

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 Thursdays 11am & 7pm.

Check your email on Wednesday 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.

Reconciling in Christ

"We welcome all who are seeking God's love and grace.

We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of race
or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity,
gender expression, or relationship status.

We welcome all without regard to addictions, physical or mental
health, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances, or
anything that too often divides us. Our unity is in Christ."

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

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 28, 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.**



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Dear Church, Words matter. Words matter in our Scripture, in our hymns, in our governing documents, and beyond. Fifty years ago, on June 29, 1970, the Lutheran Church in America voted to change the word “man” to “person” in its bylaws and opened the door for the ordination of women. The American Lutheran Church achieved the same thing by resolution a few months later. The church was led by the Spirit to change. At the time it was scary for some. Fifty years later, it is now part of our heritage.

Fifty years later we celebrate the anniversary as a whole church. The influence of those decisions 50 years ago is not merely the impact on women. This is a celebration for the whole church, because the whole church has been strengthened by the gifts of ordained women in its leadership. We celebrate how these pastors have shared the Word, including with words of compassion, conviction, and curiosity. We also give thanks for the moments when there are no words, but they have offered their presence.

We also know that women who are pastors have struggled in ways men who are pastors have not. They deal with sexual harassment, disrespect, and often lower pay due to gender-based discrimination. The first women of color in our predecessor bodies weren’t ordained until 1979. And it wasn’t until 2009 that barriers to ordination were removed for LGBTQIA+ individuals in committed relationships. We know that racism and heterosexism complexify and intensify these problems. This discrimination is also part of our heritage, and something that we need to continue to work to eliminate.

Fifty years after 1970, we also live in a world beset by change. I am grateful for the Spirit who continues to lead us and for the women God has called to minister to us. I thank God for all of you who minister so faithfully.

In Christ, Elizabeth A. Eaton, Presiding Bishop

“There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus” - Galatians 3:28.

Prayer Concerns

Short Term: Healthcare workers, Jean Patterson, Nicholas Gross & family, Sheila (Terri's sister), Frank Giammona, Derek, 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: 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

Live Worship option

If any of you would like to participate, we are open to a **few people** Reading Scripture and offering the Prayers of Intercession from the Celebrate page. Or if you would just like to come to worship – Saturdays 11:00 am. Socially distanced of course. Call Leslie at 476-4700 to schedule your spot ☺.

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**

"Gather us In" (Here In This Place) #532

**Here in this place new light is streaming
Now is the darkness vanished away
See in this space our fears and our dreamings
Brought here to you in the light of this day**

**Gather us in, the lost and forsaken
Gather us in, the blind and the lame
Call to us now, and we shall awaken
We shall arise at the sound of our name**

**We are the young; our lives are a myst'ry
We are the old who yearn for your face
We have been sung throughout all of hist'ry
Called to be light to the whole human race**

**Gather us in, the rich and the haughty
Gather us in, the proud and the strong
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly
Give us the courage to enter the song**

**Here we will take the wine and the water
Here we will take the bread of new birth
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters
Call us a-new to be salt for the earth**

**Give us to drink the wine of compassion
Give us to eat the bread that is you
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true**

(Hymn continued)

Not in the dark of buildings confining
 Not in some heaven light years away
 Here in this place the new light is shining
 Now is the kingdom, and now is the day

Gather us in and hold us forever
 Gather us in and make us your own
 Gather us in, all peoples together
 Fire of love in our flesh and our bone

God Give Us Life By Ray Makeever

*Call to Worship

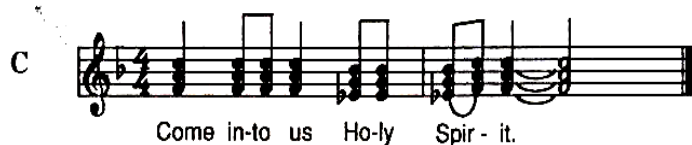
- L In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, breathing life into all creatures.



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



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



- 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.



*Closing Hymn

"Let Justice Roll Like a River" W&P #85 vs. 2-5

Refrain

Let justice roll like a river and wash all oppression away.
 Come, O God, and take us, move and shake us;
 Come now, and make us a new,
 that we might live justly like you.

"How long shall we wait, O God,
 For the day of your mercy to dawn,
 The day we beat our swords into plows,
 when your peace reigns over the earth?"

Refrain

Hear this, all of you who use the poor
 In your thirst of power and riches:
 The Lord will turn your laughter to tears,
 on the wondrous Day of our God.

Refrain

"Even now, return to me,
 Let your hearts be broken and humble,
 For I am gracious, gen'rous and kind."
 Come and seek the mercies of God.

Refrain

You have been told the way of life,
 The way of justice and peace:
 To act justly, to love gently,
 To walk humbly with God.

Refrain

*Dismissal

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

Communion Hymn

"Come Let Us Eat" Red #491 vs. 1 & 4

**Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,
Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
Our Lord's body let us take together,
Our Lord's body let us take together.**

**Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word,
Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word.
Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom,
Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom.**

*Communion Blessing

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

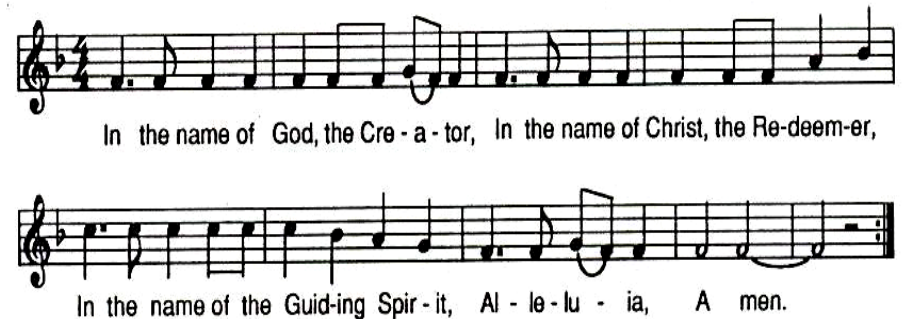
C: Amen

*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.

