

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

14th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
September 6, 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

***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,
The one who fashions us,
The one who heals us,
The one who reforms us again and again.

C: Amen

P: Let us confess our sin, calling for God’s transforming power.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

P: Source of all life,

**C: We confess that we have not allowed
Your grace to set us free.
We fear that we are not good enough.
We hear your word of love freely given to us,
Yet we expect others to earn it.
We turn the church inward,
Rather than moving it outward.
Forgive us. Stir us.
Reform us to be a church powered by love,
Willing to speak for what is right,
Act for what is just,
And seek the healing of your whole creation.
Amen.**

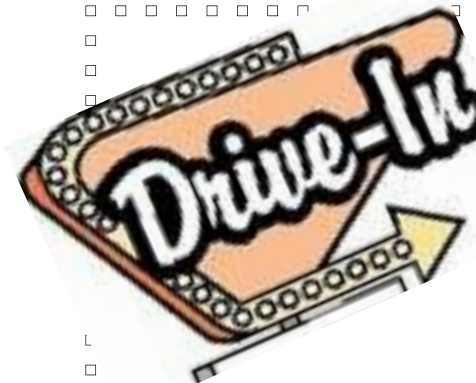


*The Altar Flowers are given
By Margaret & Bill Schraft
In Celebration of their anniversary*

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**

Bring your own chairs & masks



Prayer Concerns

Short Term: Firefighters & Evacuees, 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, Tai-yo, 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.

September Benevolence Offering

**Lutheran Campus Ministry
CSUMB and UCSC**

- P: God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us
And to empower our lives in the world.
Our sins are forgiven.
† God's love is unconditional,
And we are raised up as God's people
Who will always be made new,
In the name of Jesus Christ.
- C: **Amen.**

*Opening Hymn

"Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven"

Red #864

**Praise, my soul, the God of heaven;
Joyfully your tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Evermore God's praises sing.**

**God be praised for grace and favor
To our forebears in distress.
God be praised, the same forever,
Slow to chide and swift to bless.**

**Frail as summer's flow'r we flourish,
Blows the wind and it is gone;
But, as mortals rise and perish,
God endures unchanging on.**

**Angels sing in adoration,
In God's presence, face to face.
Sun and moon and all creation,
All who dwell in time and space.**

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.

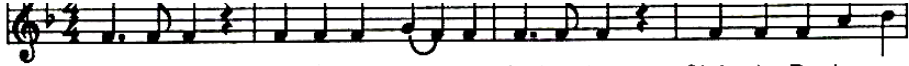

- L** In the beginning God guided the darkness over the earth, leading it into light, forming a communion from the chaos.

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 "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" Red #836

1. Joyful, joyful we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,
Praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
Drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.
2. All thy works with joy surround thee,
Earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in thee.
3. Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
All who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine!

*Dismissal

Go in peace. Sound the good news.
Thanks be to God.

*Invitation to Communion

P: Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread,
and make us one with you.

Communion Hymn

"In the Singing" Red #466

**In the singing, in the silence,
in the hands expectant, open,
In the blessing, in the breaking,
in your presence at this table,**

REFRAIN

**Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ, be the wine of grace'
Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ, be the bread of peace.**

**In the question, in the answer,
In the moment of acceptance,
In the heart's cry, in the healing,
In the circle of your people,**

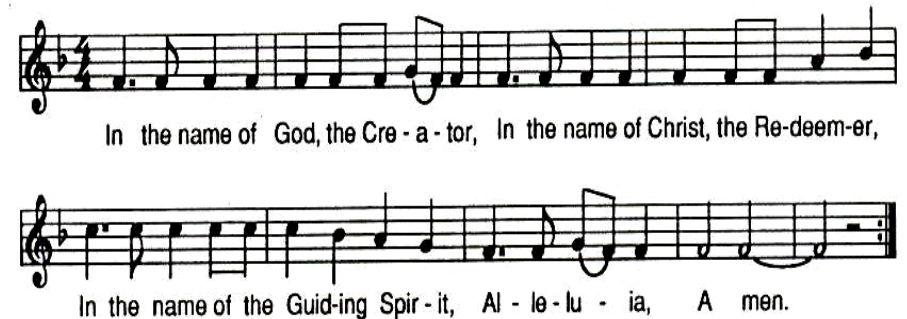
REFRAIN

*Prayer after Communion

P: Holy and compassionate God,
In bread and wine you give us gifts
That form us to be humble and courageous.
May your words come to life
In our serving and in our witness,
That we might speak a living voice
Of healing and justice to all the world,
Through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

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 G major, 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the verse, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

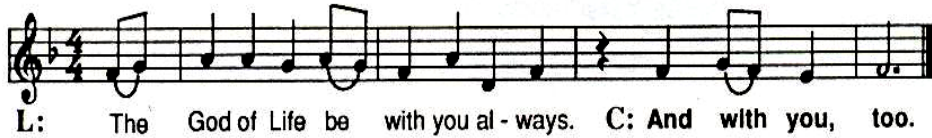
L Come let us wor-ship God. Come let us wor-ship God.
C Come let us wor-ship God. Come let us wor-ship God.

