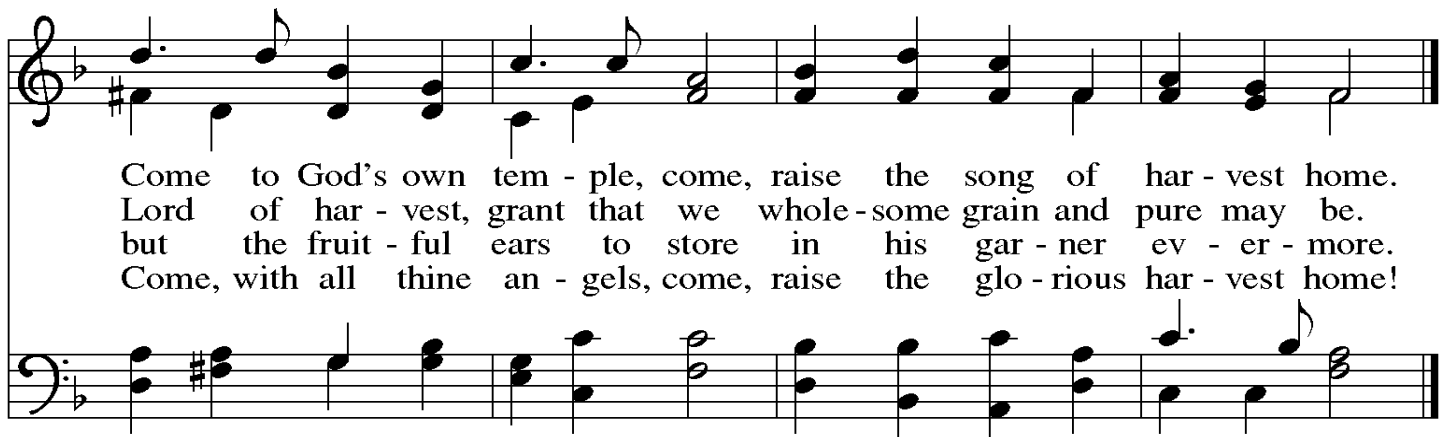
1 Come, ye thank - ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield;
 3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har - vest home;
 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest home.



All be safe - ly gath - ered in ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
 wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
 from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;
 Gath - er then thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
 First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
 give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
 there, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy gar - ner to a - bide.



Come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.
 Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
 but the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.
 Come, with all thine an - gels, come, raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

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 "pryground") 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 Reed and Karen Nester in honor of their 54th wedding anniversary.

Thank you to our handbell sextet for their musical gifts this morning: Paul Reier, Jane deSolms, Kris Eichenberger, Sandy Johnson, George Martin, and Sandy Reed-Bryant.

Information & Upcoming

Summer Film Series: Our next movie is True Grit (2010), a classic Western tale of justice, revenge, and whether there's a difference between them. **July 26 2:00 – True Grit 2010 PG13** Come For: This is not the John Wayne version. I made a choice: the 2010 sticks closer to the original novel. It's a classic Western tale: 14 year old girl looking for justice for her dead father teams up with drunken, mean lawman in a long journey to get said justice. Stay For: We're getting religious on this one. Our texts will be Proverbs 28:1, Ecclesiastes 7:1-6 and 7:15-20. Who are the righteous? Who are the wicked? What is justice and what is revenge? All views are encouraged/welcome!

Pop Up Choir-This summer while the choirs are on hiatus, we will be having “pop-up” choirs on each 4th Sunday of the summer months. Next Sunday is the 4th Sunday of July! Come at 9:15 AM next Sunday, surround yourself with fellow “shower” singers, learn a peppy tune, and improve your health while singing an anthem during the offering. Yes, singing is good for you! Did you read Karen's June Quill Article? Singing reduces stress, strengthens your lungs, lowers your heart rate and blood pressure, and improves your immune system, not to mention the social benefits of singing in a choir. See you next Sunday!

