



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.

September 20, 2026

17th Sunday after Pentecost

For Your Prayers - September 21-27, 2026

Lectionary readings for this week:

Mon – Sept 21 Genesis 27:1-29 Romans 16:1-6 Psalm 106:1-12

Tue – Sept 22 Genesis 28:10-17 Romans 16:17-20 Psalm 106:1-12

Wed – Sept 23 Isaiah 41:1-13 Matthew 18:1-5 Psalm 106:1-12

Thu – Sept 24 Ezekiel 12:17-28 James 4:11-16 Psalm 25:1-9

Fri – Sept 25 Ezekiel 18:5-18 Acts 13:32-41 Psalm 25:1-9

Sat – Sept 26 Ezekiel 18:19-24 Mark 11:27-33 Psalm 25:1-9

Next Sunday: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 Psalm 25:1-9 (6) Philippians 2:1-13 Matthew 21:23-32

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, Gayle Spencer, and Charles Osborn.**

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, Philip Baker, Bob Bastian, Carol Baum, Robi Bayard, Lila Bradley, Carol Bergh, Mary Bloom, Doug Bolick, Robert Bunn, David Carr, John Coski, Amaree Cluff, Judy Craun, Ronnie Dodson, Pat D'Orazio, Dru Dowdy, Judy Drezek, Anne Dwiggin, Bob Friend, Danny Gass, 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, Michelle Holdsworth, Jaxon Ireland, Don Johnson, Jim Johnston, 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, Lloyd Peppard, 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, John Steigerwalt, Al Stern, Monika Stern, Lara Templin, Lenorah Thomas, Karli Wallace Thompson, Betty Lou Tulloh, Elaine Wrich, Lynda Wright, Shelly Wrenn, and Bev Utrich.

17th Sunday after Pentecost

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

Welcome

Centering Music

This Is My Father's World
St. Stephen Ringers
Flute: Thom Recktenwald

Anna Laura Page

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 pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ✙ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn

Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading

ELW 401
Bulletin page 10

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

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

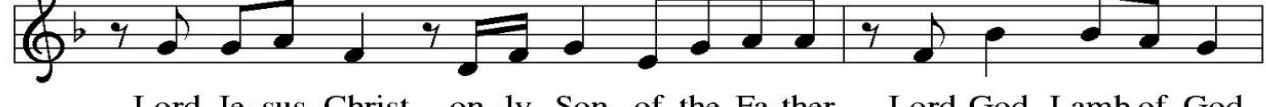
All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



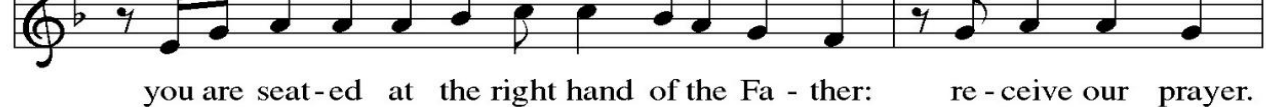
we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

First Reading

Jonah 3:10—4:11

After Jonah's short sermon in 3:4, the Ninevites all repented and God decided to spare the city. Jonah objected to this and became even more angry when God ordered a worm to destroy a plant that was providing shade. The book ends with a question that challenges any who are not ready to forgive: You, Jonah, are all worked up about a bush, but shouldn't I be concerned about a hundred and twenty thousand Ninevites?

¹⁰ When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it. ^{4:1} But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment." ³ And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴ And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵ Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. ⁶ The LORD God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷ But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." ⁹ But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰ Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night." ¹¹ And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?"

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

Psalm 145:1-8



¹ I will exalt you, my | God and king,
and bless your name forev- | er and ever.

² **Every day | will I bless you**
and praise your name forev- | er and ever.

³ Great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised!
There is no end | to your greatness.

⁴ **One generation shall praise your works | to another**
and shall de- | clare your power. REFRAIN

- ⁵ I will speak of the glorious splendor¹ of your majesty
and all your¹ marvelous works.
- ⁶ **They shall tell of the might of your¹ wondrous acts,
and I will re-¹ count your greatness.**
- ⁷ They shall publish the remembrance of¹ your great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully¹ of your righteousness.
- ⁸ **The LORD is gracious and full¹ of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in¹ steadfast love. REFRAIN**

Second Reading

Philippians 1:21-30

Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.

