

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.

All Saints Sunday

November 1, 2026

For Your Prayers – November 02-08, 2026

Lectionary readings for this week:
Mon – Nov 2: Jeremiah 5:18-31; 1 Thessalonians 2:13-20; Psalm 5
Tue – Nov 3: Lamentations 2:13-17; Acts 13:1-12; Psalm 5
Wed – Nov 4: Proverbs 16:21-33; Matthew 15:1-9; Psalm 5
Thu – Nov 5: Amos 1:1—2:5; Revelation 8:6—9:12; Psalm 70
Fri – Nov 6: Amos 3:1-12; Revelation 9:13-21; Psalm 70
Sat – Nov 7: Amos 4:6-13; Matthew 24:1-14; Psalm 70
Next Sunday Worship Readings: Amos 5:18-24; Psalm 70; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

Join your prayers for healing with God's desires for **Kristin Carter, Craig Eichfeld, Jim Ivey, Sharon Jacobs, Marilyn Johnson, Donna Kittelson, Terri Larsen, Carole Meyer, Gayle Spencer, and Charles Osborn.**

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

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: The families of Bob Alt , Thomas Alt, Randy Altona, Phyllis Andrews, Sam Areheart, Philip Baker, Lisa Baroni, Bob Bastian, Carol Baum, Robi Bayard, Lila Bradley, Dawn Bell, Carol Bergh, Mary Bloom, Doug Bolick, Robert Bunn, David Carr, John Coski, Amaree Cluff, Mary Davis, Ronnie Dodson, Pat D'Orazio, Dru Dowdy, Judy Drezek, Anne Dwiggins, Bob Friend, Danny Gass, Debbie Glenn, Joan Goodhart, Patricia Hallman, Charee Hampton, Sue Hassan and family, Andy Havola, Nick Havola, Bradley, Kim, Joan and Laurie Heintzelman, Char Henry, Henry Hespenheide, Lisa Hill, Doris Hillenbrand, Michelle Holdsworth, Jaxon Ireland, Don Johnson, Jim Johnston, Kaitlyn Jones, Connie Kendrick, Carl Kester, Jenn Kramer, Bob Loubach, Pat Layton, Marnah Lund, Doug MacKenzie, Keara Mahony, Trish Macerelli, Laura Margolin, Barry and Mabel Martin, Ellen Martin, Rachel Martin, Mabel Mater, Jackie Mazzone, Jimmy Mitchell, Liz Montalvo, Chuckie Moore, Bob Myers, Jeanette Osborn, Rodger Osborn, Dima Pavlenko, Lloyd Peppard, Coral Pumley, Scott Radley, Kurt Recktenwald, Paula Rega, Brian Ritter, Ruth Sandoval, Lou Schuster, Caleb Seiler, Pamela Sharp, Kelsey Slay, Evelyn Smith, Valerie Smith, Vasili Soultoukis, Laura Spencer, Emily Staaker, Charlie Stayton, Chad Strausbaugh, John Steigerwalt, Al Stern, Monika Stern, Lara Templin, Lenorah Thomas, Karli Wallace Thompson, Simone Tucker, Betty Lou Tulloh, Shelly Wrenn, Jen Tyson Elaine Wrich, the families of Lynda Wright, and Bev Utrich.

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

Welcome, Prayer Concerns, Celebrations and Announcements

Centering Music *Prelude on Repton*

Choral Introit *Sing with All the Saints in Glory*
St. Stephen Choir

<u>Thanksgiving for Baptism</u>
Blessed be the holy Trinity,
☩ one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
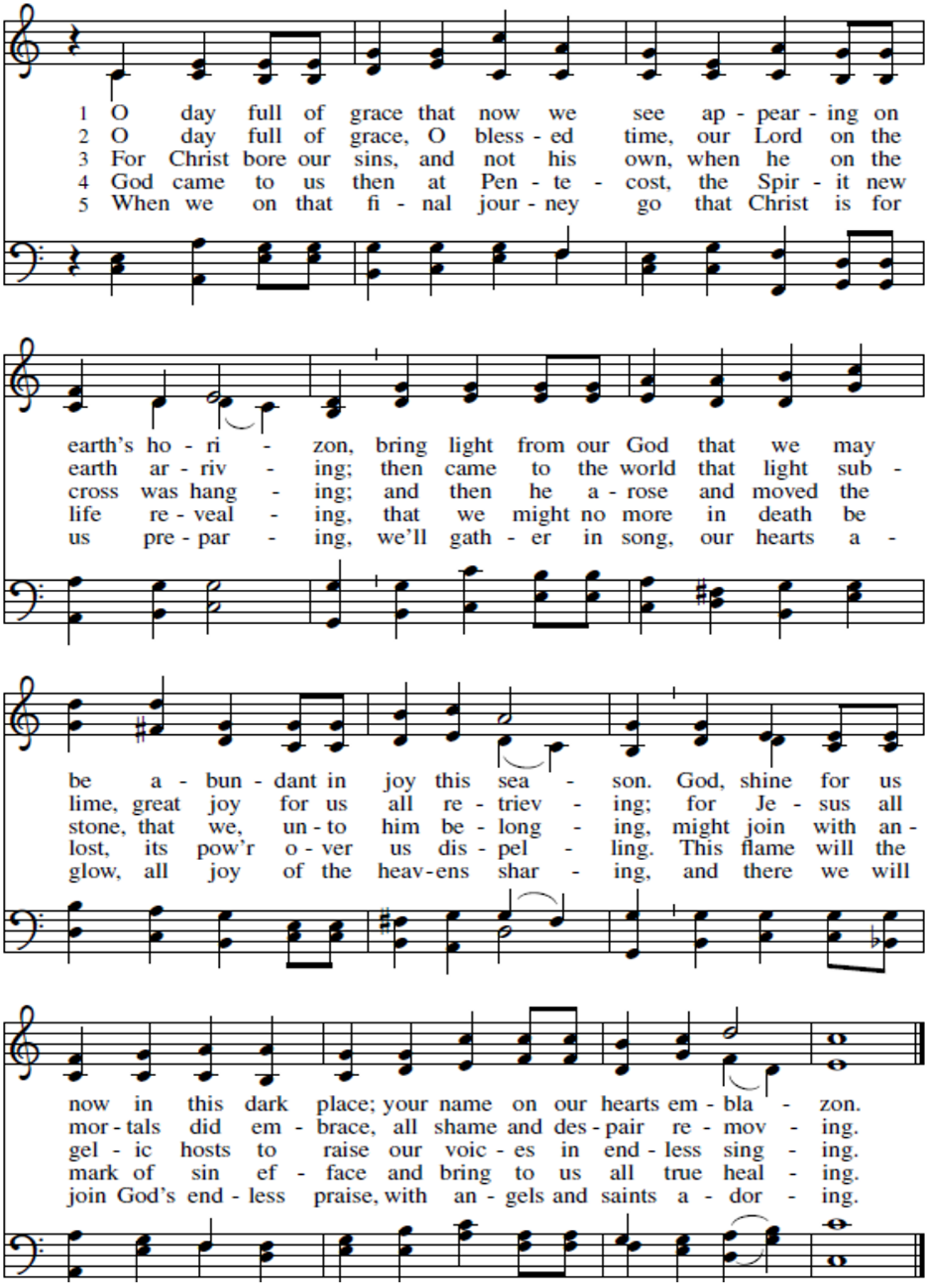
We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning you created us in your image
and placed us in a well-watered garden.
In the desert, you promised pools of water for the parched,
and you gave us water from the rock.
When we did not know the way,
you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.
At the cross, you washed us from Jesus' wounded side,
and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water,
for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere.

Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.
Satisfy all who thirst, and give us the life only you can give.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ,
our living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn *O Day Full of Grace* (choir will sing stanza 4)



Prayer Thomas Aquinas(1225-1274)
Congregation Response after reading ***"Amen"***

Reflection Canticle of the Sun attributed to Francis of Assisi (1182-1226)
Congregation Response after reading "***Amen***"

Anthem *O Gladsome Light*
St. Stephen Choir

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

First Reading **Revelation 7:9-17**

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches in western Asia Minor during a time of great oppression. Today's reading is a response to the question asked in 6:17: "Who is able to stand?" The writer gives the faithful the assurance of God's protection and a vision of victory.

9 After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every
nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the
Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. 10 They cried out in a loud voice,
saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" 11 And
all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and
they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 singing, "Amen! Blessing and
glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever
and ever! Amen." 13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in
white, and where have they come from?" 14 I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows."
Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed
their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 15 For this reason they are before
the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is
seated on the throne will shelter them. 16 They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the
sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; 17 for the Lamb at the center of the throne will
be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe
away every tear from their eyes."

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

Second Reading **1 John 3:1-3**

A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God's purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.

1 See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is
what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 2 Beloved, we
are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this:
when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. 3 And all who have this
hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

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

Gospel **Matthew 5:1-12**

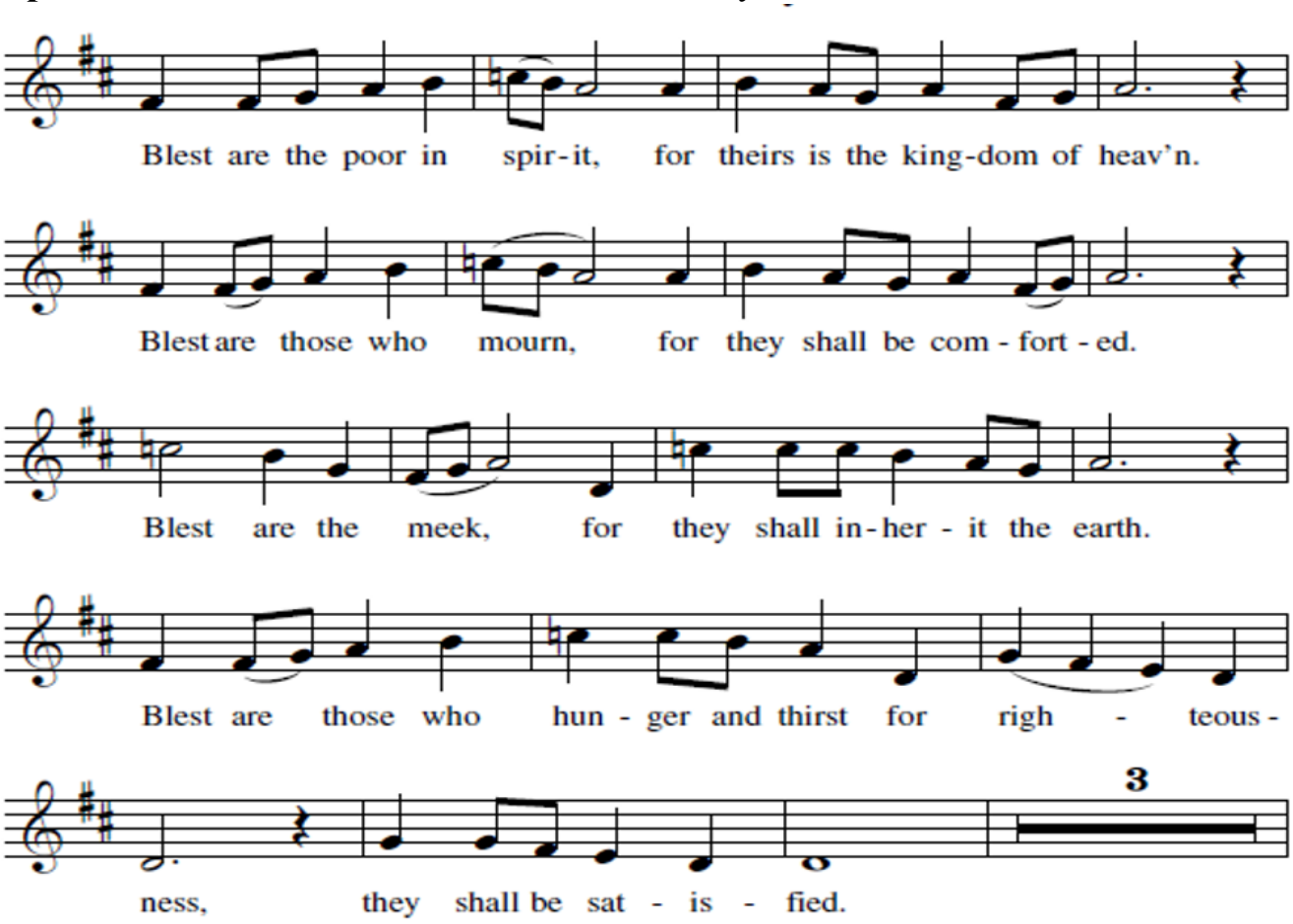
In the Beatitudes, Jesus provides a unique description of those who are blessed with God's favor. His teaching is surprising and shocking to those who seek wealth, fame, and control over others.
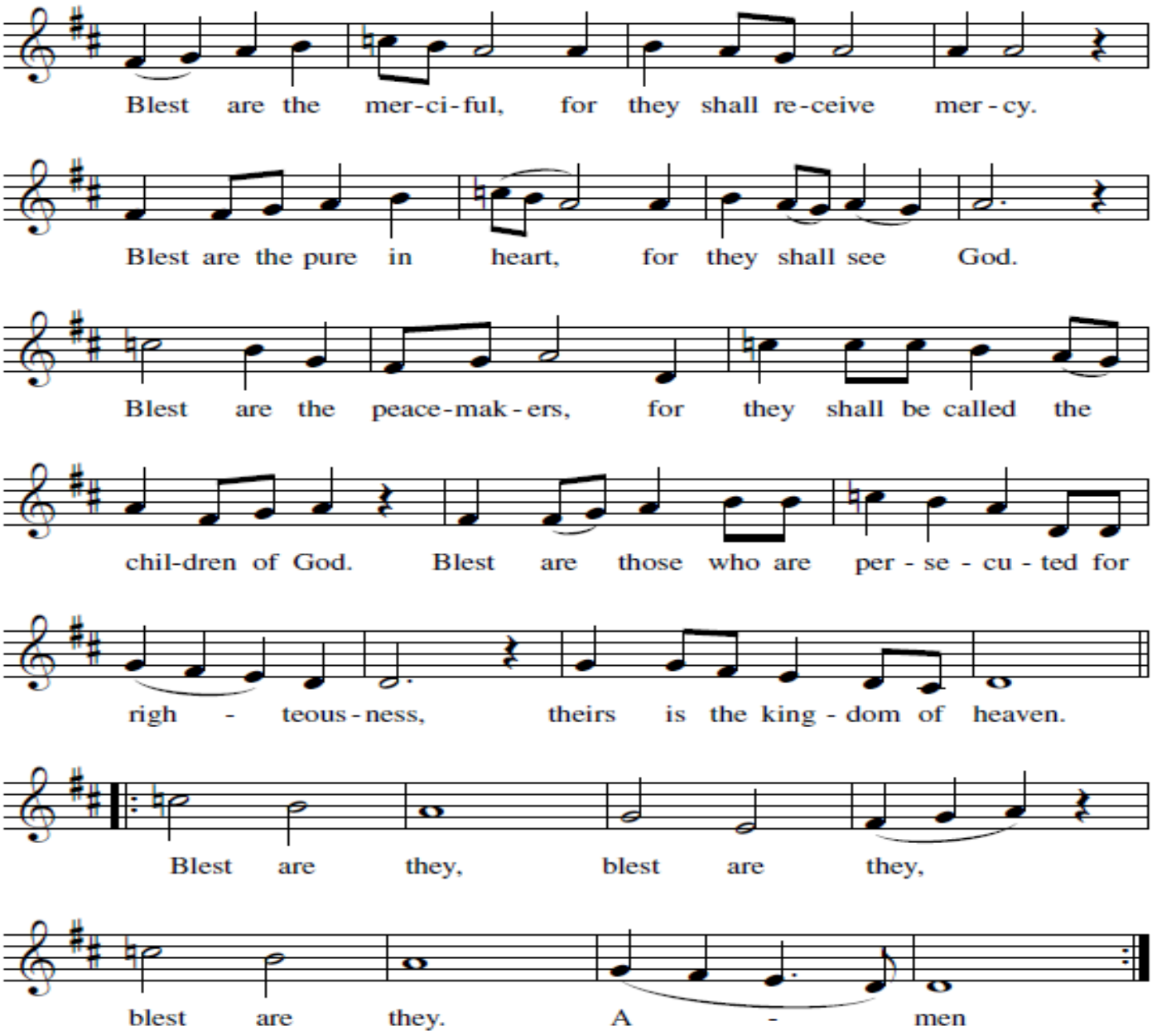
Response after announcement of the Gospel: ***"Glory to you, O Lord."***

[1]When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples
came to him. [2]Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:
[3]"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
[4]"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
[5]"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
[6]"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
[7]"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
[8]"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
[9]"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
[10]"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of
heaven.
[11]"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against
you falsely on my account. [12]Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the
same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

