

Worship with us online at [www.ststephenslutheran.org](http://www.ststephenslutheran.org)  
Taped for you to view anytime  
And Zoom Bible Studies on Wednesdays

### 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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Office Hours: Mon.—Thurs. 8:30 am—2:30 pm

Ministers: The People of St. Stephen's  
Pastor: Rev. James P. Lapp  
Church Administrator: Leslie Lapp  
Music Director: Gary Roberts  
Sunday School: Leslie Lapp  
Pre-School Director: Kathy Berens  
Custodian: John Hopping  
Videographers: Kent Madsen & Barb Rice

Music used by permission Onelicense #A-706539

## Seventh Sunday of Easter May 24, 2020

Welcome to people new to this church or faith, long time Lutherans, and Christians from every tradition. Welcome to all who have no church home, want to follow Christ, have doubts, or do not believe. Welcome to new visitors and old friends. Welcome to people of every age and size, color and culture, sexual orientation and marital status, ability and challenge. Welcome to believers and questioners and questioning believers. This is a place where you are welcome to celebrate and sorrow, rejoice and recover. This is a place where lives are made new. Welcome on this day.

( \* ) Asterisk means, "Please stand as you are able."

### The Gathering

#### \*Call to Worship

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: O radiant God, in the midst of fragile hopes and shattered dreams, you worked your brightest surprise—

C: **The shining glory of the risen Christ.**

P: Even now, you are birthing new hopes and prompting new dreams.

C: **Our eyes are open wide—**

P: Seeing your glory in the springtime blossoms,

C: **Noticing that your blessing leaves a calm in our hearts,**

P: And a patience in our voices,

C: **Sensing your presence in the breaking of bread,**

P: The comfort of a friend and the planting of a seed.

C: **O radiant God, with songs of praise and hearts of gladness, we worship you as beams of joy and candles of hope!**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

### Prayer Concerns

**Short Term:** Healthcare workers, Robert Bartee & Family, Heather, Kevin, Family of Suzanne Duval, Vanessa, Rose, Shelly Barker & family, George Webber & Family, Cox Family, Becky & Aaron Johnson, Marlene Simmen, Lorraine Chavez, Kimberly & Danny, Lora Schraft Poulson, Doug Hahn, Michael, Kayla, Don, Lina, Katarina, Taiyo, Mateo, Stephanie Jager, Cabel, Kyle, Esdras, Jackson, Joe, Pat, Riley, Shelby, Frank, Kaitlyn, Daniel, Ryder, Jenny, Abby, 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, Barbara & John Bartee, Linda Johnson, Bailey Ingalls, Jan Shadle, Vi Olly, John B., Michelle, Josh, CJ, 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, and the Youth of today.



### Virtual, Live Auction Saturday May 30 from 3 to 7 pm

There are many interesting items up for auction so please plan to attend. Log into [www.habitatmontereybay.org](http://www.habitatmontereybay.org) and follow the link to the auction on Facebook Live.

### Provide Lunch items for Volunteers Tuesday, June 23 10:30 am drop at church

Construction will begin on a new worksite in our neighborhood (Rodeo Creek Ct. off Harper) soon. We have resumed providing lunches for 8 volunteers on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Call the office 476-4700 to sign up for one or more items (sandwiches, cookies, chips). Thank you to Becky & Lindsey Cramer for volunteering May 26.

\*Closing Hymn

*"Blest Be the Tie That Binds" #656*

1. **Blest be the tie that binds  
our hearts in Christian love;  
the unity of heart and mind  
is like to that above.**
2. **Before our Father's throne  
we pour our ardent prayers;  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,  
our comforts and our cares.**
3. **We share our mutual woes,  
our mutual burdens bear;  
and often for each other flows  
the sympathizing tear.**
4. **From sorrow, toil, and pain,  
and sin we shall be free;  
and perfect love and friendship reign  
through all eternity.**

\*Dismissal

- P: Go in the power of the Spirit.  
Proclaim the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!
- C: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

May Benevolence = Mt. Cross Lutheran Outdoor Ministries

\*Opening Hymn

*"All Are Welcome" Red #641*

**Let us build a house where love can dwell  
and all can safely live,  
A place where saints and children tell  
how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,  
rock of faith and vault of grace;  
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:**

REFRAIN

**All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where prophets speak,  
and words are strong and true,  
where all God's children dare to seek  
to dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness  
and as symbol of God's grace;  
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:**

REFRAIN

**Let us build a house where love is found  
in water, wine and wheat:  
A banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus,  
is revealed in time and space;  
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us:**

