

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

19th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
October 11, 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**

\*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 Kirk & Terri Adams  
In memory of  
Terri’s mother Anne Teboe*

**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**

**Reformation Sunday  
October 25 @ 10:30  
Church Parkinglot**

Bring your own chairs & masks

## Prayer Concerns



**Short Term:** Firefighters & Evacuees, Healthcare workers & teachers, Grace Schmidt, Anna, Krispa, Patsy, Zachary Sherilyn Jager & family, Family of Delores Price, Family of Al Mitchell, Jennifer & family, Family of Cheryl Denny, Jean Patterson, Sheila & Terri, Frank Giammona, 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.

## October Benevolence Offering

### St. Stephen's Child Development Center

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

*"All Creatures Worship God Most High" #835 (vs. 1-4, 6)*

All creatures, worship God most high!  
Sound ev'ry voice in earth and sky: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Sing, brother sun, in splendor bright;  
Sing, sister moon and stars of night:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Sing, brother wind; with clouds and rain  
you grow the gifts of fruit and grain: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Dear sister water, useful, clear,  
make music for your Lord to hear:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Sing, brother fire, so mirthful, strong;  
drive far the shadows, join the throng: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Dear mother earth, so rich in care,  
praise God in colors bright and rare:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

All who for love of God forgive,  
All who in pain or sorrow grieve: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Christ bears your burdens and your fears;  
Still make your song amid tears:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

O sisters, brothers, take your part,  
And worship God with humble heart: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Three in One:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## God Give Us Life By Ray Makeever

### \*Call to Worship

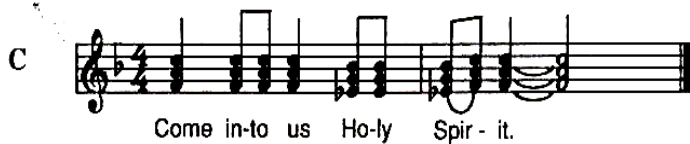
- L** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, breathing life into all creatures.



- 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!

### \*Closing Hymn

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

Red #547

**Sent forth by God's blessing,  
our true faith confessing,  
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.  
The supper is ended.  
Oh, now be extended  
The fruits of this service in all who believe.  
The seed of Christ's teaching,  
Receptive souls reaching,  
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.  
Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us  
To work for your kingdom and answer your call.**

**With praise and thanksgiving  
To God ever living,  
The tasks of our ev'ry day life we will face –  
Our faith ever sharing,  
In love ever caring,  
Embracing God's children, the whole human race.  
With your feast you feed us,  
With your light now lead us;  
Unite us as one in this life that we share.  
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving  
Give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.**

### \*Dismissal

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

## Communion Hymn

"Come & Fill Our Hearts" (Taize song) #528 sing 4x

**Confitemini Domino quoniam bonus  
Confitemini Domino. Alleluia!**

**Come and fill our hearts with your peace.  
You alone, O Lord, are holy.  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!**

## \*Prayer after Communion

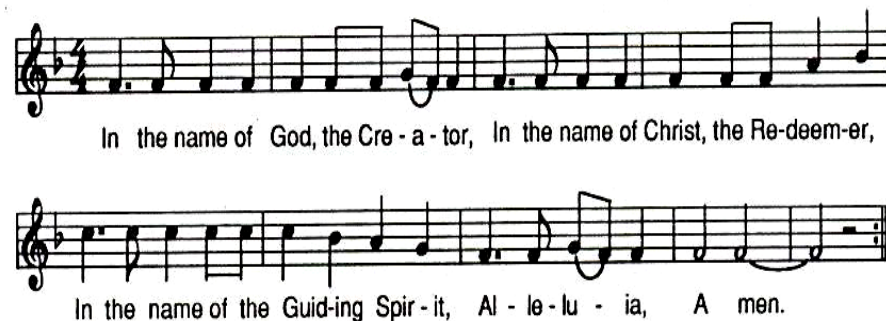
P: Holy and compassionate God,  
In bread and wine you give us gifts  
That form us to be humble and courageous.  
May your words come to life  
In our serving and in our witness,  
That we might speak a living voice  
Of healing and justice to all the world,  
Through Jesus Christ, our rock and our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

**C: Amen**

\*Benediction Solo voice first time; congregation second time.