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

Antiphon Blest Are They





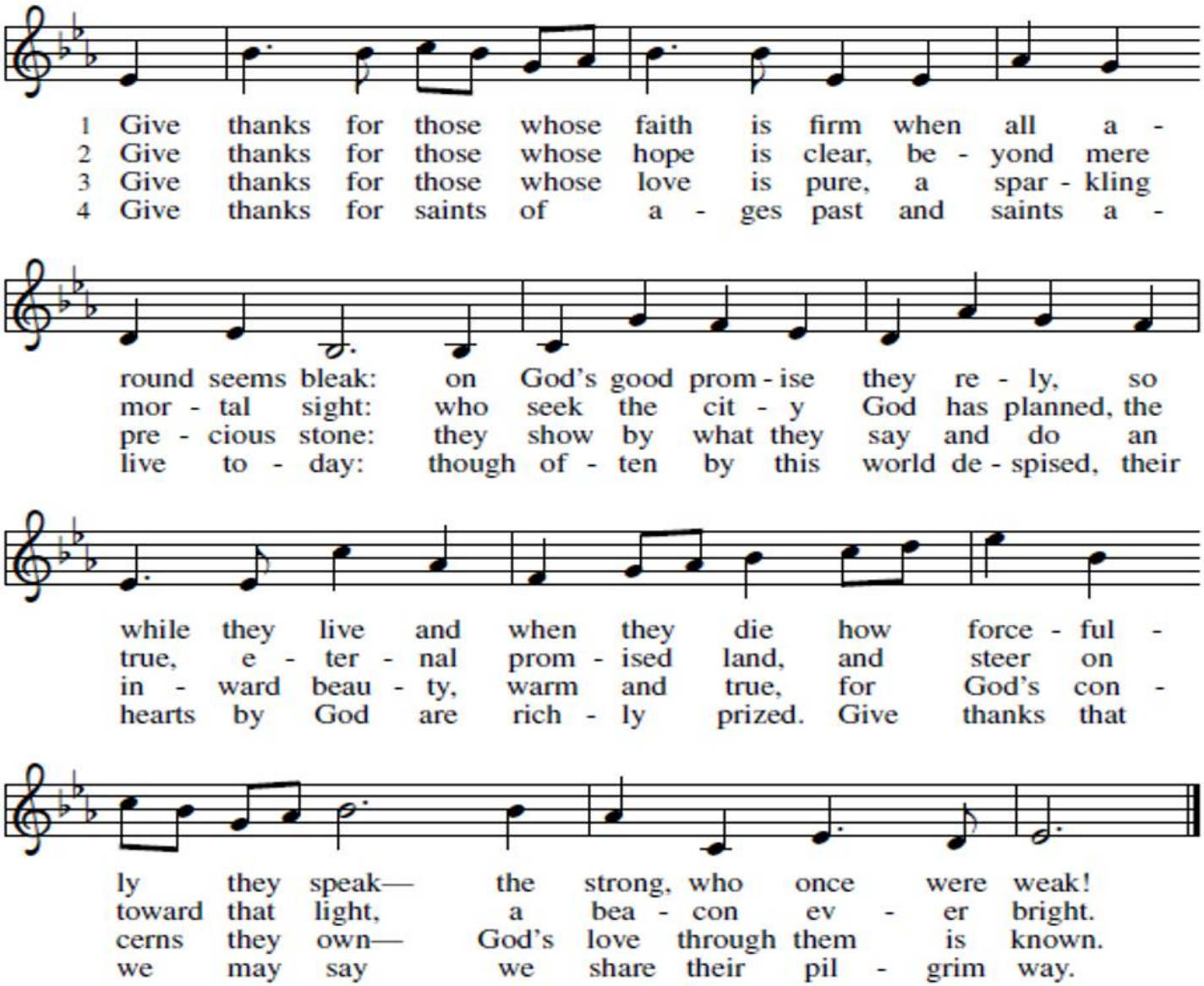
Reflection St. Patrick's Breastplate (attributed to Patrick of Ireland (c.372-466))
Congregation Response after reading "***Amen***"

Anthem *See What Love*
St. Stephen Choir

Prayer Mother Teresa of Calcutta (1910-1997)
Congregation Response after reading "***Amen***"

Homily *God's Children…NOW* Pastor Jon Nelson

Hymn of the Day *Give Thanks for Saints*



Prayers and Remembering the Saints
*Each petition concludes, "Lord in your mercy." Response: "**Hear our prayer."***

Sharing of the Peace
The peace of Christ be with you always**. And also with you.**

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

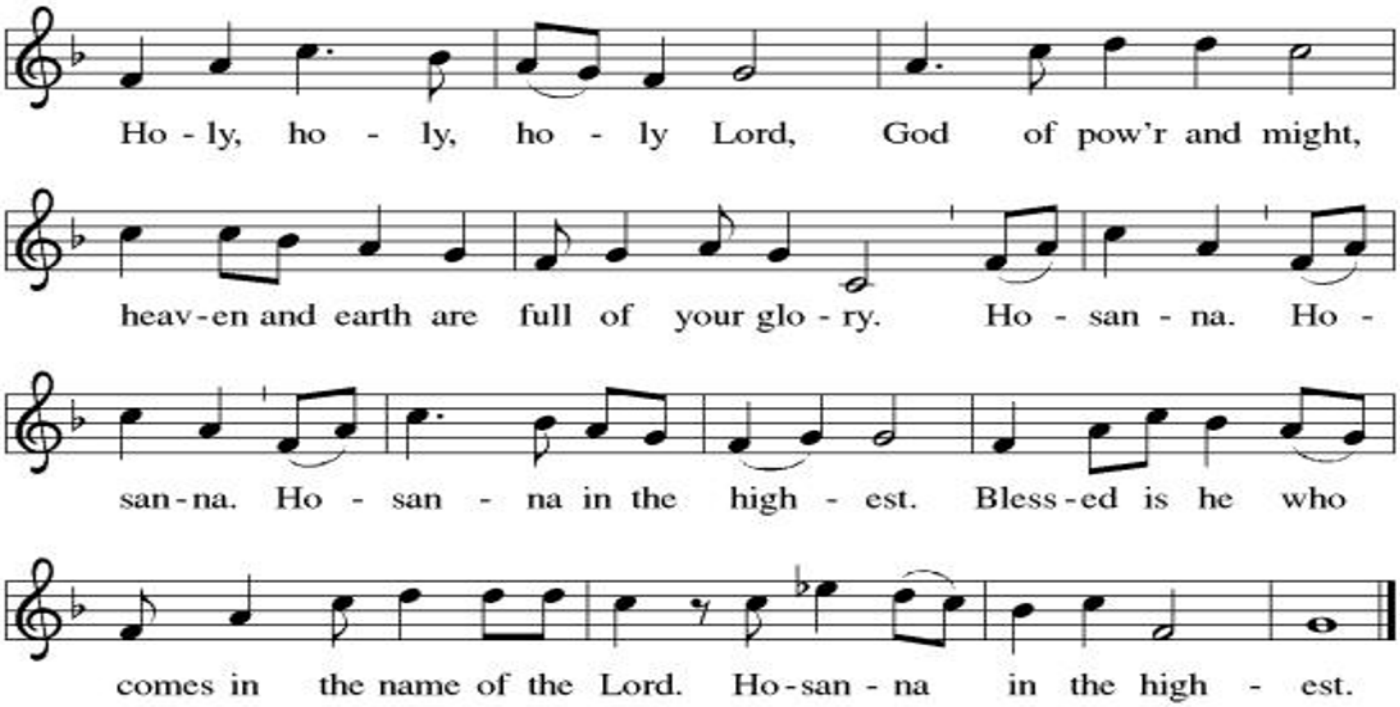
Offering Invitation
We gather our resources today in honor of the saints who came before us; the dreamers, organizers, and beloved elders who nurtured life amidst struggles. In a world driven by scarcity, our giving is an act of shared remembrance and collective care. Let us bring what we have to pass along the torch, supporting one another so that all our kin may flourish.

