

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.
2500 Soquel Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062
831/476-4700 FAX 831/476-3918
email: office@ststephenslutheran.org
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

Music used by permission Onelicense #A-706539

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 14, 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

*Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
Whose steadfast love is everlasting,
Whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

C: Amen

P: 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.
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.**

cy. What really matters at this time are the feelings and voices of Black People who are speaking out. These are the voices of people who are spilling out onto our streets crying for justice. Crying for justice even when the police are acting more like warriors than guardians. Crying for justice in the face of tear gas and blinding rubber bullets and horses and Billy Clubs. Are we listening?

For as long as Black Lives have been in danger in this country Lutheran Christians have been largely silent. We have been silent for far too long. A few years ago during my report to our Synod Assembly, I asked “Why is it that Black lives in Rwanda matter more to us than Black lives in our own cities?” This is a sad legacy we must first acknowledge and then move to change. Yes, we passed resolutions at our most recent ELCA Churchwide Assembly condemning white supremacy and racist rhetoric and offering a public apology to People of African Descent (see links at the bottom of this article). Fifty years after the Civil Rights Act was passed. One hundred and fifty years after Jim Crow Laws were enacted. Four hundred years after the first slaves were brought to this country. Yes, we have begun showing up at Black Lives Matter gatherings since the deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery. Was the death of George Floyd finally hideous enough to awaken us from our slumber? Will it be a month from now? I pray so.

Black Lives Matter. Black voices matter. I've been listening to those who can share from their experience how dangerous, challenging and fearful a place America has been for them and for their families -- for a long time. I want to listen so I can speak when called upon to do so. I want to speak because I believe it is crucial for all people to add to this conversation. Yet I feel inadequate (see words above) and unprepared to do so. Thankfully, I have been blessed to read words of Black colleagues and friends who are opening to me the world of their experience that I only thought I knew. Links to two of those voices are

<https://www.facebook.com/vehiel.curry/posts/10157828357186633>

<https://www.facebook.com/elena.kinggarrett/posts/3169030246507167>

Come Holy Spirit, Come.
Call us. Empower us. Enable us. Wake us. Move us.
Cause us to be your justice, mercy, peace and hope. Amen.
Peace, Bp. Mark

Prayer Concerns

Short Term: Healthcare workers, Nicholas Gross & family, Frank Giammona, Heather, Kevin, Family of Suzanne Duval, Vanessa, Rose, Shelly Barker & family, George Webber & Family, Cox Family, Becky & Aaron Johnson, Marlene Simmen & family, 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, 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.

June Benevolence Offering = World Hunger

MESSAGE FROM BISHOP MARK HOLMERUD

If I were to create a "Word Cloud" for the feelings I am having these days following the murder of George Floyd, there wouldn't be a lot of "cheery" words in it: Shocked. Saddened. Angry. Heartsick. Fearful. Inadequate. Unprepared. Grieving. Frustrated. Disbelieving. Wondering. Weary.

And really, what it comes right down to is this -- none of my feelings matter. Not now. Because what matters is Black lives. **Black Lives Matter.** Black lives that are being taken by murder at the hands of the police. Black lives that are being disregarded through judicial, legal, economic, voting and social policies that seek to minimize the voices and needs of people of color in this country in order to perpetuate white privilege. Black lives that are in danger every day because white supremacy, of which white people are a part through having benefitted from a system that empowers and enables them at the expense of others, is alive and well in this country. Black lives that are threatened by personal and systemic racism, which permeates every part of society in this country. From local police departments and schools and courts, to the highest governmental offices of the land – racist polices and laws exist to perpetuate white suprema-

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

"God is Here" Red #526

**God is here! As we your people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
May we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
Into open minds and hearts.**

**Here are symbols to remind us
Of our life long need of grace;
Here are table, font, and pulpit;
Here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
Here in silence, as in speech,
Here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.**

**Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
Here as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
Seek in worship to explore
What it means in daily living
To believe and to adore.**

(Hymn continued)

Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
 In an age of change and doubt,
 Keep us faithful to the gospel;
 Help us work your purpose out.
 Here, in this day's dedication,
 All we have to give, receive;
 We, who cannot live without you,
 We adore you! We believe!

