

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 12, 2020

mtcrossministries

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 worshipping 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.**

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

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

"Earth and All Stars!" Red #731

**Earth and all stars! Loud rushing planets!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blowing snow storm!
Sing to the Lord a new song!**

Refrain
**God has done marvelous things.
I too sing praises with a new song!**

**Trumpet and pipes! Loud clashing cymbals!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud humming cellos!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain***

**Engines and steel! Loud pounding hammers!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Limestone and beams! Loud building workers!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain***

**Classrooms and labs! Loud boiling test tubes!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Athlete and band! Loud cheering people!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain***

**Knowledge and truth! Loud sounding wisdom!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Daughter and son! Loud praying members!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain***

God Give Us Life By Ray Makeever

*Call to Worship

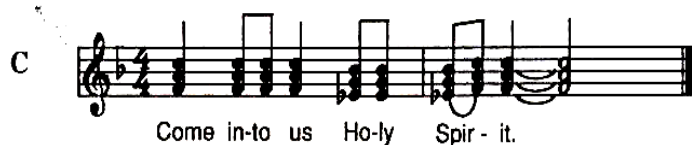
- L** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, breathing life into all creatures.



- 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!

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. Masked & Socially distanced of course.

Call Leslie at 476-4700 to schedule your spot ☺.

**Campfire Worship
with Mt. Cross
Every Sunday Night in July
at 7:30PM**



We are hosting an Omega Worship Watch Party on our Facebook page. We'll have songs and stories and prayers around a campfire and give you a way to do camp at Join us at www.mtcross.org/



Provide Lunches for the volunteers

Tuesday, July 28 by 10:30 am

(4th Tuesday of each month)

Sandwiches, fruit, cookies, and drink. Call the office to Sign-up for one or more items. 476-4700.

Prayer Concerns

Short Term: Healthcare workers, Family of Cheryl Denny, 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, Noah, 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.

July Benevolence Offering = Homeless Service Center

The Altar Flowers are given by

Barbara Rice & Kent Madsen

Honoring Health Care workers
with extra COVID-19 challenges
and all those effected by COVID



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



In the name of God, the Cre - a - tor, In the name of Christ, the Re-deem-er,



In the name of the Guid-ing Spir - it, Al - le - lu - ia, A men.

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.

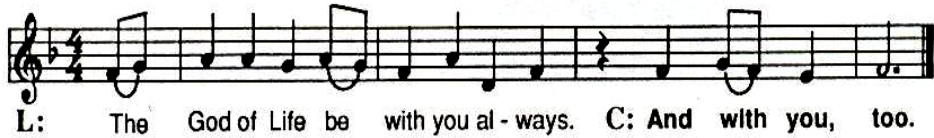


C

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

Isaiah 55:10-13

Celebrate pg. 1

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

Read Responsively Psalm 65:1-13

Celebrate pg. 2

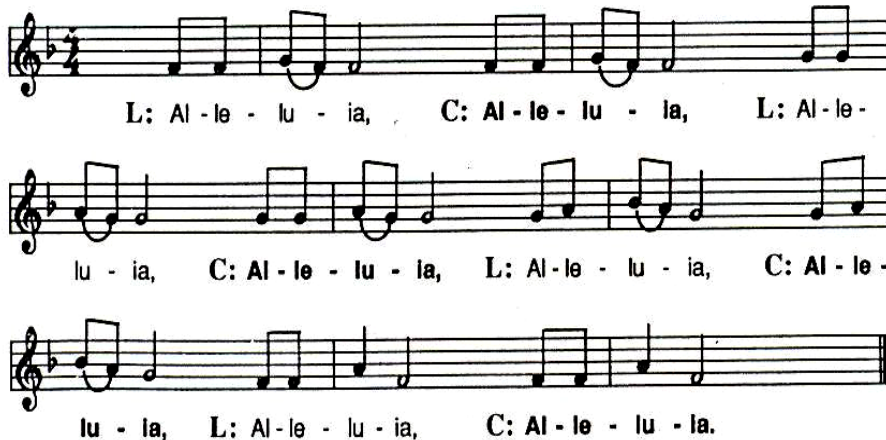
Second Reading

Romans 8:1-11

Celebrate pg. 3

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

*Gospel Acclamation



*Benediction Solo voice first time; congregation second time.



