

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 & 7:30pm.

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

# REFORMATION SUNDAY

## October 25, 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.**



## Provide Lunches

for the volunteers

**Tuesday, Oct. 27 by 10:30 am**

Sandwiches & fruit needed.

Call the office to Sign-up 476-4700.

SAVE THE DATE:

Deck the Halls Virtual Online Auction  
November 21 from 5-7 pm

## 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

**November 22 @ 10:30**

**Church Parkinglot—bring a chair and mask**



## Prayer Concerns

**Short Term:** Healthcare workers, teachers, Family of Eleanor Zoellner, Donna, Betsy, Tom, Anna, Krispa, Patsy, Zachary Sherilyn Jager & family, Family of Delores Price, Family of Al Mitchell, Jennifer & family, Family of Cheryl Den-

ny, 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, Nelleke, 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

*"A Mighty Fortress is our God"* #504

**A mighty fortress is our God,  
A sword and shield victorious;  
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod  
And wins salvation glorious.  
The old satanic foe  
Has sworn to work us woe!  
With craft and dreadful might  
He arms himself to fight.  
On earth he has no equal.**

**No strength of ours can match his might!  
We would be lost, rejected.  
But now a champion comes to fight,  
Whom God himself elected.  
You ask who this may be?  
The Lord of hosts is he!  
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,  
God's only Son, adored.  
He holds the field victorious.**

**Though hordes of devils fill the land  
All threat'ning to devour us,  
We tremble not, unmoved we stand;  
They cannot overpower us.  
Let this world's tyrant rage;  
In battle we'll engage!  
His might is doomed to fail;  
God's judgment must prevail!  
One little word subdues him.**

(hymn continued)

God's Word forever shall abide,  
 No thanks to foes, who fear it;  
 For God himself fights by our side  
 With weapons of the Spirit.  
 Were they to take our house,  
 Goods, honor, child, or spouse,  
 Though life be wrenched away,  
 They cannot win the day.  
 The Kingdom's ours forever!

## God Give Us Life By Ray Makeever

### \*Call to Worship

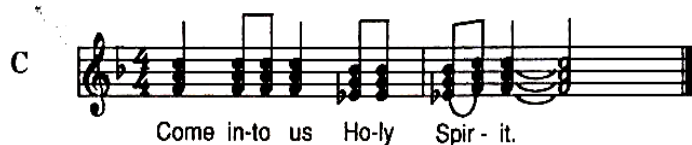
**L** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, breathing life into all creatures.



**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!

"The Lord Now Sends Us Forth" Red #538 (sing twice)

The Lord now sends us forth  
 With hands to serve and give,  
 To make of all the earth  
 A better place to live. (Repeat)

The angels were not sent  
 Into this world of pain  
 To do what we were meant  
 to do in Jesus' name;

That falls to you and me  
 And all who are made free.  
 Help us O Lord, we pray,  
 To do your will today.

### \*Dismissal

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



*The Altar Flowers are given  
 By Janet slay  
 In memory of Sylvia Hansen*

Communion Hymn      "Break Now the Bread of Life"      #515

Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,  
as once you broke the loaves beside the sea.  
Beyond the sacred page I seek you, Lord;  
My spirit waits for you, O living Word.

Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me,  
As when you blessed the bread by Galilee.  
Then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall;  
And I shall find my peace, my All in All!

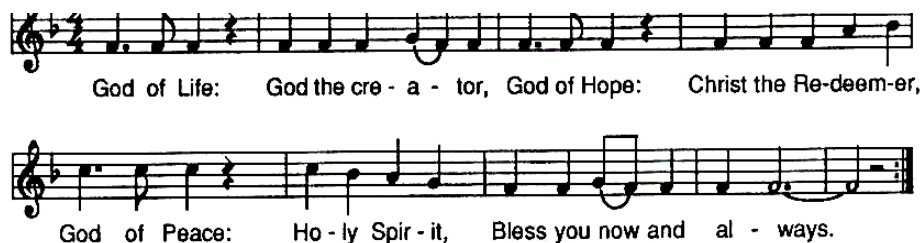
You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,  
Your holy word the truth that rescues me.  
Give me to eat and live with you above;  
Teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

\*Prayer after Communion

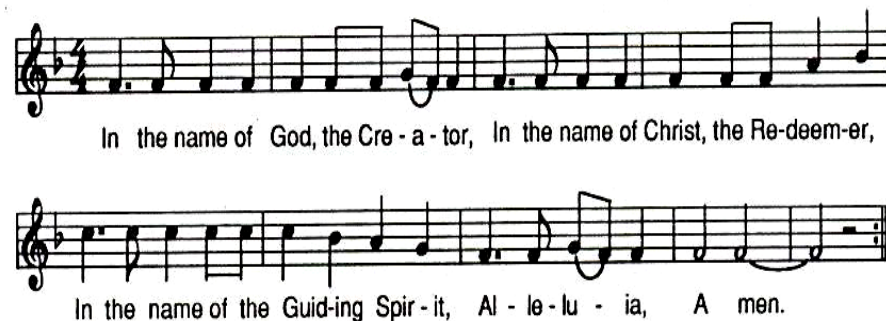
P: Holy and compassionate God,  
In bread and wine you give us gifts  
That form us to be humble and courageous.  
May your words come to life  
In our serving and in our witness,  
That we might speak a living voice  
Of healing and justice to all the world,  
Through Jesus Christ, our rock and our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

