

Worship online at www.ststephenslutheran.org

Recorded for you to view anytime.

Please participate by having your worship bulletin and Celebrate ready

Zoom Bible Studies with Pastor Jim on Wednesdays 11am & 7pm.

Check you email on Tuesday for the link to the Zoom meeting.

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.

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church E.L.C.A.

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Web Address: www.ststephenslutheran.org

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

Church Musician: Gary Roberts

Sunday School: Leslie Lapp

Pre-School Director: Kathy Berens

Custodian: John Hopping

Videographers: Kent Madsen & Barb Rice

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Day of Pentecost

May 31, 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

*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,
Whose steadfast love is everlasting,
Whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.
Amen.

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess the ways we have missed God's mark.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Reconciling God,

**C: We confess that we do not trust your abundance,
And we deny your presence in our lives.
We place our hope in ourselves
And rely on our own efforts.
We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.
We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.
We fear difference and do not welcome others
As you have welcomed us.
We sin in thought, word, and deed.**

**You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes.
From the bondage of sorrow all the captives dream dreams;
Our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.
With...bold new decisions your people arise.**

REFRAIN

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God.

May Benevolence = Mt. Cross Lutheran Outdoor Ministries

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.

*Blessing

P: Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
Nor things present, nor things to come,
Nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
Nor anything else in all creation,
Will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus.

God the Creator, † Jesus, the Christ,
And the Holy Spirit, the Comforter,
Bless you and keep you in eternal love.

C: Amen.

*Closing Hymn

"Spirit of Gentleness" Red #396

REFRAIN:

***Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness calling and free;
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.***

You moved on the waters, you called to the deep
Then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;
And over the eons you called to each thing:
"Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings."

REFRAIN

You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand
And you goaded your people with a law and a land;
And when they were blinded with idols and lies,
Then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes.

REFRAIN

You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,
Then you whispered in silence when the whole world was
still;
And down in the city you called once a gain,
When you blew through your people on the rush of the wind.

REFRAIN

(hymn continued)

**By your grace, forgive us;
Through your love, renew us;
And in your Spirit, lead us;
So that we may live and serve you in newness of life.
Amen.**

P: Beloved of God,
By the overwhelming abundance of divine mercy
We have peace with God through † Christ Jesus,
Through whom we have obtained grace upon grace.
Our sins are forgiven.
Let us live now in hope.
For hope does not disappoint
Because God's love has been poured into our hearts
Through the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

*Opening Hymn

"O Day Full of Grace" Red #627

**O day full of grace that now we see
Appearing on earth's horizon,
Bring light from our God that we may be
Abundant in joy this season.
God, shine for us now in this dark place;
Your name on our hearts emblazon.**

**O day full of grace, O blessed time,
Our Lord on the earth arriving;
Then came to the world that light sublime,
Great joy for us all retrieving;
For Jesus all mortals did embrace,
All shame and despair removing.**

**For Christ bore our sins, and not his own
When he on the cross was hanging;
And then he arose and moved the stone,
That we, unto him belonging,
Might join with angelic hosts to raise
our voices in endless singing.**

God came to us then at Pentecost,
The Spirit new life revealing,
And we might no more in death be lost,
Its pow'r over us dispelling.
This flame will the mark of sin efface
And bring to us all true healing.

When we on that final journey go
That Christ is for us preparing,
We'll gather in song, our hearts aglow,
All joy of the heavens sharing,
And there we will join God's endless praise,
With angels and saints adoring.

*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**

*Prayer of the Day

The Word of God

<u>First Reading</u>	Acts 2:1-21	Celebrate pg. 1
Read Responsively	Psalms 104:24-35	Celebrate pg. 2
<u>Second Reading</u>	1 Cor. 12:3-13	Celebrate pg. 2

Communion Hymns

"Now the Silence" Red #460 (sing two times)

Now the silence Now the peace
Now the empty hands uplifted
Now the kneeling Now the plea
Now the Father's arms in welcome
Now the hearing Now the pow'r
Now the vessel brimmed for pouring
Now the body Now the blood Now the joyful celebration
Now the wedding Now the songs
Now the heart forgiven leaping
Now the Spirit's visitation Now the Son's epiphany
Now the Father's blessing Now Now Now

The Sending

*Communion Blessing

P: May this Holy Communion of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen us and keep us in God's grace now and forever.
C: **Amen**

*Post Communion Prayer

P: God of the welcome table,
In this meal we have feasted on your goodness
And have been united by your presence among us.
Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts
So that we may share your neighborly love with all,
Through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.

C: **Amen**

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**

P: Friends of Jesus, come to the table.
Receive nourishment for your journey.

Holy Communion

Please either commune yourself or those you are with by saying the words: "The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you"

*Gospel Reading

John 20:19-23

Celebrate pg. 3

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th chapter. *(The Gospel is read)*

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

Message

Rev. James Lapp

*Hymn of the Day

"Loving Spirit" Red #397

Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,
You have chosen me to be
You have drawn me to your wonder,
You have set your sign on me.

Like a mother you enfold me,
Hold my life within your own,
Feed me with your very body,
Form me of your flesh and bone.

Like a father you protect me,
Teach me the discerning eye,
Hoist me up upon your shoulder,
Let me see the world from high.

Friend and lover, in our closeness
I am known and held and blessed:
In your promise is my comfort,
In your presence I am rest.

Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,
You have chosen me to be
You have drawn me to your wonder,
You have set your sign on me.

The Communion Meal

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

* 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.

Offering Prayer

P: God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours,
And your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.
Water and word, wine and bread:
These are signs of your abundant grace.
Nourish us through these gifts,
That we might proclaim your steadfast love
In our communities and in the world,
Through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.

C: 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. (cont.)**