

**Good Friday Observance**  
**“The Seven Last Words” – April 2**  
(Recorded service on our website)

**Easter Sunday Celebration – April 4**  
**Bring Flowers for the Easter Cross**  
(10am –Church parking lot & Live-streamed on website)  
(Recorded on our website after 5pm.)

**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 & love,  
and invite people to share the joy of the Spirit.

**St. Stephen's Lutheran Church—E.L.C.A.**

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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

Music Directors: Gary Roberts

Sunday School Coordinator: Leslie Lapp

Child Development Center Director: Kathy Berens

Custodian: John Hopping

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**Maundy Thursday Worship**  
**with Holy Communion**  
**April 1, 2021**

The name of this service is derived from the Latin word:  
"Maundatum" which means "Commandment".  
We remember Jesus' giving his disciples a new  
commandment on the eve of his betrayal and arrest:  
"Love one another as I have loved you."

Prelude

**Gary Roberts**

Welcome and Announcements

\*Confession & Forgiveness

**Red pg. 258**

**Most merciful God,  
We confess that we are captive to sin  
And cannot free ourselves.  
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,  
By what we have done and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.  
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,  
So that we may delight in your will and walk in our ways,  
To the glory of your holy name.  
Amen.**

Greeting

\*Prayer of the Day

**Celebrate pg. 1**

Communion Hymn

*"Here is Bread" Red #483*

**Here is bread, here is wine  
Christ is with us, he is with us  
Break the bread, taste the wine  
Christ is with us here**

**REFRAIN      In this bread there is healing!  
In this cup is life forever!  
In this moment, by the Spirit  
Christ is with us here**

**Here is grace, here is peace  
Christ is with us, He is with us  
Know his grace, find his peace  
Feast on Jesus here      REFRAIN**

**Here we are, joined in one  
Christ is with us, He is with us  
We'll proclaim till he comes  
Jesus crucified!      REFRAIN**

Post Communion Prayer

P: Lord God, in a wonderful sacrament you have left us a  
memorial of your suffering and death. May this sacrament of your  
body and blood so work in us that the way we live will proclaim  
the redemption you have brought; for you live and reign with the  
Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Stripping of the Altar

*(Psalm 22:1-11 is said in unison Red pg. 339)*

*The stripping of the altar is symbolic of Jesus' humiliation at  
the hands of the soldiers that will take place on Good Friday. The  
altar is made bare so that we may focus only on the cross.*

Lights are dimmed. The service ends in silence to signify that we  
continue this 3-day worship service tomorrow on Good Friday.

\*The 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 God.

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

\*Words of Institution

Red pg. 111

\*Lord's Prayer

1. Holy Father, hear our prayer. Keep us always in your care.  
May your Kingdom come to us. And may we learn how to trust.

2. Do your will among us now, As we here before you bow.  
Give to us but what we need, As upon your Word we feed.

3. Forgive us for the things we have not done,  
When we've failed before we've yet begun;  
And may we as children of yours Give forgiveness in return.

4. Keep us from the things that do you wrong,  
When we're weak because we think we're strong.  
Save us from our selfish desire; Fill us with your love inspire.

5. Honor, greatness belong to you, Love & peace & mercy too!  
Praise to you again and again! A-a-ahh—Amen. Amen. Amen.

Holy Communion

*Please commune yourself or a loved one with the words:  
"The Body of Christ given", for the bread,  
and "The Blood of Christ shed" for the cup.*

\*Hymn

"Spirit of God"

Red #800

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;  
Wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;  
Stoop to my weakness, strength to me impart,  
And make me love you as I ought to love.

I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,  
No sudden rending of the veil of clay,  
No angel visitant, no op'ning skies;  
But take the dimness of my soul away.

Have you not bid me love you, God and King;  
All, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind:  
I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.  
Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!

Teach me to love you as your angels love,  
One holy passion filling all my frame:  
The baptism of the heav'n descended dove,  
My heart an altar, and your love the flame.

First Reading Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14 **Celebrate pg. 2**

Psalm Psalm 116:1-2; 12-19 **Celebrate pg. 2**

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 **Celebrate pg. 3**

\*Gospel John 13:1-17, 31b-35 **Celebrate pg. 3**

Sermon **Rev. James P. Lapp**

\*Hymn

"You Are Mine"

Red #581

"I will come to you in the silence,  
I will lift you from all your fear.  
You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice.  
Be still and know I am here.

"I am hope for all who are hopeless,  
I am eyes for all who long to see,  
In the shadows of the night, I will be your light.  
Come and rest in me.

*REFRAIN*

Do not be afraid, I am with you.  
I have called you each by name.  
Come and follow me, I will bring you home;  
I love you and you are mine."

"I am strength for all the despairing,  
Healing for the ones who dwell in shame,  
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free,  
And all will know my name.

*REFRAIN*

"I am the Word that leads all to freedom,  
I am the peace the world cannot give.  
I will call your name, embracing all your pain.  
Stand up, now walk and live!

*REFRAIN*

\*Nicene Creed

Red pg. 104

We believe in one God, the Father , the Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only son of God,  
Eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,  
True God from true God, Begotten, not made,  
Of one Being with the Father; Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation

He came down from heaven,  
Was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary

And became truly human  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
He suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
In accordance with the scriptures;  
He ascended into heaven  
And is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
And his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
Who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
And the life of the world to come. Amen.

\*Prayers of the Church

Celebrate pg. 4

\*Sharing the Peace

Offering

\*Offertory Prayer

Red pg. 107

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.  
Thorough your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts:  
Our selves, our time, and our possessions.  
Use us, and what we have gathered,  
In feeding the world with your love,  
Through the one who gave himself for us,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.