SAVE THE DATE! November 6-7, 2026 Fall Women's Workshop

The St. Stephen Fall Women's Workshop is being planned as a one-day event at St. Stephen on Saturday, November 7, with a Friday evening social the evening before, November 6. The Saturday workshop sessions will have spiritual themes and highlight relevancies to women's daily lives, and the schedule is designed to allow for longer breaks (thanks to feedback from last fall!). Plan to come and bring a friend for the day Saturday, or Friday evening, or better yet – both! Details will be shared as planning progresses. Thanks to Sandy Johnson and the planning team for their preparations. (Note: This annual St. Stephen women's event was formerly known as the Fall Women's Retreat; the planning team has renamed it the Fall Women's Workshop to better reflect its format.)

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.

St. Stephen Calendar: July 12-19, 2026

SUNDAY, July 19 ~ 8th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM Coffee and Fellowship (Gathering Space)

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

MONDAY, July 20

Week 6 Preschool Summer Camp, Mon- Fri., 9AM-12PM

TUESDAY, July 21

WEDNESDAY, July 22

8:45AM Yoga (Gathering Space)

5:00 PM Girl Scouts (Preschool room)

7:00 PM AA meeting (Fellowship Hall)

THURSDAY, July 23

FRIDAY, July 24

SATURDAY, July 25

5:30 PM AA Meeting (Library/Conference room)

5:30 PM Al-Anon (Gathering Space)

SUNDAY, July 26 ~ 9th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM Coffee and Fellowship (Gathering Space)

9:15 AM Pop-Up Choir rehearsal (Worship Space)

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

2:00 PM Movie: True Grit (Fellowship Hall)

Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

Acolyte/Crucifer.....(9:45) John McCurry
Altar Guild (9:45) Rita Kristiansen
Audio-Visual Team..... (9:45) Tobias & Liam Janke
Bread Baker..... Sharron Powell
Cantor (9:45) Jim Larsen
Communion Assistants(9:45) Christina Nelson & David Nelson
Flower DeliveryDiane McCurry
Greeters/Hosts(9:45) Rosie Frey
Lectors..... Reed Nester and Sandy Croushore
Pastor.....Pastor Jon Nelson
Tellers..... Jeanne Garrison, Carol Brown and Russ White
Ushers.....(9:45) Jeff and Lisa Bushmire

Note on the Ancient and Ecumenical Nicene Creed: During the summer months, you will notice a slight variation in the Nicene Creed as we omit the phrase “and the Son” (*Filioque*) regarding the procession of the Holy Spirit. This temporary shift is inspired by a historic common statement from the Lutheran-Orthodox international theological dialogue, which suggests using the original Greek text to help heal age-old divisions between Eastern and Western church traditions and promote global ecumenical unity. By returning to this foundational wording, we look forward to a renewed focus on Trinitarian theology and a deeper sense of reconciliation across the wider body of Christ. Learn more about the ecumenical work between LWF and the Orthodox traditions here: <https://lutheranworld.org/>

Upcoming Commemorations

Mary Magdalene, Apostle - Wednesday, July 22, 2026

Sometimes called "the apostle to the apostles" because she told them of her encounter with the risen Lord, Mary was a woman of Galilee who followed Jesus throughout his ministry. She was present at Jesus' crucifixion and his burial.

Birgitta of Sweden, renewer of the church, died 1373 - Thursday, July 23, 2026

Birgitta married at age thirteen and had four daughters. Widowed at age thirty-eight, she gave all that she owned to the poor, and founded a community of monks and nuns led by a woman. Her work is continued today by the Society of St. Birgitta.

James, Apostle - Saturday, July 25, 2026

James and his brother John were the sons of Zebedee, fishermen by trade before their call from Jesus. He was the first of the twelve apostles to be martyred, and his death is the only one recorded in scripture (Acts 12:1-2).



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

Doing Ministry in the World

Pastorjn@saintstephenlutheran.net
MusicDir@saintstephenlutheran.net
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Preschool@saintstephenlutheran.net
pastorgfj@gmail.com

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

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Sing to the Lord of Harvest; Contributor: Cathy Moglebust©2021 Choristers Guild
Come, Ye Thankful People, Come; Contributor: Jason W Krug ©2015 Choristers Guild
For the Fruit of All Creation; Contributor: John Turner©2019 Augsburg Fortress

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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.

July 19, 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 _____

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