

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT March 22, 2020

WELCOME AND A NOTE TO VISITORS

Welcome Visitor! We pray the service will be a blessing for you and that you will join us again soon. Thank you for worshiping with us — your presence is a joy to this faith community. Please fill out the "Worship Slip" and place it in the offering plate. Nursery care is available, the ushers can direct you.

(*) Asterisk means, "Please Stand"

The Gathering

Prelude

Welcome

*Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness

P: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

- P: For self-centered living,
 - and for failing to walk with humility and gentleness;
- C: Holy God, have mercy on us.
- P: For longing to have what is not ours, and for hearts that are not at rest with ourselves;
- C: Holy God, have mercy on us.
- P: For misuse of human relationships, and for unwillingness to see the image of God in others;
- C Holy God, have mercy on us.
- P: For reluctance in sharing the gifts of God, and for carelessness with the fruits of creation;
- C: Holy God, have mercy on us.
- P: For not living like a child of God, and squandering the gifts of love and grace;
- C: Holy God, have mercy on us.
- P: The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Through the Holy Spirit, God gives life, freedom from the power of sin, and resurrection from the dead.

In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Live in newness of life.

C: Amen.

*Opening Hymn

"Soli Deo Gloria" Red #878

O God of blessings, all praise to you! Your love surrounds us our whole life through. You are the freedom of those oppressed; You are the comfort of all distressed. Come now, O h holy and welcome guest:

> REFRAIN Soli Deo gloria! Soli Deo gloria!

All praise for prophets, through grace inspired To preach and witness with hearts on fire. Your Spirit chooses the weak and small To sing the new reign where mighty fall;

With them may we live your gospel call: REFRAIN

All praise for music, deep gift profound, Through hands and voices in holy sound; The psalms of David, and Mary's praise, In wordless splendor and lyric phrase,

With all creation one song we raise; REFRAIN

All praise for Jesus, best gift divine Through word and witness, in bread and wine; Incarnate love song of boundless grace, Priest, teacher, prophet in time and space, Your steadfast kindness with human face:

REFRAIN

A billion voices in one great song, Now soft and gentle, now deep and strong, In every culture and style and key, From hill and valley, with sky and sea,

With Christ we praise you eternally: REFRAIN

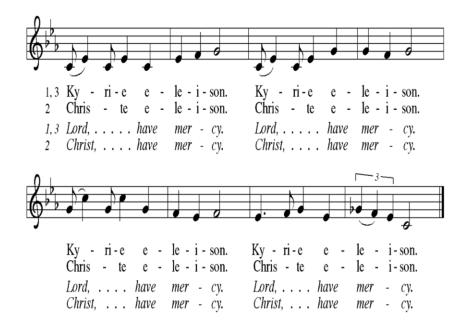
*Greeting

*P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

<u>Kyrie</u>

Kyrie



*The Salutation

Music: Dinah Reindorf, b. c. 1927

Music @ 1987 Dinah Reindorf, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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P: May God be with you.

C: And also with you.

*Prayer of the Day

Celebrate insert pg. 1

P: Let us pray...

C: Amen

The Word of God

Children's Message

<u>First Reading</u>: 1 Samuel 16:1-13 Celebrate insert pg. 1

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14 Celebrate insert pg. 3

R: Word of God, word of life **C: Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand as you are able)

P: The holy gospel according to St. John

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

*Holy Gospel John 9:1-41 Celebrate insert pg. 3

P: The gospel of our Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Pastor James Lapp

*Hymn of the Day

"You Are Mine" Red #581

"I will come to you in the silence, I will lift you from all your fear. You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be still and know I am here.

"I am hope for all who are hopeless, I am eyes for all who long to see, In the shadows of the night, I will be your light. Come and rest in me.

REFRAIN

Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name. Come and follow me, I will bring you home; I love you and you are mine."

"I am strength for all the despairing,
Healing for the ones who dwell in shame,
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free,
And all will know my name.

REFRAIN

"I am the Word that leads all to freedom, I am the peace the world cannot give. I will call your name, embracing all your pain. Stand up, now walk and live!

REFRAIN

*Prayers of the Church

Celebrate insert pg. 4

*Passing of the Peace

P: May the peace of God be with you always.