Offertory Anthem Prayer of St. Francis

Offertory Prayer
We belong to you in life, in death, and in every transition between. Bless these shared gifts. May they ease heavy burdens, sustain our communities, and honor the sacred legacies of those who paved the way. Where grief lingers, grant us softness, and make us faithful companions in your unfolding work of love. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

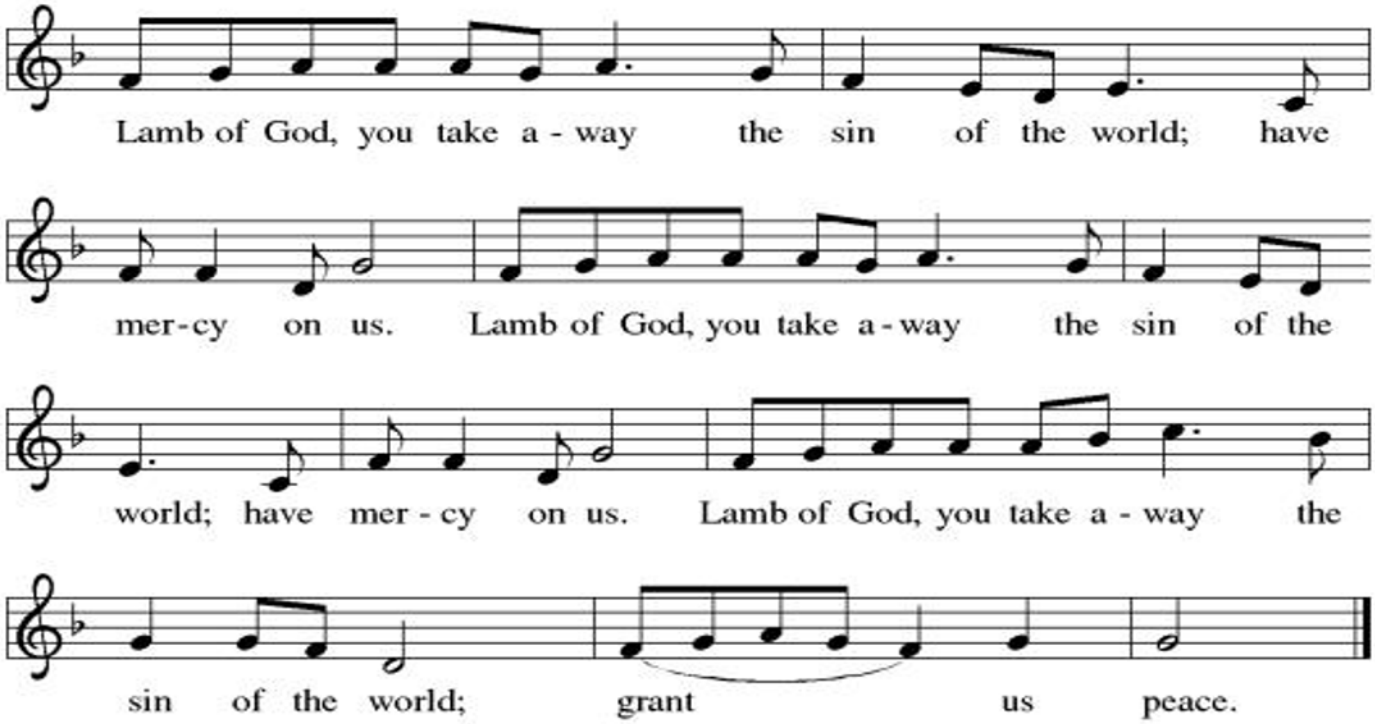
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks … we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Words of Institution