²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me. ²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus tells a parable about God's generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve..

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴ and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about

noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷ They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' ⁹ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³ But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius?' ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

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

Sermon

Striving Side-by-Side

Pastor Jon Nelson

Hymn of the Day

All Who Love and Serve Your City

ELW 724

Bulletin page 11

Prayers

Each petition concludes: Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

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

Offering Invitation

Here, in this place, we recognize each other as inherently worthy of love, care, and access to basic resources. As the body of Christ, we share in struggle and we share in joy. As an act of this faith, let us bring our resources together.

Offering of Music

8:30 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

Bob Moore

11:00 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

Brenda Portman

Offertory Prayer

Holy One, we live amidst systems and norms that teach us to measure our worth according to how much money we make, what social status we bear, or how well we fit in. These stories about us and our neighbors lead us astray. Help us to recognize in ourselves and each other, a beloved nature. One that calls forth our compassion, creativity, and courage. That we may sustain life together. **Amen.**

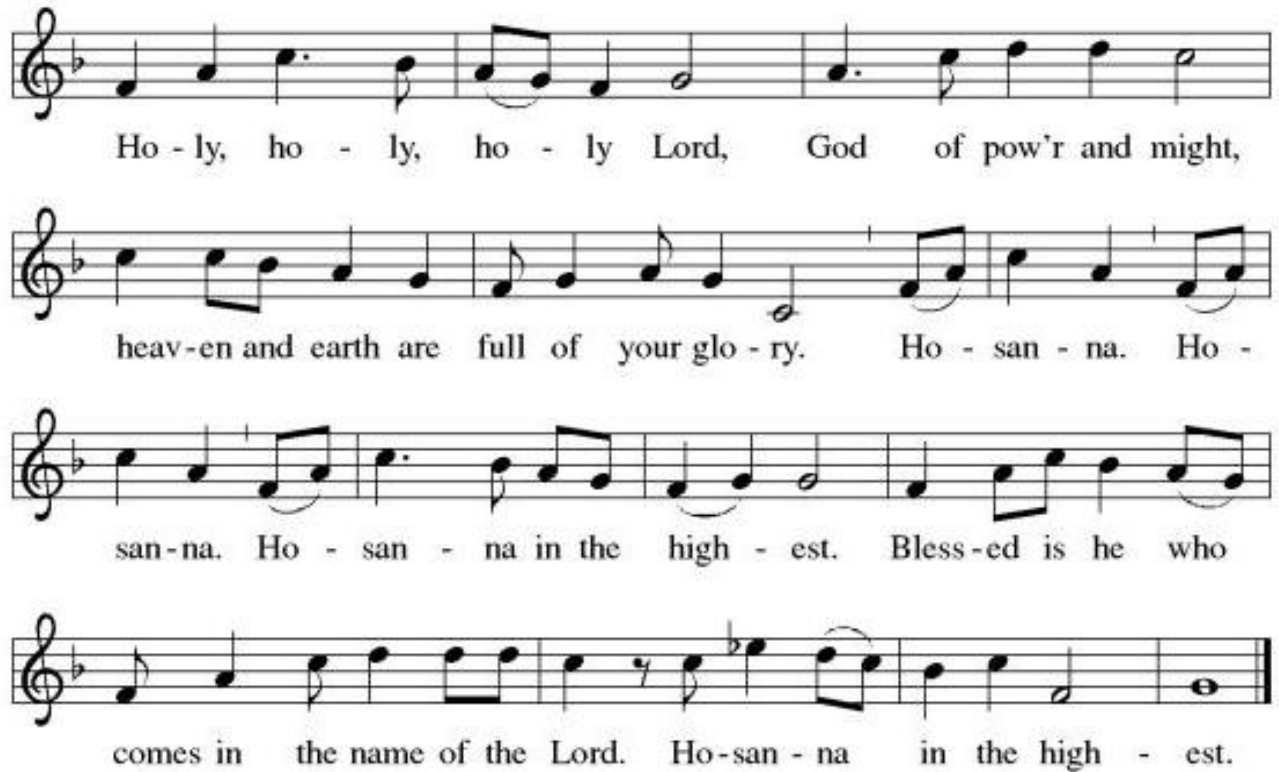
The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

