

Worship online at [www.ststephenslutheran.org](http://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](mailto:office@ststephenslutheran.org)

Web Address: [www.ststephenslutheran.org](http://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

13th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
August 30, 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 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.**

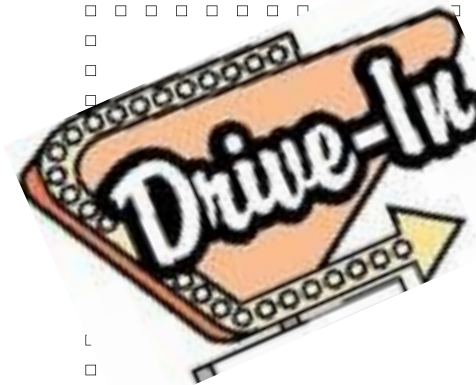


*The Altar Flowers are given  
by Ken & Susan Gross  
Celebrating their anniversary*

**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 😊.



**OUTDOOR  
WORSHIP**

**Sunday, Sept. 20  
10:30 am  
Church Parkinglot**

Stay tuned for more info.  
in the safety of your own car.



## Prayer Concerns

**Short Term:** Firefighters, Healthcare workers & teachers, Zachary Sherilyn Jager & family, Family of Delores Price, Family of Al Mitchell, Jennifer & family, Family of Cheryl Denny, Jean Patterson, Nicholas Gross & family, Sheila & Terri, Frank Giammona, Derek, Heather, Kevin, Family of Suzanne Duval, Vanessa,

Rose, Shelly Barker & family, Sam, George Webber & Family, Cox Family, Becky & Aaron Johnson, Marlene Simmen & family, Lorraine Chavez, Kimberly & Danny, Lora Schraft Poulson, Chuck, Michael, Kayla, Don, Lina, Sal, Katarina, Taiyo, Mateo, Stephanie Jager, Cabel, Miller, 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.

### **August Benevolence Offering**

**California Lutheran University  
&  
Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary**

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 of Grace and God of Glory" #705

**God of grace and God of glory,  
On your people pour your pow'r;  
Crown your ancient church's story;  
Bring its bud to glorious flow'r.  
Grant us wisdom grant us courage  
For the facing of this hour,  
For the facing of this hour.**

**Lo! The hosts of evil round us  
Scorn the Christ assail his ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us  
free our hearts to Faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
For the living of these days,  
For the living of these days.**

**Cure your children's warring madness;  
bend our pride to your control;  
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
Rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
lest we miss your kingdom's goal,  
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.**

**Save us from weak resignation  
To the evils we deplore;  
Let the gift of your salvation  
Be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
Serving you whom we adore,  
Serving you whom we adore.**

## 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.

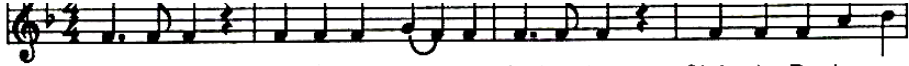
- L** In the beginning God guided the darkness over the earth, leading it into light, forming a communion from the chaos.


**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

"Rise Up, O Saints of God!" Red #669

**Rise up, O saints of God! From vain ambitions turn;  
Christ rose triumphant that your hearts  
with nobler zeal might burn.**

**Speak out, O saints of God!  
Despair engulfs earth's frame;  
As heirs of God's baptismal grace,  
The word of hope proclaim.**

**Rise up, O saints of God! The kingdom's task embrace;  
Redress sin's cruel consequence;  
Give justice larger place.**

**Give heed, O saints of God! Creation cries in pain;  
Stretch forth your hand of healing now,  
With love the weak sustain.**

**Commit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;  
And, quickened by the Spirit's pow'r,  
rise up, O saints of God!**

### \*Dismissal

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

## Communion Hymn

"Now the Silence" Red #460 (sing three 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

## \*Communion Blessing

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

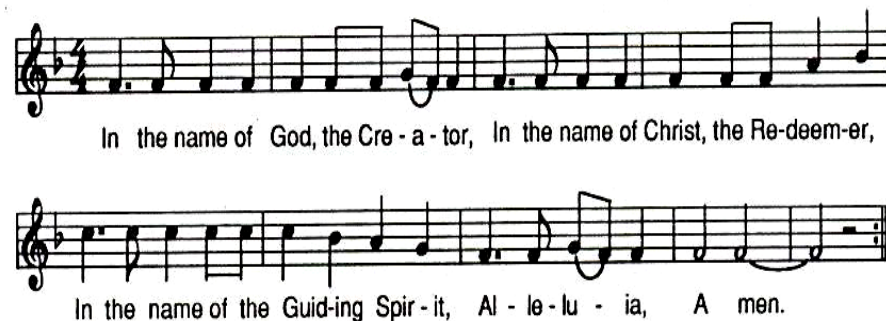
**C: Amen**

## \*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

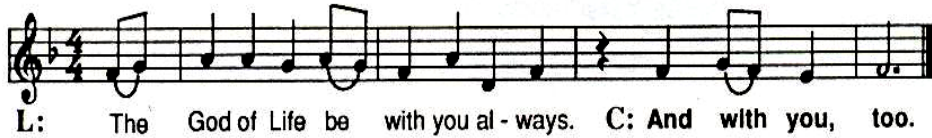
L Come let us wor-ship God. Come let us wor-ship God.  
C Come let us wor-ship God. Come let us wor-ship God.