*Closing Hymn

"Let All Things Now Living" Red #881

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
To God the creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
Who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us, God's light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
As forward we travel from light into light.

God rules all the forces: the stars in their courses
And sun in its orbit obediently shine;
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
The deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
With glad adoration a song let us raise
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:
"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"

*Dismissal

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

Communion Hymn

"Morning Has Broken"

Red #556

**Morning has broken, like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken, like the first bird.
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning!
Praise for the springing, fresh from the world!**

**Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall, on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden.
Sprung in completeness where his feet pass.**

**Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning,
born of the One Light, Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!**

*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

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 13th Chapter.
C: Glory to you, O God.

*The Gospel

Matthew 13:1-23

Celebrate pg. 3

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

Sermon

Pastor James Lapp

*Hymn of the Day

"For the Beauty of Earth"

Red #879

**For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:**

REFRAIN

**Christ, our God, to thee we raise
This our sacrifice of praise.**

**For the wonder of each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale and tree and flow'r,
Sun and moon and stars of light:**

REFRAIN

**For the joy of ear and eye,
For the heart and mind's delight,
For the mystic harmony
Linking sense to sound and sight:**

REFRAIN

**For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
For the friends on earth and friends above;
For all gentle thoughts and mild:**

REFRAIN

**For each perfect gift of thine,
Peace on earth and joy in heav'n;
For thyself, best gift divine,
To our world so freely giv'n:**

7

REFRAIN

*Prayers of the Church

Celebrate Pg. 4

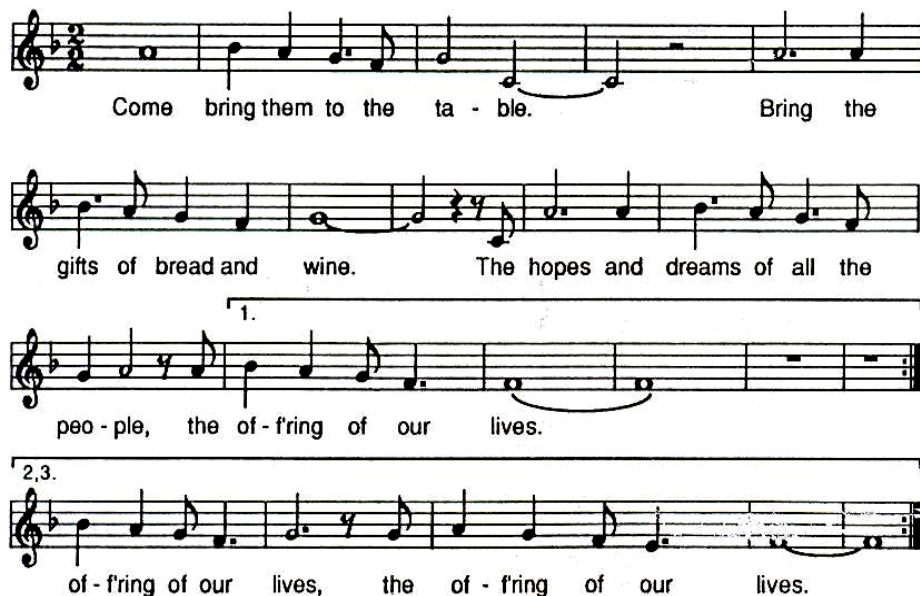
*Passing of the Peace

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.**

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




1. Lamb of God, who takes a - way the sin of
all the world to - day, Have mer - cy up - on us,
mer - cy up - on us, mer - cy up - on us, and give us your peace.

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



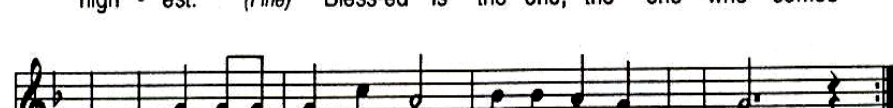
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God. Source of pow-er, source of love.



Hea-ven and earth are full_ of you, Ho - san - na in_ the



high - est. *(Fine)* Bless-ed is the one, the one who comes



in the name of our grac-ious God. Bless-ed be Je - sus Christ.

*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,

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.