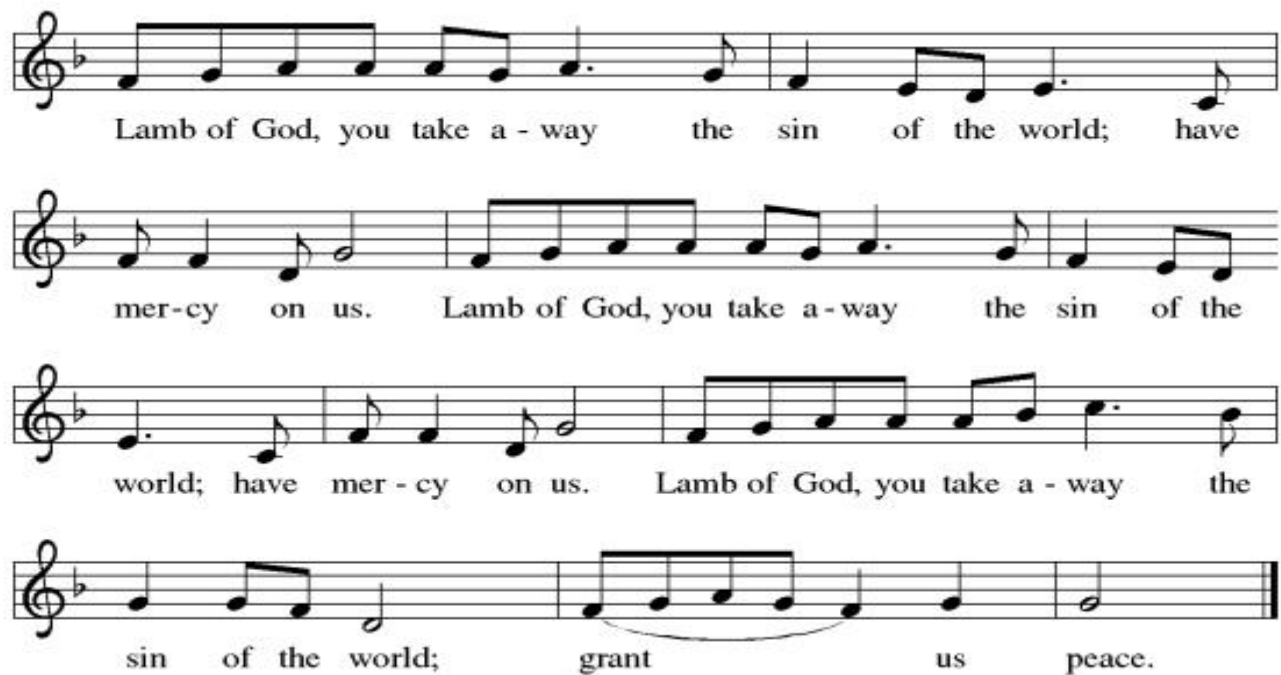


Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

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

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



Communion Music: *For the Beauty of the Earth* Patricia Hurlbutt
St. Stephen Ringers

Communion Hymn *God Be the Love to Search and Keep Me* ACS 1084
Bulletin page 12

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

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

Sending Hymn *Lord of Light* ELW 688
Bulletin page 13

Blessing

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of grace ✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Abundant Praise!* Sandra Eithun
St. Stephen Ringers

Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading

Njoo kwetu, Roho mwema



Njo - o kwe - tu, Ro - ho mwe - ma, M - fa - ri - ji we - tu.
 1 Gra - cious Spir - it, heed our plead - ing, fash - ion us all a - new.
 2 Come to teach us, come to nour - ish those who be - lieve in Christ.
 3 Guide our think - ing and our speak - ing done in your ho - ly name.



Tu - fu - ndi - she ya mbi - ngu - ni, tu - we wa - tu wa - pya.
 It's your lead - ing that we're need - ing, help us to fol - low you.
 Bless the faith - ful, may they flour - ish, strength - ened by grace un - priced.
 Mo - ti - vate all in their seek - ing, free - ing from guilt and shame.

Refrain



Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.
 Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.



Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.
 Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

4 Not mere knowledge, but discernment,
 nor rootless liberty;
 turn disquiet to contentment,
 doubt into certainty.

5 Keep us fervent in our witness,
 unswayed by earth's allure.
 Ever grant us zealous fitness,
 which you alone assure.

Text: Wilson Niwagila; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922

Music: NJOO KWETU, ROHO MWEMA, Wilson Niwagila; arr. Egil Hovland, b. 1924

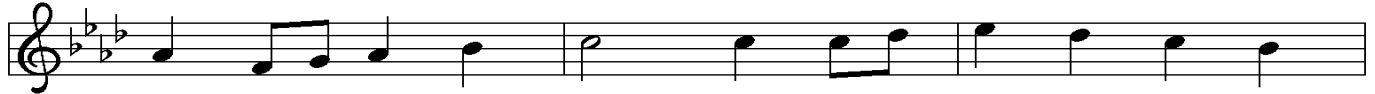
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All Who Love and Serve Your City



1 All who love and serve your cit - y, all who
 2 In your day of loss and sor - row, in your
 3 In your day of wealth and plen - ty, wast - ed
 4 For all days are days of judg - ment, and the
 5 Ris - en Lord, shall yet the cit - y be the



bear its dai - ly stress, all who cry for peace and
 day of help - less strife, hon - or, peace, and love re -
 work and wast - ed play, call to mind the word of
 Lord is wait - ing still, draw - ing near a world that
 cit - y of de - spair? Come to - day, our judge, our



jus - tice, all who curse and all who bless,
 treat - ing, seek the Lord, who is your life.
 Je - sus, "You must work while it is day."
 spurns him, of - f'ring peace from Cal - v'ry's hill.
 glo - ry. Be its name "The Lord is there!"

Text: Erik Routley, 1917–1982

Music: NEW ORLEANS, Paul D. Weber, b. 1949

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God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

O Christ, Surround Me



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to
2 Bind to my-self the name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness -
3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light - ning,
4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to
5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:
es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:
strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:
light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:
hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



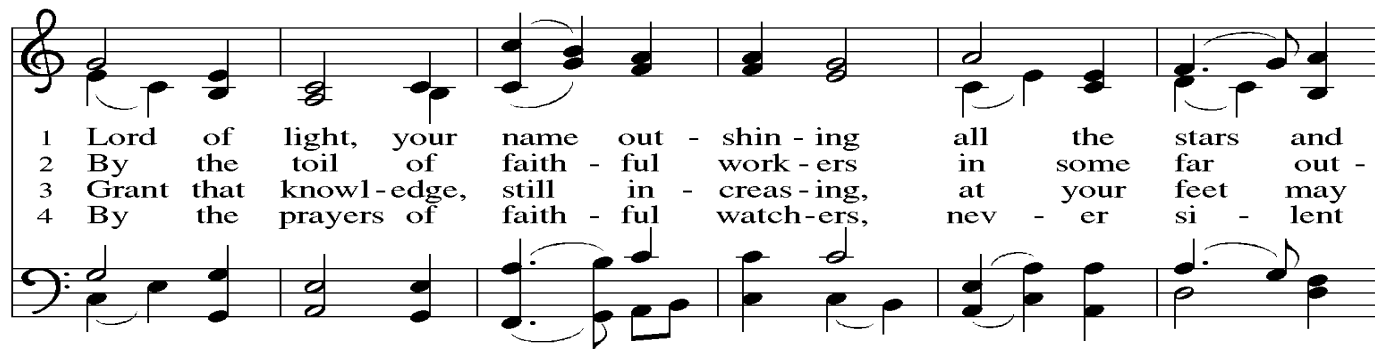
O Christ, sur - round me; O Christ, sur - round me.