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 15:15-21

Celebrate pg. 1

R: Word of God. Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Read Responsively

Psalms 26:1-8

Celebrate pg. 2

Second Reading

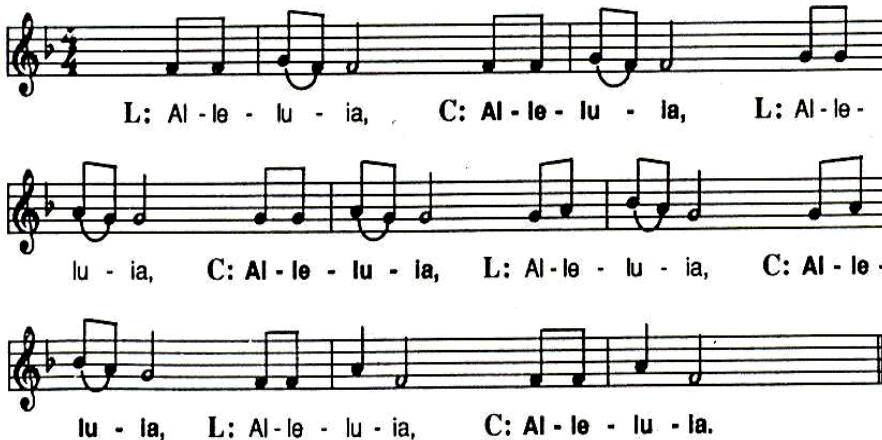
Romans 12:9-21

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

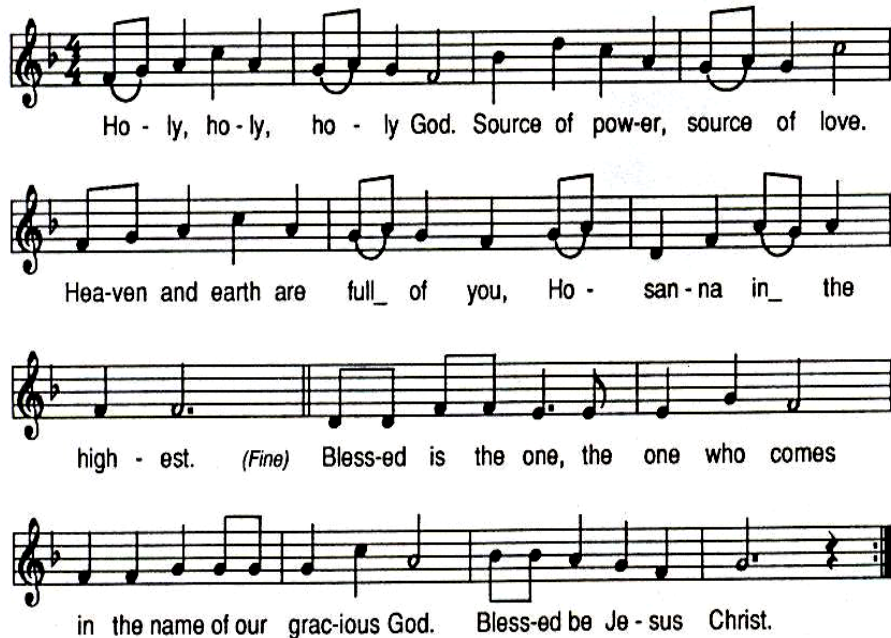


2. Lamb of God, who'd give your soul  
To see a broken world made whole,  
Have mercy upon us. mercy upon us... etc.

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 16th Chapter.  
C: **Glory to you, O God.**

\*The Gospel Matthew 16:21-28 Celebrate pg. 3

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

Sermon Pastor James Lapp

## \*Hymn of the Day

"Will You Come and Follow Me" (The Summons) #798

**"Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown,  
Will you let my name be known,  
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"**

**"Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare,  
should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer pray'r in you and you in me?"**

**"Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?  
Will you set the pris'ners free and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean,  
and do such as this unseen,  
And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?"**

**"Will you love the you you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found  
to reshape the world around,  
Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"**

**Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go  
where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.**

\*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.