God Give Us Life By Ray Makeever

*Call to Worship


- L** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, breathing life into all creatures.

C 
 Come in-to us Ho-ly Spir - it.

- L** In the beginning God created the people of the earth, naming humanity the embodiment of the divine presence.

C 
 Come in-to us Ho-ly Spir - it.



- L** In the beginning God guided the darkness over the earth, leading it into light, forming a communion from the chaos.

C 
 Come in-to us Ho-ly Spir - it.

- L** As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be...

- C** God give us life!

*Benediction Solo voice first time; congregation second time.


 God of Life: God the cre - a - tor, God of Hope: Christ the Re-deem-er,

 God of Peace: Ho - ly Spir - it, Bless you now and al - ways.

*Closing Hymn

"Holy, Holy, Holy" Red #413

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
 Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
 Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
 God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
 Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
 Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
 Which wert and art and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
 Though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see,
 Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
 Perfect in pow'r, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.
 Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
 God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

*Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
 Thanks be to God.

Communion Hymn

"Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth"

#735

**Mothering God, you gave me birth
In the bright morning of this world.
Creator, source of ev'ry breath,
You are my rain, my wind, my sun.**

**Mothering Christ, you took my form,
Offering me your food of light,
Grain...of life, and grape of love,
Your very body for my peace.**

**Mothering Spirit, nurt'ring one,
In arms of patience hold me close,
So that in faith I root and grow
Until I flow'r, until I know.**

*Communion Blessing

P: May this Holy Communion of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace now and forever

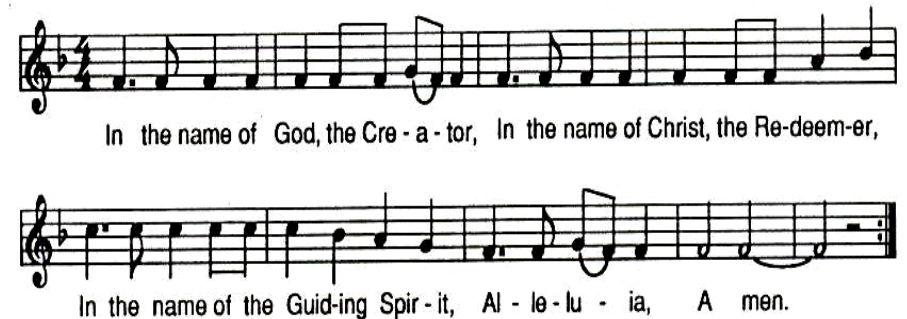
C: Amen

*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

*Leader sings first time, women only second time;
whole congregation third time*



Solo voice sings first line; congregation second.

Verse

Two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the verse, and the second staff contains the melody for the chorus. The lyrics are written below the notes.

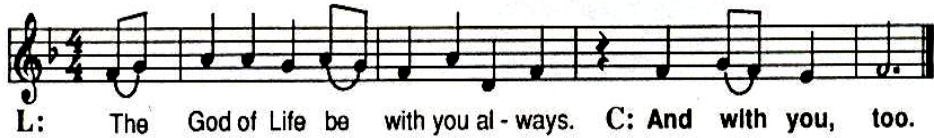
L Come let us wor-ship God. Come let us wor-ship God.
C Come let us wor-ship God. Come let us wor-ship God

Refrain

Two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the refrain, and the second staff contains the melody for the chorus. The lyrics are written below the notes.

L Wel-come ev'-ry-one to the love of God.
C Wel-come ev'-ry-one to the love of God.