Text: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, b. 1967

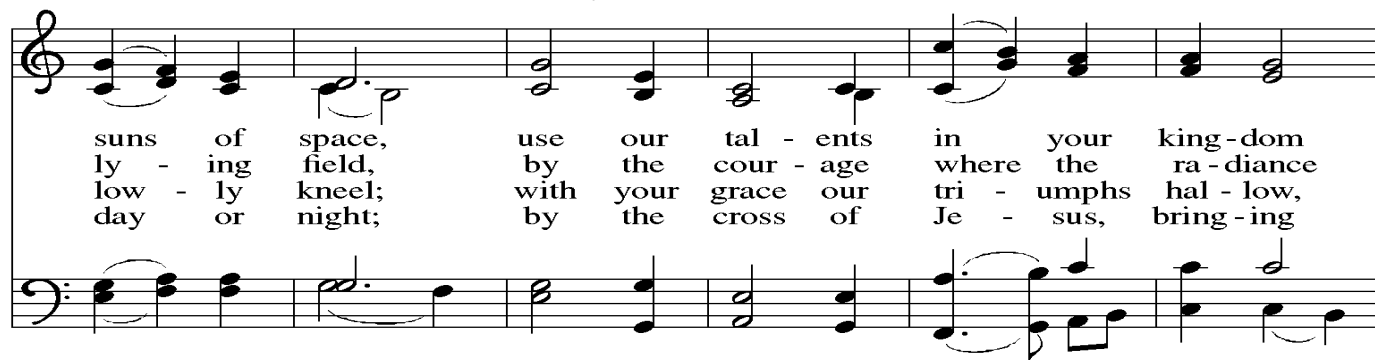
Music: GREEN TYLER, Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

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Lord of Light



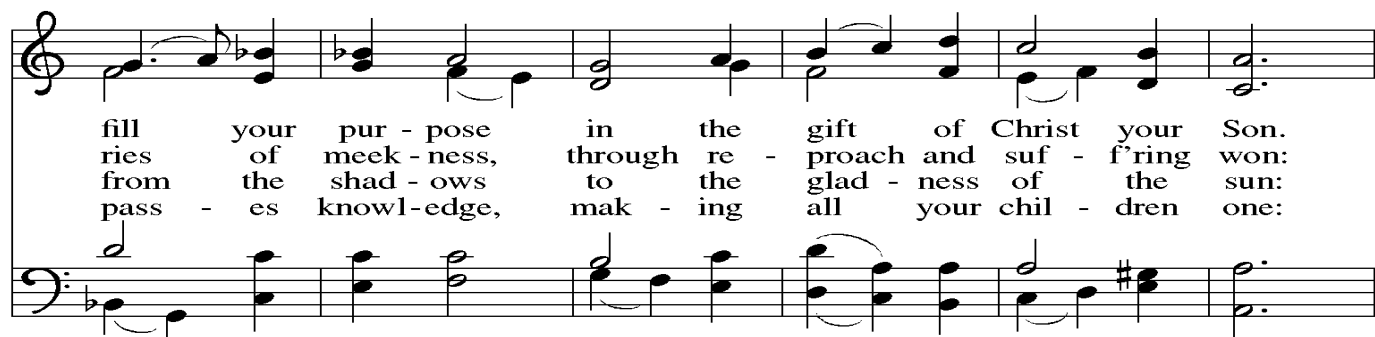
1 Lord of light, your name out - shin - ing all the stars and
 2 By the toil of faith - ful work - ers in some far out -
 3 Grant that knowl - edge, still in - creas - ing, at your feet may
 4 By the prayers of faith - ful watch - ers, nev - er si - lent



suns of space, use our tal - ents in your king - dom
 ly - ing field, by the cour - age where the ra - diance
 low - ly kneel; with your grace our tri - umphs hal - low,
 day or night; by the cross of Je - sus, bring - ing



as the ser - vants of your grace; use us to ful -
 of the cross is still re - vealed, by the vic - to -
 with your char - i - ty our zeal; lift the na - tions
 peace to all and heal - ing light; by the love that



fill your pur - pose in the gift of Christ your Son.
 ries of meek - ness, through re - proach and suf - f'ring won:
 from the shad - ows to the glad - ness of the sun:
 pass - es knowl - edge, mak - ing all your chil - dren one:

Refrain



Fa - ther, as in high - est heav - en, so on earth your will be done.

Text: Howell E. Lewis, 1860–1953, alt.

Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991

Text © Union of Welsh Independents.

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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 "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 Su and Leo Bosworth in thanks for the wonderful community at St. Stephen's.

Information & Upcoming

Theologian in Residence (TIR) will take place on **Saturday, September 26, and Sunday, September 27**. St. Stephen will welcome the Rev. Kimberly Knowle-Zeller. Rev. Knowle-Zeller is a writer, pastor, wife, mother of two, and the co-author of *The Beauty of Motherhood: Grace-Filled Devotions for the Early Years* (Morehouse Publishing, March 2023) and *Small Steps* (Morehouse Publishing, 2026). All are invited, including friends and neighbors.