<u>The Lord's Prayer</u>
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.*



Communion Music *Blest Are They -Reprise*
Brian Hess, Bass
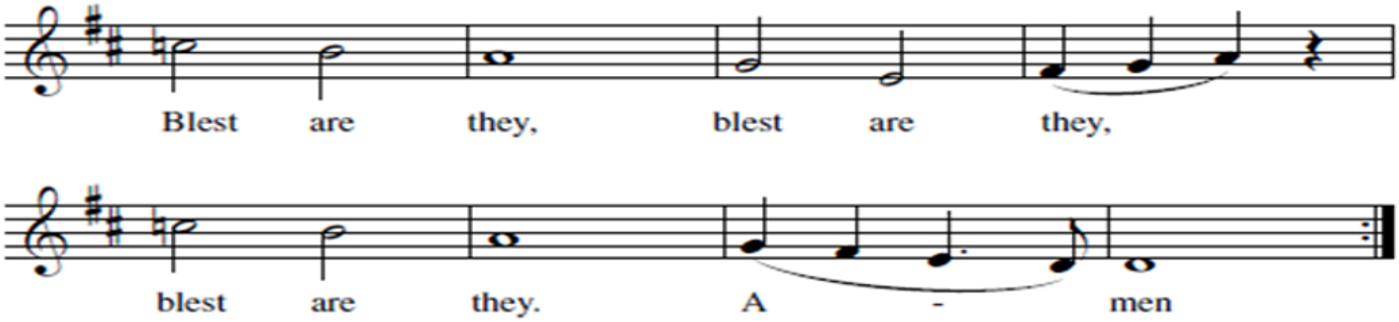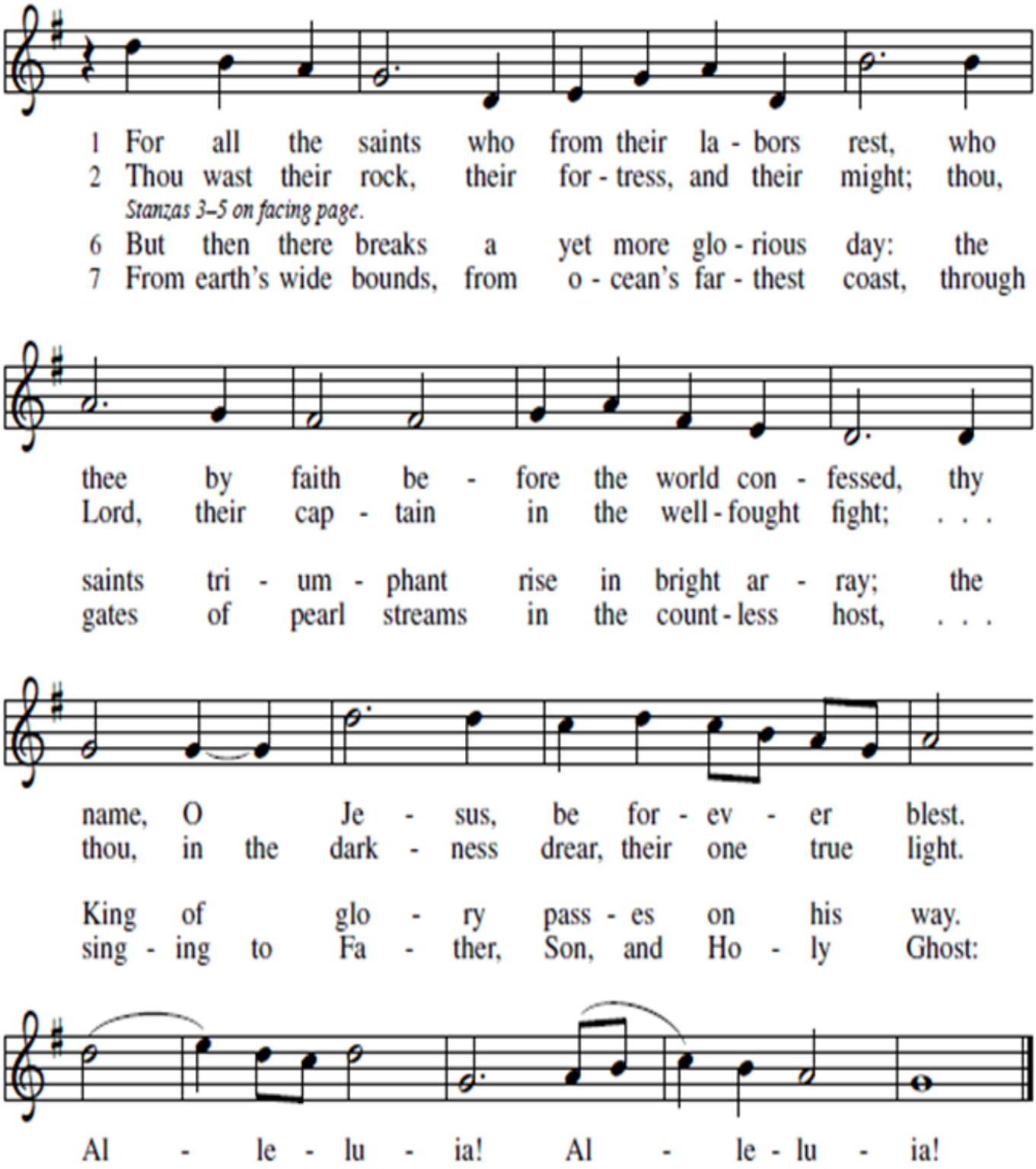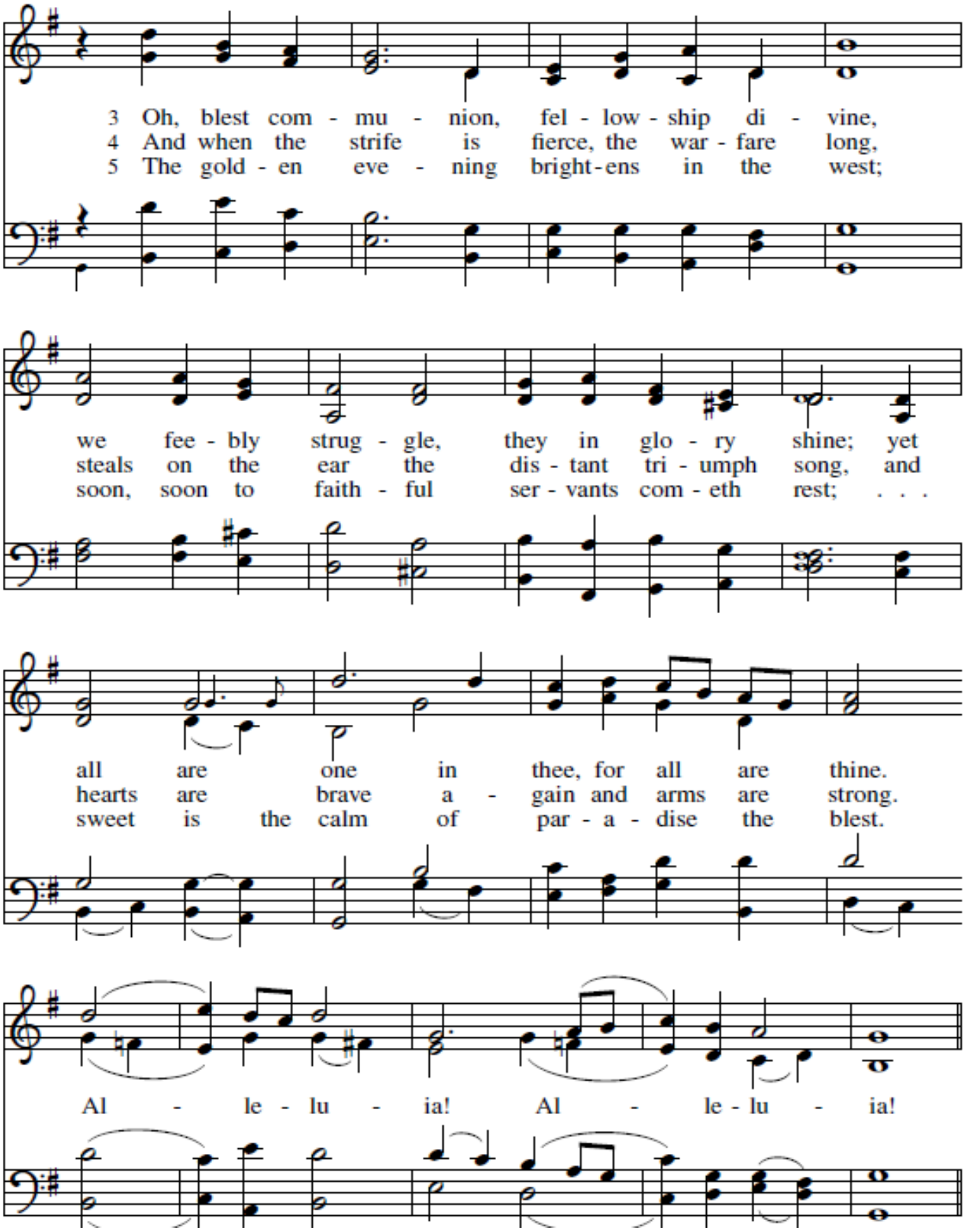


Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion
Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

Sending Hymn *For All the Saints (*choir is singing stanza 5*)*




3 Oh, blest com - mu - nion, fel - low - ship di - vine,
4 And when the strife is fierce, the war - fare long,
5 The gold - en eve - ning bright-ens in the west;
we fee - bly strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; yet
steals on the ear the dis - tant tri - umph song, and
soon, soon to faith - ful ser - vants com - eth rest; . . .
all are one in thee, for all are thine.
hearts are brave a - gain and arms are strong.
sweet is the calm of par - a - dise the blest.
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Benediction *Olive Wrightsman Gott- Ideals,1898*

*Congregation Response after reading "**Amen**"*

Choral Benediction response

Dismissal

Go in peace. Encourage one another. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Sine Nomine*

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 "prayground") with toys and books in the East wing of the Worship Space.
- Age-appropriate activity bags are available in the Gathering Space – ask an usher for assistance.

Assistance is Available for You:

- **An induction loop** is provided for the benefit of hearing aid users. To use, please switch your hearing aid to "T."
- **Large print** worship materials are available – ask an usher.

Health Update: We always encourage you to monitor yourself for symptoms of illness and to worship from home if you are experiencing any. We have masks and hand sanitizer available for use in our building should you require.

What's Happening Today

Flowers are given by Su and Leo Bosworth in thanks for the wonderful community at St. Stephen.

Flowers are also given by Jan MacQueston in memory of her husband Bill MacQueston who passed away 17 years ago today.

We welcome **Isaac Guinn** today in providing trumpet leadership for our All-Saints Day Worship. Isaac is a 17-year-old senior at Lafayette High School. He has been playing the trumpet for 7 years. At school he performs with the marching band, the jazz band, the concert band, and the pit band for musicals. He has also started a jazz ensemble called What the Heck? His future college plans include majoring in trumpet performance. Thank you Isaac for sharing your gifts with us today!

Upcoming

Giving Cards: People can turn in an estimate of giving card in the offering plate or send to the office. Please continue this for the remainder of the year.

Preschool & Church Office Closed. Both the Church Office and Preschool will be **closed Nov. 2-3** in alignment with our local school districts. **Bible Study will still occur** on Nov. 2nd.

We look forward to welcoming **the Rev. Tina Toburen** to St. Stephen's pulpit and altar next Sunday while Pastor Jon is attending the Men's Retreat.

Women's Study: Thursday, November 12
Nancy Egloff will be leading a study of "Pocahontas's People" on Thursday, November 12, in conjunction with Native American Heritage Month. The presentation will be at 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm in the library. We will discuss Indigenous peoples of Virginia in particular, both past and present, with a focus on Indigenous women's roles and contributions to their culture. Please join us – and bring a friend!

Enjoy a peaceful night out shaping Christmas pottery and great food 🎄 with friends **November 13th from 5pm-8pm** from St. Stephen and the wider community. No experience is needed—just a willingness to try something new and have fun. As we create simple pieces together, we practice our mission to heal hurts and renew hope in small, everyday ways. Come relax, create, and share good conversation as we prepare for the season. 🎨 Food will be catered by Peking. Please scan the Qr Code to purchase your tickets deadline is **Nov 1**.