REFRAIN

**Let us build a house where hands will reach  
beyond the wood and stone  
To heal and strengthen serve and teach,  
and live the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger  
bear the image of God's face;  
Let us bring an end to fear and danger:**

REFRAIN

**Let us build a house where all are named,  
their songs and visions heard  
And loved and treasured, taught and claimed  
as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter,  
prayers of faith and songs of grace,  
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:**

REFRAIN

\*Greeting

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen  
C: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P: The grace of our risen Savior,  
the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all.  
C: **And also with you**

\*Prayer of the Day

**The Word of God**

First Reading Acts 1:6-14 Celebrate pg. 1

Read Responsively Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 Celebrate pg. 2

Second Reading 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11 Celebrate pg. 2

\*Gospel Reading John 17:1-11 Celebrate pg. 3

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 17th  
chapter. *(The Gospel is read)*

P: The Gospel of the Lord.  
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Message

Rev. James Lapp

**The Sending**

\*Communion Blessing

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
C: **Amen**

\*Post Communion Prayer

P: Let us pray:  
In this meal, O God, you have strengthened us by the risen life  
of your Son. Send us by your Spirit to live in peace with one  
another and to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ  
our Lord.  
C: **Amen**

\*Benediction

P: God, who raised Jesus from the dead,  
Make you stand strong in faith.  
C: **Amen. Alleluia!**

P: Jesus Christ, triumphant over the grave,  
Make you bold to tell the good news.  
C: **Amen. Alleluia!**

P: The Spirit of truth abide with you  
And guide you into paths of service.  
C: **Amen. Alleluia!**

P: The gifts of God for the people of God.  
Come for all is ready!

(You may be seated)

Holy Communion

Communion Hymns

*“One Bread, One Body” Red #496*

*REFRAIN*

**One bread, one body,  
one Lord of all;  
one cup of blessing which we bless,  
and we, though many  
throughout the earth,  
we are one body in this one Lord.**

**Gentile or Jew,  
Servant or free,  
Woman or man,  
No more.**

REFRAIN

**Many the gifts,  
Many the works,  
One in the Lord  
Of all.**

REFRAIN

**Grain for the fields,  
Scattered and grown,  
Gathered to one  
For all.**

REFRAIN

\*Hymn of the Day

“Come Now, O Prince of Peace” #247

1. Come, now, O Prince of peace, make us one body.  
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.
2. Come now, O God of love, make us one body.  
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.
3. Come now and set us free, O God, our Savior.  
Some, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.
4. Come, Hope of unity, make us one body.  
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.

Easter Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in God,**

**Who lights the dawn to chase away the darkness;  
Who rolls away each stone of doubt;  
Who surprises us with incredible gifts of family and friends,  
silence and laughter;  
Who raises us from sadness and despair  
to the possibilities of blessing and joy.**

**We believe in Jesus,**

**Friend of the poor and searcher for the lost,  
Who comes to us in our grief and longing, calls us by name  
and sends us on the paths of peace to speak of an awesome  
love that is not overcome by death.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**The hidden partner, the gentle messenger of God,  
Who fills our every breath with blessing;  
Who guides us in the dark, beckons us to do good,  
speaks to us in dream and image,  
and watches over us with tender compassion.**

**We believe in the church,**

**An instrument of God in this present moment, striving for justice, celebrating in joy, clawing at despair, living in hope, praying for healing and forever proclaiming Good News of God's persistent and redeeming love.**

\*The Prayers of the Church

Celebrate, Page 4

## **The Communion Meal**

\* Passing of the Peace

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

**C: And also with you.**

Offering — We honor and worship God by returning some of the gifts with which we have been blessed.

Offertory Prayer

P: Giver of life,

**C: We bring to your table what we have, gifts from you, the one who makes all things new.**

**With these signs we bring ourselves,  
that we may carry to the world  
the love of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

\*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 the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

\*Prayer of Preparation

P: We prepare our hearts to receive God's grace together now.

**C: Generous God, you have given us so much. Give us one more thing. Give us thankful hearts because we know our hearts can turn hard and cold. We hold on when we should let go. We are clutching when we should be sharing. We are fearful instead of trusting in your everlasting care.**

**Open our hands and our hearts to the bounty of your love, which cares for the flowers of the fields, the birds in the air, each child who toddles, every parent who worries, every adult who struggles.**

**Loving God, you have given us so much. Give us again the assurance of your love and care, and fill us with grateful hearts and open hands. Amen.**

\*Words of Institution

\*Lord's Prayer

**C: Our Father, in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is 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**