

## 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,  
And invite people to share the joy of the Spirit.

## Reconciling in Christ Statement

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 & Sun. School: Leslie Lapp  
Music Director: Gary Roberts  
Videographers: Kent Madsen & Barbara Rice  
Child Development Center Director: Kathy Berens  
Custodian: John Hopping

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And Liturgy Augsburg #SBL 14385

## 3rd Sunday in Lent

March 7, 2021

### *The Gathering*

Prelude

Gary Roberts

Welcome

\*Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness

P: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination*

P: For self-centered living,  
and for failing to walk with humility and gentleness;

**C: Holy God, have mercy on us.**

P: For longing to have what is not ours,  
and for hearts that are not at rest with ourselves;

**C: Holy God, have mercy on us.**

P: For misuse of human relationships,  
and for unwillingness to see the image of God in others;

**C: Holy God, have mercy on us.**

P: For reluctance in sharing the gifts of God,  
and for carelessness with the fruits of creation;

**C: Holy God, have mercy on us.**

P: For not living like a child of God,  
and squandering the gifts of love and grace;

**C: Holy God, have mercy on us.**

## Upcoming Events

Wednesdays in Lent

March 10, 17, 24

Holden Evening Prayer

Recorded Service on our Website

[www.ststephenslutheran.org](http://www.ststephenslutheran.org)

### Thursday Bible Studies

Pastor Jim Zoom with  
(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 together in spirit and community.*

### Outdoor Worship Dates

(Inclement weather cancels)

**Palm Sunday, March 28th at 10am.**

**Easter Sunday, April 4th at 10am.**

Please remember to wear a mask or two, bring your own chair, or remain in your car. Holy Communion will be offered with pre-sealed cups and wafer.

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



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

**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.

**Let's 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!



P: The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.  
Through the Holy Spirit, God gives life,  
freedom from the power of sin,  
and resurrection from the dead.  
In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.  
Live in newness of life.

**C: Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn

*"Gather Us In"*

*Red #532*

**Here in this place new light is streaming  
Now is the darkness vanished away  
See in this space our fears and our dreamings  
Brought here to you in the light of this day**

**Gather us in, the lost and forsaken  
Gather us in, the blind and the lame  
Call to us now, and we shall awaken  
We shall arise at the sound of our name**

**We are the young; our lives are a myst'ry  
We are the old who yearn for your face  
We have been sung throughout all of hist'ry  
Called to be light to the whole human race**

**Gather us in, the rich and the haughty  
Gather us in, the proud and the strong  
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly  
Give us the courage to enter the song**

**Here we will take the wine and the water  
Here we will take the bread of new birth  
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters  
Call us a-new to be salt for the earth**

**Give us to drink the wine of compassion  
Give us to eat the bread that is you  
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion  
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true (cont. next pg)**

Not in the dark of buildings confining  
 Not in some heaven light years away  
 Here in this place the new light is shining  
 Now is the kingdom, and now is the day

Gather us in and hold us forever  
 Gather us in and make us your own  
 Gather us in, all peoples together  
 Fire of love in our flesh and our bone

#### \*Greeting

\*P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

Kyrie—We bring our burdens and cares to God ELW #151

### Kyrie



1, 3	Ky - ri - e	e - le - i - son.	Ky - ri - e	e - le - i - son.
2	Chris - te	e - le - i - son.	Chris - te	e - le - i - son.
1, 3	Lord, . . . .	have mer - cy.	Lord, . . . .	have mer - cy.
2	Christ, . . . .	have mer - cy.	Christ, . . . .	have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e	e - le - i - son.	Ky - ri - e	e - le - i - son.
Chris - te	e - le - i - son.	Chris - te	e - le - i - son.
Lord, . . . .	have mer - cy.	Lord, . . . .	have mer - cy.
Christ, . . .	have mer - cy.	Christ, . . .	have mer - cy.

Music: Dinah Reindorf, b. c. 1927  
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Altar Flowers offered  
 by Barbara Rice  
 to the Glory of God.

## Prayer Concerns

**Short Term:** Leslie Lapp and Family, Healthcare workers, teachers, Marla Meek and family, Kathy Allen and Family, Beth Stiles, Nancy and Sam, 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:** Leslie Lapp, 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.

## February Special Offering

## St. Stephen's Scholarship Fund

\*Blessing

P: Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation.  
Holy God, speaking, spoken, and inspiring,  
+ bless you, unbind you, and send you in love and peace.  
**C: Amen.**

\*Closing Hymn "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**

\*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share the good news.

(No Hymn of Praise during Lent)

\*The Salutation

P: May God be with you.  
**C: And also with you.**

\*Prayer of the Day

Celebrate insert pg. 1

P: Let us pray...  
**C: Amen**

***The Word of God***

First Reading: Exodus 20: 1-17 Celebrate insert pg. 1

R: Word of God, word of life.  
**C: Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 Celebrate insert pg. 3

R: Word of God, word of life  
**C: Thanks be to God.**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 2nd Chapter  
**C: Glory to you, O God.**

\*Holy Gospel John 2:13-22 Celebrate insert pg. 3

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

Sermon

Pastor Jim Lapp

1. Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
O-o-o-oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

2. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
O-o-o-oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

3. Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
O-o-o-oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

4. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
O-o-o-oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

\*Prayers of the Church

Celebrate insert pg. 4

\*Passing of the Peace

P: May the peace of God be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offering

*"We give thanks to God for the gifts of life, for grace and forgiveness  
for each day, and for everlasting life."*

\*Post Communion Hymn

ELW #200

Now, Lord

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in  
peace: your word has been ful - filled. My  
own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -  
pared in the sight of all peo - ple: a light to re -  
veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your  
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther,  
and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,  
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and  
will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Music: *Detroit Folk Mass*, Tillis Butler, d. 2002, and James Harris  
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## Holy Communion

*Please have some bread & fruit of the vine (wine or grape juice)  
ready to commune either yourself or a loved one with you.  
Please use the words: "The Body of Christ given." for the bread,  
and "The Blood of Christ shed." for the cup.*

## \*Communion Blessing and Prayer

P: May this Holy Communion of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen,  
keep and unite us now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us pray...

Generous God,  
You have fed us and renewed us in your holy meal.  
Send us into the world you love.  
Through our fasting and devotion  
Draw us to you and to our neighbors,  
That we may break bonds of injustice,  
Feed the hungry,  
And set the oppressed free.  
In Jesus' name we pray.

**C: Amen.**

## \*Offertory Hymn "Give Me a Clean Heart" Margaret Douroux

Refrain

Give me a clean heart so I may serve thee. Lord, fix my heart so that I may be used by thee. For I'm not worthy of all these blessings. Give me a clean heart, Lord, and I'll follow thee.

1 I'm not asking for the  
2 Some-times I am up, and

### \*Offertory Prayer

P: Let us pray.

**C: God of all creation, all you have made is good,  
and your love endures forever.  
You bring forth bread from the earth  
and fruit from the vine.  
Nourish us with these gifts,  
that we might be for the world  
signs of your gracious presence  
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### \*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 our Creator

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

P: It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always  
offer thanks and praise to you, O God, through Jesus Christ,  
who bids us turn to you and prepare for the Paschal feast.

### \*Words of Institution

### \*Lord's Prayer (sung)

**C: Our Fa-ther in hea-ven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**For--give 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: God's love is poured out in Christ for you.  
Open yourselves to receive it.

### Lamb of God

LMGM2

**LAMB OF GOD**

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

Music: Tillis Hilde, © Augsburg Fortress