



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.

May 3rd, 2026
Fifth Sunday of Easter

For Your Prayers –May 4-9, 2026

Lectionary readings for this week:

Mon – May 4: Exodus 13:17-22; Acts 7:17-40; Psalm 102:1-17

Tue – May 5: Proverbs 3:5-12; Acts 7:44-56; Psalm 102:1-17

Wed – May 6: Proverbs 3:13-18; John 8:31-38; Psalm 102:1-17

Thu – May 7: Genesis 6:5-22; Acts 27:1-12; Psalm 66:8-20

Fri – May 8: Genesis 7:1-24; Acts 27:13-38; Psalm 66:8-20

Sat – May 9: Genesis 8:13-19; John 14:27-29; Psalm 66:8-20

Next Sunday: Acts 17:22-31 Psalm 66:8-20 (8) 1 Peter 3:13-22 John 14:15-21

Join your prayers for healing with God's desires for **Kristin Carter, Ginny Cummings, Craig Eichfeld, Edith Haecker, Dave Hoyer, Jim Ivey, Sharon Jacobs, Donna Kittelson, Terri Larsen, Jim Mayfield, Pastor Jon Nelson and Marie Nelson.**

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

Pray for the family and friends of Bob and Angie Groom as they grieve their deaths.

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: Randy Altona, Phyllis Andrews, Lori Bardey and family, Kristin Carter, Carol Baum, Robi Bayard, Jeffrey Berry, Sr., Lila Bradley, June Brantley, Carol Bergh, Mary Bloom, Doug Bolick, Bob Britcher, David Carr, Ruth Ann Coski, Amaree Cluff, Dru Dowdy, Judy Drezek, Hollis Fulton, Danny Gass, Keith and Debbie Glenn, Joan Goodhart, Charee Hampton, Sue Hassan and family, Andy Havola, Nick Havola, Bradley, Kim, Joan and Laurie Heintzeman, Char Henry, Lisa Hill, Doris Hillenbrand, Bob Hirsch, Michelle Holdsworth, Jaxon Ireland, Don Johnson, Connie Kendrick, Jenn Kramer, Bob Loubach, Layton, Marnah Lund, Doug MacKenzie, Keara Mahony, Trish Macerelli, Laura Margolin, Barry and Mabel Martin, Ellen Martin, Mabel Mater, Jackie Mazzone, Jimmy Mitchell, Liz Montalvo, Bob Myers, Jim Ogborn, Jeanette Osborn, Rodger Osborn, Maricel Paulin, Janet Popelas, Coral Pumley, Scott Radley, Kurt Recktenwald, Carol Sue Repass, Brian Ritter, Ruth Sandoval, Lou Schuster, Pamela Sharp, Kelsey Slay, Valerie Smith, Helen Soultoukis, Vasili Soultoukis, Laura Spencer, Chad Strausbaugh, Al Stern, Monika Stern, Lara Templin, Lenorah Thomas, Karli Wallace Thompson, Jenn Tyson, Matt Weilmuenster, Elaine Wrich, and Lynda Wright

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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

Welcome

Centering Music

Hymn of Promise Natalie Sleeth, Arr. Martha Lynn Thompson
St. Stephen Ringers

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, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb! **Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us.

Blessed are you. **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you. **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you. **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

By All Your Saints

ELW 420

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

Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion




sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God. *Refrain*



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er. *Refrain*



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new. *Refrain*

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he 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

Acts 7:55-60

Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.

⁵⁵ Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

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

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16



¹ In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be | put to shame;
deliver me | in your righteousness.

² **Incline your | ear to me;**
make haste to de- | liver me.

³ Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag | and my stronghold;
for the sake of your name, lead | me and guide me.

⁴ **Take me out of the net that they have secretly | set for me,**
for you are my tow- | er of strength. REFRAIN

⁵ Into your hands I com- | mend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, | God of truth.

¹⁵ **My times are | in your hand;**
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who | persecute me.

¹⁶ Let your face shine up- | on your servant;
save me in your | steadfast love.” **REFRAIN**

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:2-10

Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture: “See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” ⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,” ⁸ and “A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

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

On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” ⁸ Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.””