**C: Amen**

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



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

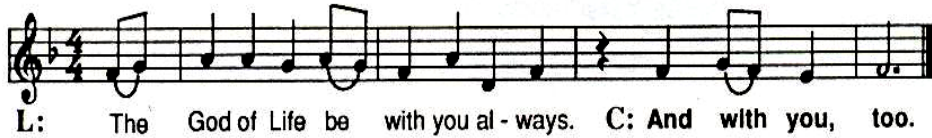


*Solo voice sings first line; congregation second.*



- 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

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Celebrate pg. 1

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

Read Responsively

Psalms 46:7

Celebrate pg. 2

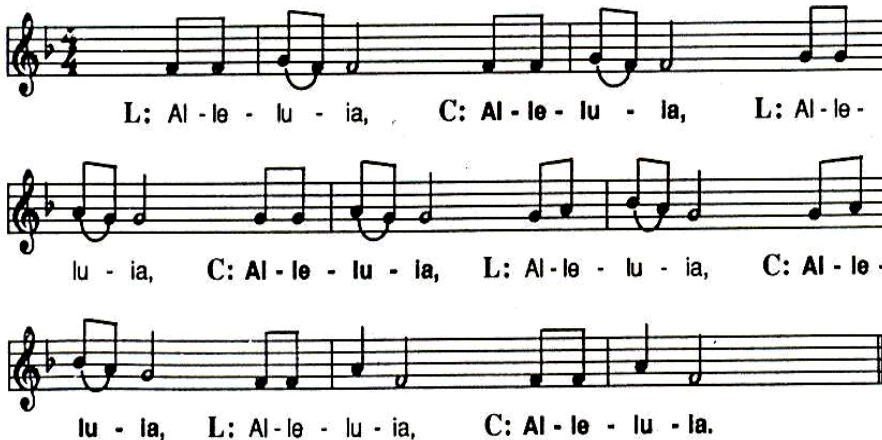
Second Reading

Romans 3:19-28

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.

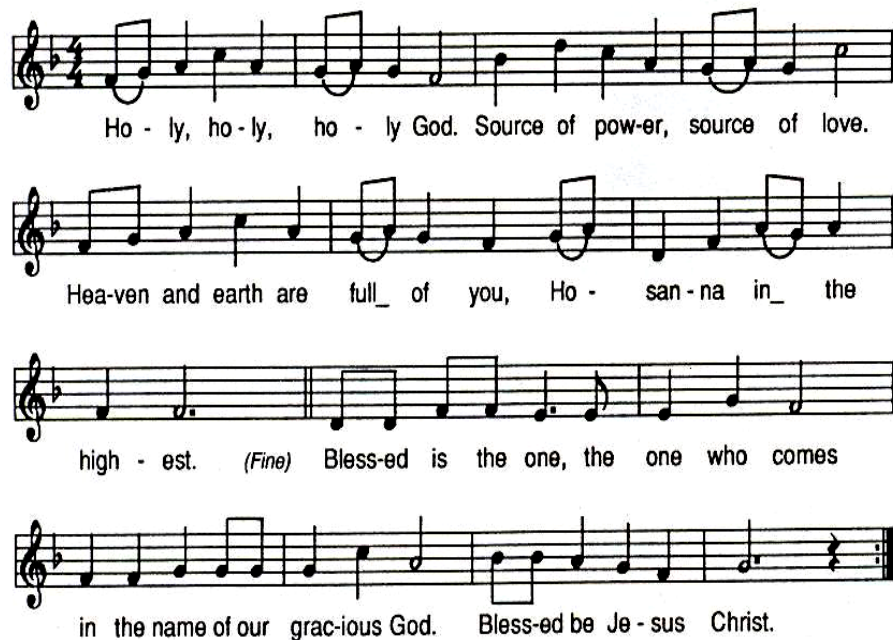
Holy Communion

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. John the 8th Chapter.  
C: **Glory to you, O God.**

## \*The Gospel

John 8:31-36

Celebrate pg. 3

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

## Sermon

Pastor James Lapp

## \*Hymn of the Day

"Amazing Grace" Red #779

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found  
Was blind, but now I see**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
And grace my fears relieved  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed!**

**Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come  
Tis grace has brought me safe thus far  
And grace will lead me home**

**The Lord has promised good to me;  
His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures.**

**When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we'd first begun.**

## \*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.