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

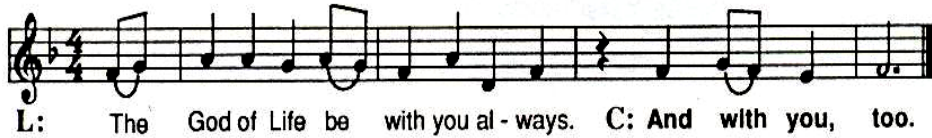


*Solo voice sings first line; congregation second.*



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 25:1-9

Celebrate pg. 1

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

Read Responsively

Psalms 23:5

Celebrate pg. 2

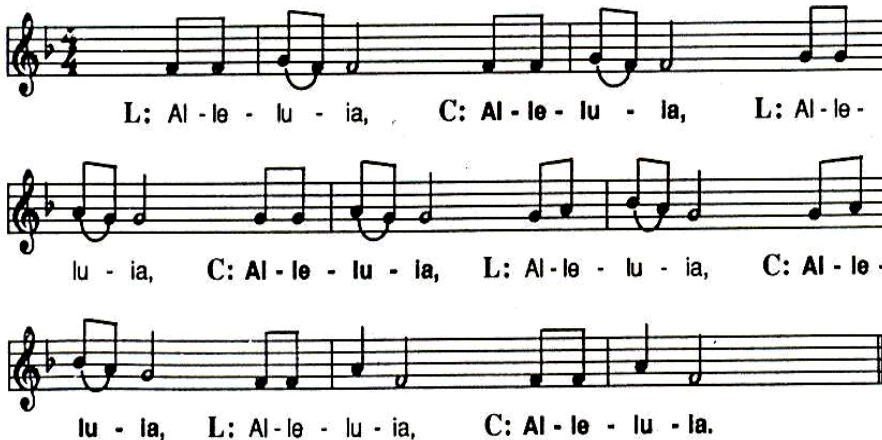
Second Reading

Philippians 4:1-9

Celebrate pg. 3

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

\*Gospel Acclamation



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.

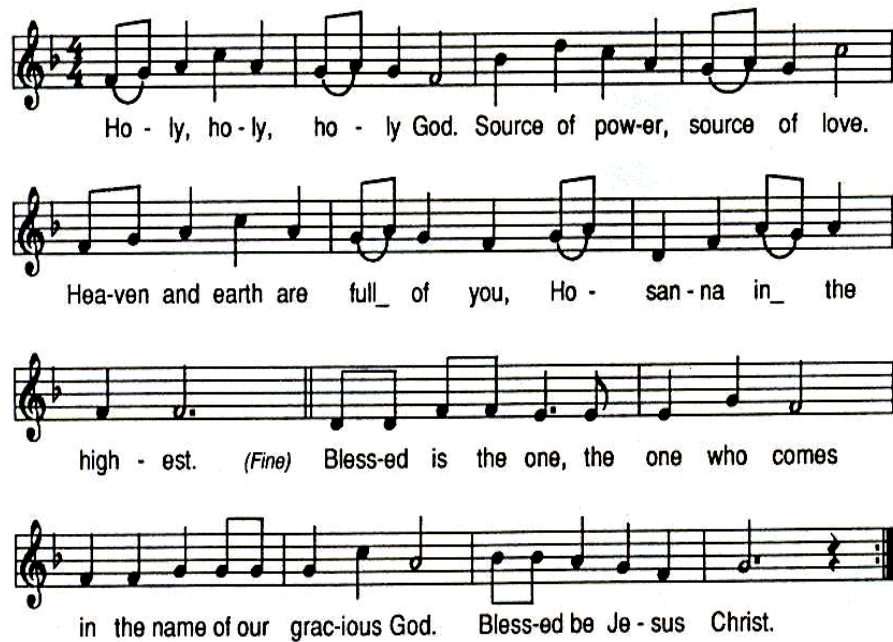
Holy Communion

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.

\*Invitation to Communion

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

## 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,  
as we forgive those who sin against us;  
Save us from the time of trial,

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 22nd Chapter.  
C: **Glory to you, O God.**

\*The Gospel Matthew 22:1-14 Celebrate pg. 3

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

Sermon Pastor James Lapp

## \*Hymn of the Day

"We Are Called" Red #720

**Come! Live in the light!**  
**Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!**  
**We are called to be light for the kingdom,**  
**To live in the freedom of the city of God.**

### *REFRAIN:*

*We are called to act with justice,*  
*we are called to love tenderly;*  
*We are called to serve one another,*  
*To walk humbly with God.*

**Come! Open your heart!**  
**Show your...mercy to all those in fear!**  
**We are called to be hope for the hopeless**  
**So all hatred and blindness... will be...no more.**

**REFRAIN**

**Sing! Sing a new song!**  
**Sing of that great day when all will be one!**  
**God will reign and we'll walk with each other**  
**As sisters and brothers... united in love.**

**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 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

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.