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

Sermon

Pastor Gerry Johnson

Hymn of the Day *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds*

ELW 367
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Prayers

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Trusting in the power of Christ’s resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

God of glory, you have built your church on Christ the cornerstone. Inspire lay leaders, deacons, pastors, and bishops to proclaim forgiveness and your steadfast love to all whom they encounter. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of majesty, you bring forth plants and animals, skies and seas, mountains and valleys. Protect all you have made from the ravages of pollution and climate disaster. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of mercy, you intend governments and social service agencies to be instruments of peace and justice. Guide political leaders and organizations to be agents of compassion, and raise up advocates for those who seek refuge and assistance. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of well-being, you soothe those in distress, console all who grieve, provide for any in need, and comfort those who are sick (*especially*). Instill caregivers with a sense of purpose to be your healing hands in this world. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of community, you call us together as your people for mutual support and to witness to your love in the world. Make your presence known among those unable to attend worship today. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of eternal life, you have prepared dwelling places for your people, so that we are never separated from you. We give you thanks for the faithful departed who witnessed to your mighty acts in word and deed. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

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

Offering Invitation

Holy Stranger, at times we do not recognize you. We have inherited beliefs that narrow our perception. We rely on you, O God, to help us expand our understanding of the Sacred among us. Stretch us, that we might grow in faith. Challenge us, that we might deepen our commitment to love's strange ways.

Offering of Music:

Hymn of Promise

Natalie Sleeth

Offertory Prayer

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
 might; heav - en and earth are filled with your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Blessing

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your...

...With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

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.*

Good-ness is stron-ger than e - vil; love is stron-ger than hate;

light is stron-ger than dark - ness; life is stron-ger than death; vic-t'ry is
Oh,

ours, vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Vic-t'ry is
vic - t'ry is ours, vic - t'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Oh,

ours, vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us.
vic - t'ry is ours, vic - t'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

Communion Music

Solo: The Call
Brian Hesse, Baritone

R. Vaughan Williams

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds
St. Stephen Ringers

Arr. Karen Buckwalter

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

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

Sending Hymn

Christ Is Alive

ELW 889

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Blessing

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✠ bless you now and forever. Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Postlude

Christ Is Alive! Alleluia!
St. Stephen Ringers

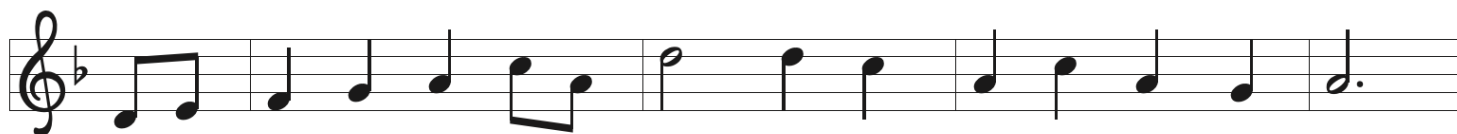
Michael Helman

By All Your Saints

Stephen, Deacon and Martyr



1 By all your saints still striv - ing, for all your saints at rest,
2 All praise **for** Ste - phen, mar - tyr, who saw you read - y stand
3 Give praise to God Al - mighty, and wor - ship God the Son,



your ho - ly name, O Je - sus, for - ev - er - more be blessed!
to help in time of tor - ment, to plead at God's right hand.
and sing to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One,



For you a - rose vic - to - rious that they might wear the crown
O Je - sus, born to save us, grant us dis - cern - ing sight,
till all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,



and share the light of glo - ry re - flect - ed from your throne.
that true till death we serve you and wit - ness to your light.
and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone.

Text: Horatio Bolton Nelson, 1823–1913, alt.; hymnal version, st. 2

Music: KING'S LYNN, English folk tune

Text st. 2 © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has
 there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has
 set heart and will on things a - bove that we
 and with the heav'n-ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



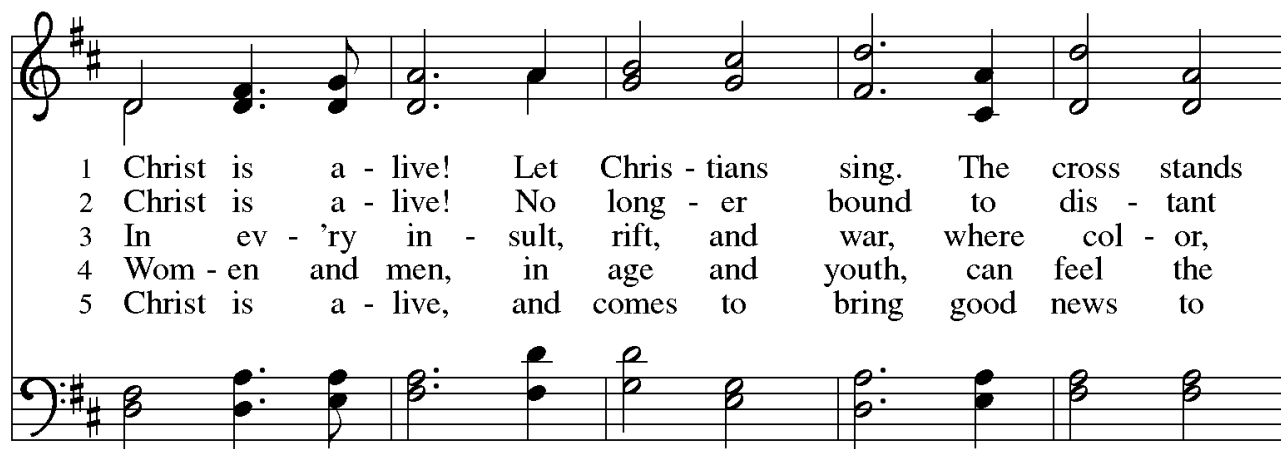
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt.

Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623

Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

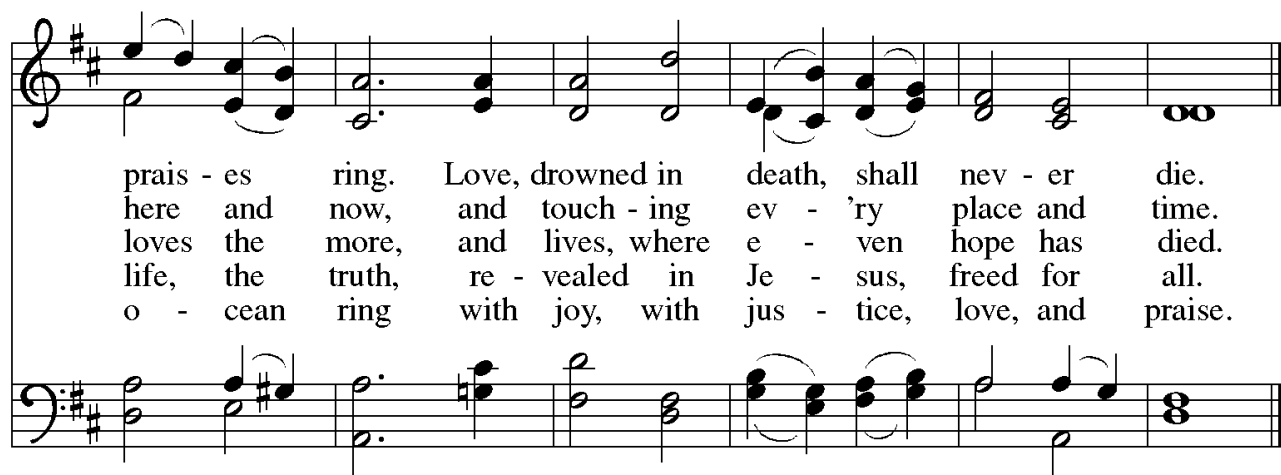
Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

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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 Dave and Bev Hoyer in honor of their wedding anniversary.

We thank Pastor Gerry Johnson for filling in while Pastor Jon is out healing.

We will be honoring the graduating LSA students between services today with cake and words of prayer and encouragement

Information & Upcoming

Pastor Jon will be out starting April 21st for 2-6 weeks to have and recover from Surgery. If you need immediate pastoral care please reach out to Pastor Harvey Nelson or Pastor Gerry Johnson. Thank you and we will continue to pray for Pastor Jon's quick recovery.

Monthly Caregiver Coffee is May 21st this month.

Join us for coffee/tea and conversation at 10:30 at Panera on May 21st .

Taco Tuesday The preschool is hosting another community meal For Cinco De Mayo. Please join us May 5th from 5:30 – 7:00 for dinner and fellowship with our preschool family's!

Seeking Leaders for “Luke 10” Training. Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) and Kairos Center for Religions, Rights, and Social Justice are partnering to help congregations lead efforts for change in their communities. This program is designed to help your congregation discern how to faithfully respond to the suffering in your community using the methods and practices of community organizing. Churches participate in this program by appointing a 4–5-person leadership team who will attend our training sessions and then lead their church to develop strategies to enact justice. The leadership team represents the congregation by joining three Luke 10 Zoom meetings per month for 9 months beginning September 2026 (committing to 4-8 hours per month); leading their congregation to implement what is learned throughout the program; and attending two retreats in Baltimore. Interested parties should contact Pastor Jon by May 17th. This opportunity is funded by a grant from the Lilly Foundation.

