

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.

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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

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& Liturgy Augsburg #SBL14385

# Fourth Sunday after Epiphany January 31, 2021

## WELCOME AND A NOTE TO VISITORS

Welcome to people new to this church or faith, long time Lutherans, and Christians from every tradition. Welcome to all who have no church home, want to follow Christ, have doubts, or do not believe. Welcome to new visitors and old friends. Welcome to people of every age and size, color and culture, sexual orientation and marital status, ability and challenge. Welcome to believers and questioners and questioning believers. This is a place where you are welcome to celebrate and sorrow, rejoice and recover. This is a place where lives are made new. Welcome on this day.

## The Gathering

### \*Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Blessed be God, the fountain of living water,  
the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.      **C: Amen.**



*Please dip your finger in the water and  
make the sign of the cross on you or your loved ones forehead.*

Song      "Song Over the Waters" W & P #127

### REFRAIN

**God, you have moved up on the waters,  
You have sung in the rush of wind and flame;  
And in your love you have called us sons and daughters:  
Make us people of the water and your name.**

**Give us a thirst for love,  
Give us a hunger for justice,  
Make us one with the mind of Christ.    REFRAIN**

**You are the breath of life,  
You are the hope of the hopeless,  
Come and fill us with light and peace.    REFRAIN**

\*Opening Hymn      "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" #886  
vs. 1-4

**Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing  
my great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and king,  
the triumphs of his grace!**

**Provide Lunches for  
Volunteers  
Tuesday, February 23**  
(4th Tuesday of each month)



Contact church office if you can  
provide Sandwiches, Fruit, Chips or Cookies

## Thursday Bible Studies

Zoom with Pastor Jim  
(check email on Weds. for link)  
11am -12noon and 7:30 pm—8:30 pm

*We will be looking at the upcoming scripture readings for  
Sunday, to enrich our worship experience and uncover some  
of the deeper truths of our faith. As we grow in our faith, we  
grow in community.*

## Keep in touch!

Thank you to those of you who have been sending us notes and messages of encouragement and support. They help keep us hopeful and joyful! We always love to hear how things are going.

We would like to share your experiences in the Newsletter each month. So, give some thought to what's been happening in your life - we ALL miss each other, and would be thrilled to hear what's up!



# ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

SUNDAY, JAN. 31 @ 11:00 AM

VIA ZOOM  
(watch for email link)

We gather together to elect leadership to council, elect voting members for Synod Assembly, and approve a budget for 2021 that reflects our mission. Please plan on attending to support your church as we continue to seek God's will for our ministry together.

## We have a pew just for you

It is easy to provide a safe (masked & socially distanced) space for you here. If you would like to participate, we are open to a few people coming to worship when we record on Fridays at 11:00 am (new day). Please call in advance so we can keep our number at ten. 476-4700.

My gracious Master and my God,  
assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the earth  
abroad the honors of your name.

The name of Jesus charms our fears  
and bids our sorrows cease,  
Sings music in the sinner's ears,  
brings life and health and peace.

He speaks, and list'ning to his voice,  
new life the dead receive;  
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice,  
the humble poor believe.

### \*Greeting

\*P: Grace and peace from God our Creator, from God who became one of us, Jesus Christ, and may the promised gifts of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

### \*Kyrie

1. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.
2. Christe eleison. Christe eleison.
3. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Kyrie 18

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e -  
le - i - son.

The image shows a musical score for a Kyrie. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (bass clef). The lyrics 'Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e -' are written below the vocal line. The second system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment with the lyrics 'le - i - son.' The piano part features a steady bass line with chords.

8

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, —

and peace — to God's peo -

ple on earth! —

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y

God and Fa - ther, — we wor - ship you, we

give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. —

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, — and peace — to God's

peo - ple on earth! —

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the

Fa - ther, — Lord God,

Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world: have mer - cy on

**Prayer Concerns**

**Short Term:** Healthcare workers, teachers, Marla Meek and family, Kathy Allen and Family, Beth Stiles, Nancy, Marisa, Margot Wilson, Corinne, The Wickham Family, Kent, Donna, Betsy, Tom, Anna, Krispa, Patsy, Zachary, Family of Al Mitchell, Jean Patterson, Frank Giammona, Heather, Kevin, Vanessa, Rose, Shelly Barker & family, Sam, George Webber & Family, Cox Family, Becky & Aaron Johnson, Lorraine Chavez, Lora Schraft Poulson, Nelleke, Hendrick, Kayla, Don, Lina, Sal, Katarina, Taiyo, Mateo, Stephanie Jager, Cabel, Miller, Kyle, Noah, Esdras, Jackson, 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, Jeff Tarantino, 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.



**Colors in the Church**

Purposeful observance of the Christian seasons and the use of color can become an important tool for education and spiritual growth & vitality.

**White** is the color of light, gladness, purity and joy in Christ. White is thus the liturgical color appointed for the festivals of Christ—Christmas, the Epiphany the Baptism of our Lord, the Transfiguration, the fifty days of Easter and Christ the King. White is also used for the Holy Trinity, and is the alternate color for Maundy Thursday.