Refrain

Two staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the refrain, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. 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

Ezekiel 33:7-11

Celebrate pg. 1

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

Read Responsively

Psalms 119:33-40

Celebrate pg. 2

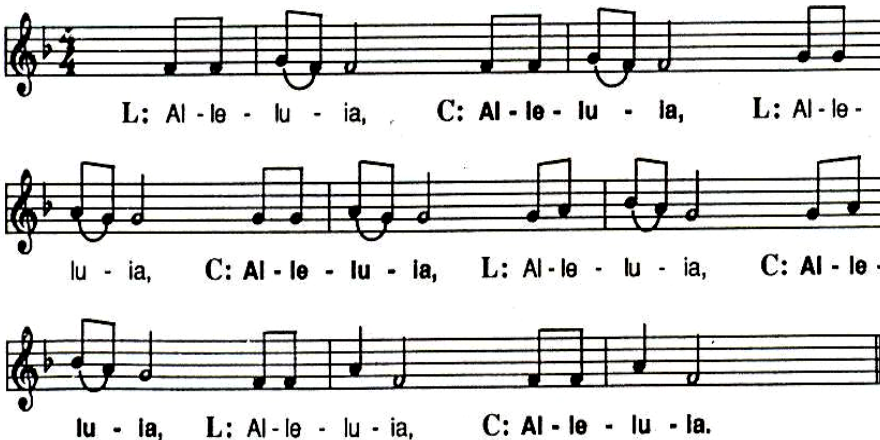
Second Reading

Romans 13:8-14

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

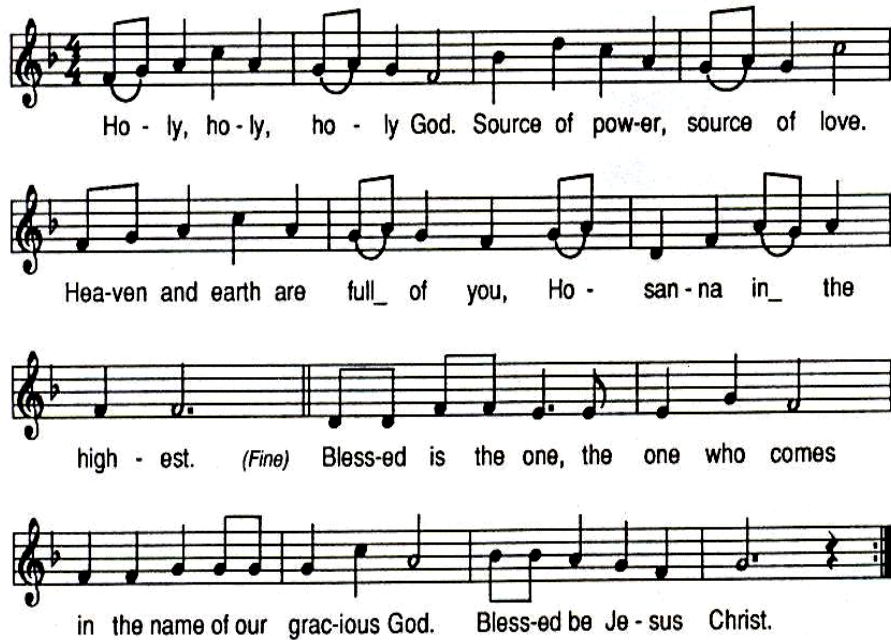


2. Lamb of God, who'd give your soul
To see a broken world made whole,
Have mercy upon us. mercy upon us... etc.

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 18th Chapter.
C: **Glory to you, O God.**

*The Gospel Matthew 18:15-20 Celebrate pg. 3

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

Sermon Pastor James Lapp

*Hymn of the Day

"The Church's One Foundation" Red #654

The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is his new creation by water and the Word.
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
With his own blood he bought her, And for her life he died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation: One Lord, one faith, one birth:
One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses with ev'ry grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder
this world sees her oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping;
their cry goes up "how long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

Through toil and tribulation and tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore,
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
O blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by your grace,
That we, like saints before us, may see you face to face.

*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.



*Offering Prayer

P: God of life,
You give us these gifts of the earth,
These resources of our life and our labor.
Take them, offered in great thanksgiving,
And use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation;
Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light.

C: **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