Church Picnic and start of the summer one service at 9:45am will start on **May 24th**. We will have service at the church followed by a picnic at Freedom Park. Please **RSVP** on the insert sheet so we know how many will be attending the picnic. Please plan on bringing a desert or side dish to share.

St. Stephen Calendar: May 3- 10, 2026

SUNDAY, May 3 ~ Fifth Sunday of Easter

- 8:00 AM Matins Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)
8:30 AM Worship – Communion (*livestreamed on our YouTube channel*)
9:45 AM Matins Rehearsal (Worship Space)
9:45 AM AOB (Library/Conference room)
10:00 AM LSA Graduation reception (gathering space)
10:30 AM Chancel Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)
11:00 AM Worship – Communion (*livestreamed on Facebook*)
6:00 PM LSA Dinner (College room)

MONDAY, May 4

- 1:30 PM Bible Study (Library/Conference room)

TUESDAY, May 5

- 5:30-7:00 PM Preschool Community Meal Taco Tuesday (Fellowship hall)
6:00 PM-8:00 PM Stephen Minister Training (Library/ Conference room)

WEDNESDAY, May 6

- 8:45AM Yoga (Gathering Space)
7:00PM Chancel Choir (Worship Space)
5:00 PM Girl Scouts (Preschool room)
7:00 PM AA meeting (Fellowship Hall)

THURSDAY, May 7

FRIDAY, May 8

- 10-11:30 AM Preschool mothers day brunch (Fellowship hall)

SATURDAY, May 9

- 1:00-5:00 PM Sewing Club (Fellowship hall)
5:30 PM AA Meeting (Library/Conference room)
5:30 PM Al-Anon (Gathering Space)

SUNDAY, May 10 ~ Fifth Sunday of Easter

- 8:00 AM Matins Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)
8:30 AM Worship – Communion (*livestreamed on our YouTube channel*)
9:45 AM Matins Rehearsal (Worship Space)
9:45 AM AOB (Library/Conference room)
10:30 AM Chancel Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)
11:00 AM Worship – Communion (*livestreamed on Facebook*)

Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

Acolyte/Crucifer..... (8:30) Bill Dichtel
..... (11:00) Christina Nelson
Altar Guild (8:30)Diana Tiller-Dichtel & Amy Berg
..... (11:00)
Audio-Visual Team.....(8:30) JR & Diana Lyons (11:00) David Nelson
Bread Baker..... Ursula Recktenwald
Cantors (8:30) Paula Agor (11:00)Jim Larsen
Communion Assistants (8:30) Chris & Randy Punchard
..... (11:00) Heidi Flatin and Nancy Egloff
Flower DeliveryKaren Nester
Greeters/Hosts (8:30) Sandy Peterkin (11:00) Diana Tiller-Dichtel
Lectors..... (8:30) Thom Recktenwald (11:00) Russ Dabel
Pastor Pastor Gerry Johnson
Tellers..... Jane Gingerich, Ursula Recktenwald and Russ White
Ushers..... (8:30) Jeff and Lisa Bushmire (11:00) Glenn Joppa

Upcoming Commemorations

Albrecht Dürer, died 1528; Matthias Grünewald, died 1529; Lucas Cranach, died 1553; artists

Monday, April 6, 2026

These great artists revealed through their work the mystery of salvation and the wonder of creation. Dürer's work reflected the apocalyptic spirit of his time. Though he remained a Roman Catholic, he was sympathetic to Martin Luther's reforming work. Grünewald's paintings are known for their dramatic forms, vivid colors, and depiction of light. Cranach's work includes many fine religious examples and several portraits of Martin Luther. Cranach was also widely known for his woodcuts.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, theologian, died 1945

Thursday, April 9, 2026

Bonhoeffer was a German theologian who wrote profoundly, yet in an accessible manner. In the Second World War, he became a leader of the Confessing Church in Germany that resisted the Nazi movement. Linked to a plot to kill Hitler, he was hanged shortly before the end of the war.

Mikael Agricola, Bishop of Turku, died 1557

Friday, April 10, 2026

Consecrated bishop of Turku, Finland, without the approval of the pope, Agricola began a reform along Lutheran lines. In only three years, he translated the New Testament and worship texts into Finnish, in the process establishing the rules of Finnish writing that are still used today.

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Christ

The Way, the Truth,
and the Life.

JOHN 14:6

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

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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.

May 3, 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/ We need a name tag _____

___ I/We will be attending the church Picnic on May 24th at Freedom Park
of people attending _____

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