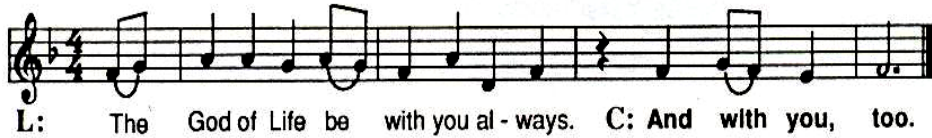
Verse

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

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

Jeremiah 28:5-9

Celebrate pg. 1

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

Read Responsively Psalm 89:1-18

Celebrate pg. 2

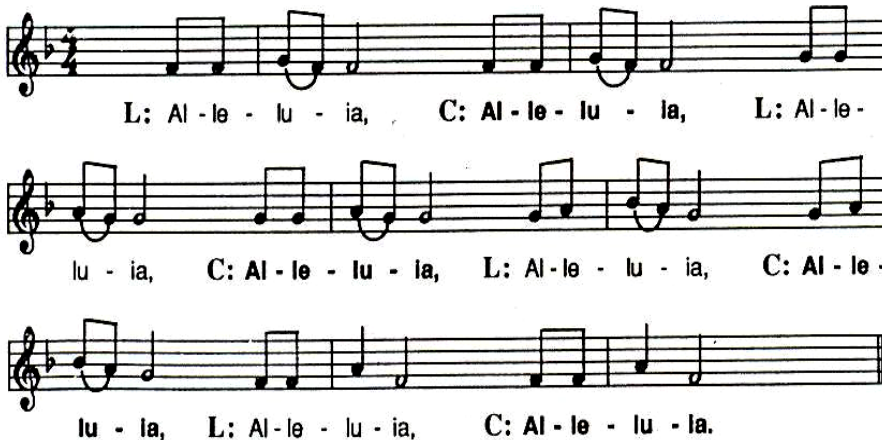
Second Reading

Romans 6:12-23

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

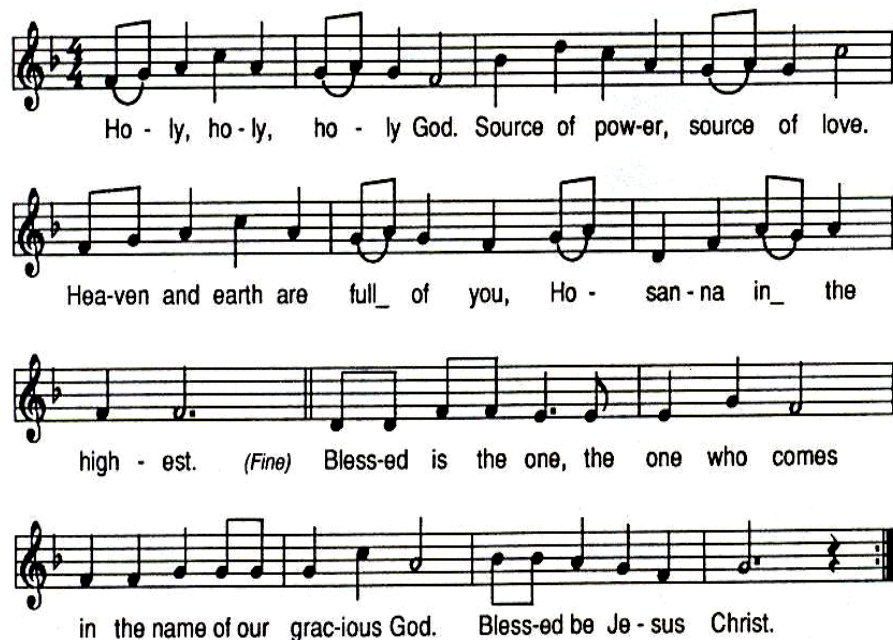


2. Lamb of God, who'd give your soul
To see a broken world made whole,
Have mercy upon us. mercy upon us... etc.

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 10th Chapter.
C: **Glory to you, O God.**

*The Gospel Matthew 10:40-42 Celebrate pg. 3

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

Sermon Pr. James Lapp

*Hymn of the Day

"Song Over the Waters" W & P #127

REFRAIN

God, you have moved up on the waters,
You have sung in the rush of wind and flame;
And in your love you have called us sons and daughters:
Make us people of the water and your name.

Come fill our waiting hearts
With the spirit of Jesus,
Let us shine with your light and peace.

Give us a thirst for love,
Give us a hunger for justice,
Make us one with the mind of Christ.

You are the breath of life,
You are the hope of the hopeless,
Come and fill us with light and peace.

Come, open ev'ry heart,
Come now and wake us to wonder,
Make us vessels of light and peace. REFRAIN

*Prayers of the Church

Celebrate Pg. 4

The Great Thanksgiving

*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.**

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.