\*Closing Hymn

“Soli Deo Gloria” Red #878

**O God of blessings, all praise to you!  
Your love surrounds us our whole life through.  
You are the freedom of those oppressed;  
You are the comfort of all distressed.  
Come now, O h holy and welcome guest:**

*REFRAIN*

***Soli Deo gloria! Soli Deo gloria!***

**All praise for prophets, through grace inspired  
To preach and witness with hearts on fire.  
Your Spirit chooses the weak and small  
To sing the new reign where mighty fall;  
With them may we live your gospel call:**

*REFRAIN*

**All praise for music, deep gift profound,  
Through hands and voices in holy sound;  
The psalms of David, and Mary’s praise,  
In wordless splendor and lyric phrase,  
With all creation one song we raise;**

*REFRAIN*

**All praise for Jesus, best gift divine  
Through word and witness, in bread and wine;  
Incarnate love song of boundless grace,  
Priest, teacher, prophet in time and space,  
Your steadfast kindness with human face:**

*REFRAIN*

**A billion voices in one great song,  
Now soft and gentle, now deep and strong,  
In every culture and style and key,  
From hill and valley, with sky and sea,  
With Christ we praise you eternally:**

*REFRAIN*

\*Dismissal

**P:** Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.  
**C:** Thanks be to God.

us; ————— you are seat - ed at the  
right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
ceive our prayer. —————  
☐ Glo - ry to God in the high - est, ————— and peace —  
— to God's peo - ple on earth! —————  
☐ For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -  
lone are the Lord, ————— ☐ you a - lone are the  
Most — High, Je - sus Christ, ————— with the  
Ho - ly Spir - it, ☐ in the glo - ry of God, the  
Fa - ther. ————— A - men! ————— A - men! —————  
☐ Glo - ry to God in the high - est, ————— and peace —  
— to God's peo - ple on earth! —————

\*Prayer of the Day

Celebrate insert pg. 1

P: May God be with you.  
P: Let us pray...

**C: And also with you.**  
**C: (following the prayer) Amen.**

### The Word of God

First Reading

Deuteronomy 18:15-20 Celebrate pg. 1

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

Psalm

Psalm 111 Celebrate pg. 2

Second Reading

1 Cor. 8:1-13 Celebrate pg. 3

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

\*Gospel Acclamation

#### ALLELUIA

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark 1st Chapter  
**C: Glory to you, O God.**

\*Gospel Reading

Mark 1:21-28 Celebrate pg. 3

P: The Gospel of the Lord.  
**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**If you cannot preach like Peter,  
If you cannot pray like Paul,  
You can tell the love of Jesus  
And say, "He died for all." REFRAIN**

**Don't ever be discouraged,  
For Jesus is your friend;  
And if you lack for knowledge,  
He'll ne'er refuse to lend. REFRAIN**

Communion Blessing

P: May this Holy Communion of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen us and keep us in God's grace now and forever.  
**C: Amen**

Prayer after Communion

P: O Morning Star, fair and bright,  
You have refreshed us again with heavenly food,  
You are our dearest treasure,  
Go with us now -  
Today, tomorrow, every day -  
That we tell the story of your never—ending love  
And sing your praise both now and forever.  
**C: Amen.**

### The Sending

\*Blessing

P: May the God of glory dwell in you richly,  
Name you beloved,  
And shine brightly on your path;  
And the blessing of almighty God,  
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
Be upon you and remain with you always. **C: Amen**

Holy Communion

Visitors: You are welcome to come forward to receive Communion as part of this church family! Children are welcome to come and receive a special blessing if they have never communed. Communion is by intinction, we dip the bread into either the wine (red) or grape juice (white). Please follow the guidance of the ushers.

#195

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
 us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
 sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn

*"There is a Balm in Gilead"* Red #614

**REFRAIN**

**There is a balm in Gilead  
to make the wounded whole;  
there is a balm in Gilead  
to heal the sinsick soul.**

**Sometimes I feel discouraged  
and think my work's in vain,  
But then the Holy Spirit  
revives my soul again. REFRAIN**

Sermon

Rev. James P. Lapp

\*Hymn of the Day

"Healer of Our Every Ill"

Red #612

*REFRAIN*

**Healer of our every ill  
Light of each tomorrow  
Give us peace beyond our fear  
And hope beyond our sorrow**

**You who know our fears and sadness  
Grace us with your peace and gladness  
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts**

*REFRAIN*

**In the pain and joy beholding  
How your grace is still unfolding  
Give us all your vision, God of love**

*REFRAIN*

**Give us strength to love each other  
Ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother  
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide**

*REFRAIN*

**You who know each thought and feeling  
Teach us all your way of healing  
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart**

*REFRAIN*

\*The Prayers of the Church

Celebrate, Page 4

\*Passing of the Peace

**P: May the peace of God be with you always.  
C: And also with you.**

## The Communion Meal

Offering— We honor and worship God by returning some of the gifts with which we have been blessed.

### \*Offering Prayer

P: Merciful God,  
Receive the gifts we bring,  
Our selves, our time, and our possessions.  
Through this meal unite us as your body,  
Shining with the light of your justice and mercy;  
For the save of him who gave himself for us,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### \*Great Thanksgiving

P: May God be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up to God.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### Eucharistic Prayer

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....and join their unending hymn:

619a

## Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might:  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est.  
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na  
in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### \*Words of Institution

### \*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,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
Now and forever. Amen**

### Invitation to Communion

P: We who are many are one body,  
For we all partake of the one bread.  
Come. Be filled with light and life.