C: And also with you.

<u>Offering</u>

*Offertory Hymn

"Give Me a Clean Heart" Margaret Dourox



*Offertory Prayer

P: Let us pray.

C: God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever.
You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine.
Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*The Great Thanksgiving

- P: May God be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them up to God
- P: Let us give thanks to God our Creator
- C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.
- P: It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, O God, through Jesus Christ, who bids us turn to you and prepare for the Paschal feast.

*Words of Institution

*Lord's Prayer (sung)

C: Our Fa-ther in hea-ven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
For--give 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

Invitation to Communion

P: God's love is poured out in Christ for you. Open yourselves to receive it.

Holy Communion

Visitors: You are most welcome to receive communion as part of this church family! If children have never communed before, they are encouraged to come forward and receive a special blessing. Communion is by intinction, which means that we dip the bread into the cup of wine (red) or grape juice (white). The first Sunday of the month all choose their own small cup at the altar. Please follow the guidance of the ushers as to when you are to come forward and return to your seats to make room for others.



Communion Hymn

"Come & Fill Our Hearts" (Taize song) #528 sing 4x

Confitemini Domino quoniam bonus Confitemini Domino. Alleluia!

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy. Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!

*Communion Blessing and Prayer

P: May this Holy Communion of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen, keep and unite us now and forever.

C: Amen.

*Post Communion Hymn

Service music #200

Now, Lord



Music: Detroit Folk Mass, Tillis Butler, d. 2002, and James Harris Music © 1986 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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*Blessing

- P: Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation. Holy God, speaking, spoken, and inspiring,
 - + bless you, unbind you, and send you in love and peace.
- C: Amen.

*Closing Hymn

"Amazing Grace" #779

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found Was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear And grace my fears relieved How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come
Tis grace has brought me safe thus far And grace will lead me home

The Lord has promised good to me; His word my hope secures; He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun, We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

*Dismissal

*P: Go in peace. Share the good news. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Prayer Concerns:

Short Term: Suzanne Duval, Vanessa, Rose, Shelly Barker & family, Scott Ruble & family, Family of Pr. Bonnie, George Webber & Family, Cox Family, Kim, Mary Kelly, Trippel family, Grandma Joyce, Marlene Simmen, Lily Williams, Duke, Michael, Kimberly & Danny, Lora Schraft Poulson, Debbie, Julie, Nana, Kelly, Barbara Allen, Doug Hahn, Jay, Kirstin, Michael, Kayla, Sam, Nancy, Don, Lina, Katarina, Taiyo, Mateo, Stephanie Jager, Cabel, Kyle, Esdras, Jackson, Joe, Pat, Riley, Shelby, Frank, Kaitlyn, Daniel, Ryder, Jenny, Abby, Healthcare workers, Immigrant families, The Homeless, Our Nation's leaders, Mt. Cross, St. Stephen's Child Development Ctr, Pastor Jim and Our Church Family.

Long Term: people of the Bahamas, The Sanders Family, Sue Gibson, Ernestine Bartee, Barbara & John Bartee, Linda Johnson, Bailey Ingalls, Jan Shadle, Vi Olly, Susan Anderson, Rick, Bobbie Erickson, Edna Lindquist, Richard C., Eric VonSchell, Lauri Hollist, Ken Pahel, Pat M., Gary, Brouse Family, Janet Baker, Sandy Godvine, Janelle Yung, Barry & Barbara, Chris & Lorie Juhl, Karin, Will, Chris, Pat Hubbard, Cathy, Pearl Runquist, Volpi & Robe Family, men and women of Armed Forces, the President, and the Youth of today

March Benevolence Offering = Live Oak Community Resource Center

Our Mission Statement

St. Stephen's is a welcoming, healing community who worship God in Christ, nurture people growing in faith, serve others with acceptance and love, invite people to share the joy of the Spirit.

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Ministers: The People of St. Stephen's
Pastor: Rev. James P. Lapp
Church Administrator: Leslie Lapp
Music Directors: Suzanne Duval & Gary Roberts
Sunday School Coordinator: Leslie Lapp
Custodian: John Hopping

St. Stephen's Worship Band JayJohnston, Nancy & Sam Loya

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