Pet Photos Sought. We are hoping to highlight the pets of St. Stephen across our social media accounts in the lead-up to our annual "Blessing of the Pets" on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Please email photos of your pets to the office or look for the link in Pastor Jon's missives.

Dining Small Groups Are Back After a Break: Sign Up Now For The Next Round

Each dining group, consisting of about 7-9 people, 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 today Sept. 20**. Contact Alison Carney or Diane McCurry with questions.

Blessing of Pets. This year, the celebration of St. Francis of Assisi (Oct. 4) falls on a Sunday. Rather than a separate blessing service, **you are invited to bring your well-behaved and friendly pets to worship on Sunday, October 4**. You are also welcome to bring a picture of your pet if you prefer. The blessing of pets will occur at the start of both services that 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 on November 6. The Saturday workshop sessions will feature spiritual themes and highlight their relevance to women's daily lives, with a schedule designed to allow for longer breaks (thanks to feedback from last fall!). Plan to come and bring a friend for the day on 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.

Men's Retreat. Taking our lead from the wonderfully successful Women's Retreat, Pastor Gerry and Pastor Jon are excited to be copying er...planning a Men's Retreat at Sandbridge Beach on November 6-8. Watch this space for more information soon!

Meal Hosts Sought. We have two important and active ministries that involve meals. Both our Faith5 meals and our LSA Dinners provide opportunities for faith formation and community building. Would you be willing to host a meal? Faith5 Meals are Mondays at 6:00 PM and LSA Dinners are Sundays at 6:00 PM. Sign up to host either in the Gathering Space.

St. Stephen Calendar: September 20-27 , 2026

SUNDAY, Sept 20 ~ 17th Sunday after Pentecost

7:30 AM Handbell Warm-up

8:00 AM Matins 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 Chancel Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)

11:00 AM Worship – Communion (*livestreamed on Facebook*)

6:00 PM LSA Dinner (College Room)

MONDAY, Sept 21

8:30-9:30 AM Preschool Speech (Library/Conference Room)

12:30 PM Church Staff Meeting

1:30 PM Bible study (Library/Conference Room)

3:00 PM Stephen Ministers Meeting (Library/Conference Room)

6:00 PM Faith5 Meal (Fellowship Hall)

TUESDAY, Sept 22

12:30 PM Preschool Committee (Library/Conference Room)

WEDNESDAY, Sept 23

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, Sept 24

5:30 PM St. Stephen Ringers (Worship Space)

FRIDAY, Sept 25

SATURDAY, Sept 26

9:30AM-1:30PM Theologian in Residence (Fellowship Hall)

5:30 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

5:30 PM Al-Anon (Library/Conference Room)

SUNDAY, Sept 27 ~ 18th Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 AM Matins 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)

10:00 AM Conversation with our TiR (College Room)

10:30 AM Chancel 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.....(8:30) Larry Province
.....(11:00) Alina Dabel
Altar Guild (8:30) Amy Bergh
..... (11:00) Nancy Egloff
Audio-Visual Team.....(8:30) Tim Judy (11:00) Charles Osborn
Bread Baker..... Amy Bergh
Cantor Brian Hesse
Communion Assistants (8:30) John & Diane McCurry
..... (11:00) Jennifer Dabel and Alina Dabel
Flower DeliveryDiane McCurry
Greeters/Hosts (8:30) Sandy Peterkin (11:00) Alison Carney
Lectors..... (8:30) Chris Punchard (11:00) Marj Gottschalk-Trone
Preacher & Presider Pastor Jon Nelson
Tellers..... Jane deSolms, Susan Britcher and Jim Larsen
Ushers..... (8:30) Reed & Karen Nester (11:00)

Upcoming Commemorations

Nelson Wesley Trout, bishop, died 1996 (TFF)

Sunday, September 20, 2026

A native of Ohio, Trout served parishes in several parts of the United States before being elected bishop of the South Pacific District of the American Lutheran Church, the first African American Lutheran to serve in such a capacity.

Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

Monday, September 21, 2026

Matthew (or Levi) was a tax collector in Capernaum for the Roman government. Tax collectors were frequently despised for dishonesty and for assisting the occupiers. Jesus nevertheless showed love for them, and chose Matthew to be a disciple.

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

***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!***



You are welcome here!

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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.

September 20, 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: _____

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

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