Poinsettias and Jean Kuhn Memorial Fund. Please let the Office know if you want to order poinsettias for Christmas Eve ($21.00 each) and/or contribute to the Jean Kuhn Memorial Fund for Christmas. This fund helps with those ministries needing assistance during the year for which we have not budgeted. **The deadline for poinsettias is Monday, November 30.**

Community Meal: Join the preschool in a community meal on **November 17th** from **5:30pm-7:30 pm**. We will be having a taco night! We would love for members of the congregation to share in this meal with our families. Please sign up on the insert or contact the office so we know how many to plan for. office@saintstephenlutheran.net

Monthly Breakfasts Come to build and deepen relationships – at the **Colonial Pancake House**, on the corner of Page Street and Penniman Road. Gatherings take place at **8:00 AM**.
Tuesday, November 3 - Women are invited to join together for breakfast
Thursday, November 5- Men are invited to join together for breakfast

St. Stephen Calendar - November 1-8, 2026

SUNDAY, November 1 ~ *All Saints Sunday*
9:00 AM Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)
9:45 AM Worship – Holy Communion
6:00 PM Lutheran Student Association Dinner (College Room)

MONDAY, November 2
Preschool /Church office Closed
1:30 PM Bible Study (Library)

TUESDAY, November 3
Preschool /Church office Closed
8:00 AM Women's Breakfast (Colonial Pancake House)
10:00 AM Preschool training (library/Conference room)

WEDNESDAY, November 4
8:55 AM Yoga (Gathering Space)
7:00 PM Chancel Choir Practice (Worship Space)
7:00 PM Girl Scouts (Preschool big room)
7:00 PM AA meeting (Fellowship Hall)

THURSDAY, November 5
8:00 AM Men's Breakfast (Colonial Pancake House)
5:30 PM St. Stephen Ringers (Worship Space)

FRIDAY, November 6
4:00-8:00 PM Women's Workshop Dinner (Fellowship Hall)

SATURDAY, November 7
8:00 AM-4:00PM Women's Workshop (Fellowship Hall)
5:30 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
5:30 PM Al Anon Meeting (Library/Conference Room)

SUNDAY, November 8
8:00 AM Womens Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)
8:30 AM Worship – Communion (*livestreamed on our YouTube channel)*
9:45 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)
9:45 AM Affirmation of Baptism (Library/Conference Room)
10:30 AM Womens Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)
11:00 AM Worship – Communion *(livestreamed on Facebook)*
6:00 PM LSA Dinner (College Room)

Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

Acolyte/Crucifer ..... John McCurry
Altar Guild .....
Audio-Visual Team..... Tobias Janke and Liam Janke
Bread Baker .....Amy Bergh
Cantors .....
Communion Assistants ..... Diane and John McCurry
Flower Delivery .....
Greeters/Hosts..... JR & Diana Lyons
Lectors..... George Martin
Pastor..... Pastor Jon Nelson
Tellers.....Jane Gingerich, Ursula Recktenwald and Russ White
Ushers..... Glenn Joppa

Upcoming Commemorations

All Saints Day
Sunday, November 1, 2026
The custom of commemorating all of the saints of the church on a single day goes back at least to the third century. All Saints Day celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who make up the body of Christ. On this day or the following Sunday, many congregations will remember the faithful who have died during the past year.

Daniel Payne, teacher, pastor, 1893 (TFF)
Monday, November 2, 2026
Educator Daniel Payne organized a school for African Americans in Charleston, South Carolina, that eventually became the largest school in Charleston. In 1835 the school was closed when the General Assembly of South Carolina passed a law preventing free African Americans and slaves from operating schools. Payne eventually enrolled in Gettysburg Seminary and was ordained by the Franckean Synod of Upper New York. No call was available to him in the Lutheran church, so he served a Presbyterian congregation in East Troy, New York. He went on to found Wilberforce College in Ohio.

Martín de Porres, renewer of society, died 1639
Tuesday, November 3, 2026
Martín was the son of a Spanish knight and a freed Black woman from Panama. As a lay brother in the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), he engaged in many charitable works in Lima, Peru. He founded an orphanage, a hospital, and a clinic for cats and dogs.

John Christian Frederick Heyer, died 1873; Bartholomaeus Ziegenbalg, died 1719; Ludwig Nommensen, died 1918; missionaries
Saturday, November 7, 2026
Heyer was the first missionary sent out by American Lutherans. After teaching at Gettysburg College and Seminary he was assigned to the Andhra region of India. A worker among the Tamil people on the southeast coast of India, Ziegenbalg was opposed both by local Hindus and by Danish authorities who favored a different missionary style. He was known for caring about the welfare of the whole person. Nommensen was born in northern Germany and was sent to Sumatra as a Lutheran missionary. Working among the Batak people, he translated the scriptures into their language, and honored their native culture.



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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

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 — **Doing Ministry in the World**

Pastor Jon Nelson (320-295-8861) — **Pastorjn@saintstephenlutheran.net**

Karen Ives – Director of Music (757-229-6688) — **MusicDir@saintstephenlutheran.net**

Hollie Jones – Parish Administrator (229-6688) — **Office@saintstephenlutheran.net**

Jessica Kimball – Preschool Director (229-6688) — **Preschool@saintstephenlutheran.net**

LSA Pastor Gerry Johnson(703)209-3599
pastorgfj@gmail.com

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

Welcome to St. Stephen Lutheran Church!

Please fill out this form and drop it in the offering plate or give it to an usher.

November 1, 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
____ Looking for a church home
____ Desire to speak with pastor
____ Would like more information about Stephen Ministry
____ Would like the Parish Nurse to contact me

Any comments? Please be sure your name is above, so we may respond, if necessary.

Prayer Requests

Please **add** to the prayer list in this month's bulletin and next month's *Quill*:

Name: _____

Please **remove** from prayer concerns:

Name: _____

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Church Address _____

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