Verses: 2. Rest for the weary
3. Food for the hungry
4. Hope for the children



*Prayer of the Day

Celebrate pg. 1

P: Let us pray
C: Amen

First Reading Exodus 19:2-8

Celebrate pg. 1

R: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Read Responsively Psalm 100:1-5

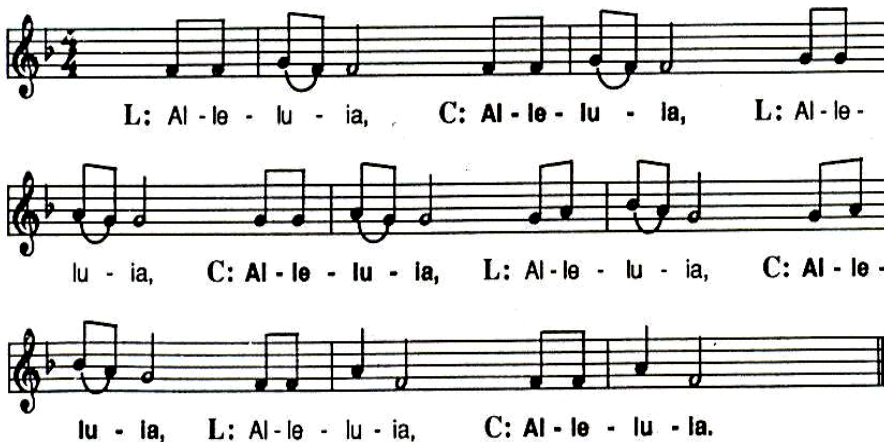
Celebrate pg. 2

Second Reading Romans 5:1-8

Celebrate pg. 3

R: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation



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.

Lamb of God: vs. 1 and 2 only



2. Lamb of God, who'd give your soul
To see a broken world made whole,
Have mercy upon us. mercy upon us... etc.

Holy Communion

As we continue to worship at a distance, please provide your own bread and fruit of the vine to commune with. Use the words "The Body of Christ given" and "The Blood of Christ shed" when you receive each of the elements.

Holy Holy



*Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: "Take and eat; this my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying; "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

*The Lord's Prayer

C: 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,

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 9th Chapter.
C: Glory to you, O God.

*The Gospel

Matthew 9:35-10:8

Celebrate pg. 3

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Lydia Curry

*Hymn of the Day "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service" #712

Lord, whose love in humble service
Bore the weight of human need,
Who upon the cross, forsaken,
Worked your mercy's perfect deed:
We, your servants, bring the worship
Not of voice alone, but heart;
Consecrating to your purpose Ev'ry gift which you impart.

Still your children wander homeless;
Still the hungry cry for bread;
Still the captives long for freedom;
Still in grief we mourn our dead.
As you, Lord, in deep compassion
Healed the sick and freed the soul,
By your Spirit send your power To our world to make it whole.

As we worship, grant us vision, Till your love's revealing light
In its height and depth and greatness
Dawns upon our quickened sight,
Making known the needs and burdens
Your compassion bids us bear,
Stirring us to ardent service, Your abundant life to share.

Called by worship to your service,
forth in your dear name we go,
To the child, the youth, the aged,
love in living deeds to show;
Hope and health, good will and comfort,
counsel, aid and peace we give,
That your servants, Lord,
in freedom may your mercy know and live.

*Prayers of the Church

Celebrate Pg. 4

*Passing of the Peace

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

C: **And also with you.**

Offering—*Please continue to give by mail, website or church mailbox*

*Offertory Hymn *Solo voice sings first time through;
Congregation sings through twice as gifts are presented.*

Come bring them to the ta - ble. Bring the
gifts of bread and wine. The hopes and dreams of all the
1.
peo - ple, the of - fring of our lives.
2,3.
of - fring of our lives, the of - fring of our lives.

*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.**

The Great Thanksgiving

L The God of Life be with you al - ways.
C And with you, too.
L Lift up your hearts, Lift up your minds.
C We lift them joy - ful - ly un - to God.
L Let us thank our grac - ious God.
C It is right to give God thanks and praise.
L The God of Life be with you al - ways.
C And with you, too.