

## 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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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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## Good Friday Worship Service

**April 2, 2021**

( \* ) Asterisk means, *Please Stand*

### Prelude

Welcome Please have a cross with you for the final act of worship in this service.

\*Responsive Reading      Isaiah 53:6

P: "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way;

**C: and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all."**

P: You revealed your law to Moses, O God,

**C: But your people set up a golden calf.**

P: You challenged them, through your great prophets, to seek justice for the poor;

**C: But your people preferred false prophets who set their consciences at ease.**

P: At last, O God, you sent your own Son to love them back;

**C: But your people plugged up their ears and crucified him.**

P: We are your people, O God, all of us:

**C: Guilty, judged, seeking forgiveness.**

P: Accept our plea for mercy.

**C: For we offer it in the name of your Son, our crucified, merciful Lord. Amen.**

### \*Prayer of the Day

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

P: Let us pray:

**C: Like those who wandered fearfully  
and hesitantly to the cross,**

### Adoration of the Cross and Procession

*(Please say the following verse as cross is lifted each time.)*

P: Behold the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world.

**C: Oh, come, let us worship him.**

*(Please say the following verse after the cross is set down.)*

P: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**C: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

*At this time, approach or hold your cross  
and offer a sign of reverence,  
such as tracing the cross, kneeling briefly, or bowing.  
This expresses our devoted response to God's love for us,  
shown in dying on the cross,  
so that we and all creation can truly live.  
Please continue this 3-day worship service on Easter Sunday.*

## Easter Sunday Celebration

**April 4 at 10am.—Church Parking Lot**

**Please bring flowers to adorn the Easter Cross.**

Easter Sunday worship will also be live-streamed on our website and a recording posted by 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.

## Offering

### Offertory Prayer

P: Receive these gifts and the offering of our lives. As Jesus was lifted up from earth, draw us to your heart in the midst of this world, that all creation may be brought from bondage to freedom, from darkness to light, and from death to life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**

### Veiling of the Cross "They Crucified My Lord" **Red #350**

1 They crucified my Lord,  
and he never said a mumbalin' word;  
they crucified my Lord,  
and he never said a mumbalin' word.  
Not a word, not a word, not a word.

2 They nailed him to a tree,  
and he never said a mumbalin' word;  
they nailed him to a tree,  
and he never said a mumbalin' word.  
Not a word, not a word, not a word.

3 They pierced him in the side,  
and he never said a mumbalin' word;  
they pierced him in the side,  
and he never said a mumbalin' word.  
Not a word, not a word, not a word.

4 The blood came stream-in' down,  
and he never said a mumbalin' word;  
the blood came stream-in' down,  
and he never said a mumbalin' word.  
Not a word, not a word, not a word.

5 He hung his head and died,  
and he never said a mumbalin' word;  
he hung his head and died,  
and he never said a mumbalin' word.  
Not a word, not a word, not a word.

So we gather today, O suffering God.  
We are your people, but we, too, like the disciples,  
Have fled in fear or lingered in the shadows  
Of disappointment and confusion.  
So we come now to worship.  
We step out of the shadows, to stand beneath the cross  
And proclaim with the centurion  
that Jesus truly is of God, and to reaffirm that we, too,  
In spite of our sin, and because of your grace,  
Are sisters and brothers with Jesus—children of God.

### The Trial and Crucifixion of Jesus Christ

John 18:28-32 *First candle is extinguished*

Hymn: "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

**Red #325**

**I want Jesus to walk with me;  
I want Jesus to walk with me;  
All along my pilgrim journey,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

**In my trials, Lord, walk with me;  
In my trials, Lord, walk with me;  
When my heart is almost breaking,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

**When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;  
When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;  
When my head is bowed in sorrow,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

John 18:33-40 *Second candle is extinguished*

Hymn: "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

**Red #338 vs.1**

**Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I long to take my stand,  
The shadow of a mighty Rock  
Within a weary land;  
A home within the wilderness,  
A rest upon the way,  
From the burning of the noontide heat,  
And the burden of the day.**

John 19:1-7 *Third candle is extinguished*

Hymn: "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

**#338 vs.2**

Upon the cross of Jesus,  
My eye at times can see  
The very dying form of one who suffered there for me.  
And from my contrite hearth,  
With tears, two wonders I confess:  
The . . . Wonder of his glorious love  
And my unworthiness.

What thou, my Lord, hast suffered  
was all for sinners' gain:  
mine, mine was the transgression,  
but thine the deadly pain.  
Lo, here I fall, my Savior!  
'Tis I deserve thy place;  
look on me with thy favor,  
vouchsafe to me thy grace.

John 19:8-16a *Fourth candle is extinguished*

Hymn: "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

**#338 vs.3**

I take, O cross, your shadow  
For my abiding place;  
I ask no other sunshine than  
The sunshine of His face;  
Content to let the world go by,  
To know no gain nor loss,  
My sinful self my only shame,  
My glory all the cross.

What language shall I borrow  
to thank thee, dearest Friend,  
for this, thy dying sorrow,  
thy pity without end?  
O make me thine forever;  
and should I fainting be,  
Lord, let me never, never  
outlive my love to thee.

Matthew 27:27-31 *Fifth candle is extinguished*

Hymn: "O Sacred Head Now Wounded"

**#351 vs.1**

O sacred Head, now wounded,  
with grief and shame weighed down;  
now scornfully surrounded  
with thorns, thine only crown;  
O sacred Head, what glory,  
what bliss 'til now was thine!  
Yet, though despised and gory,  
I joy to call thee mine.

John 19:25b-30 *Christ Candle is Removed*

John 19:31-42

Hymn: "O Sacred Head Now Wounded"

**#351 vs.4**

Lord, be my consolation;  
Shield me when I must die;  
Remind me of thy passion  
when my last hour draws nigh.  
These eyes, new faith receiving,  
from thee shall never move;  
For all who die believing die safely in thy love.

John 19:16b-22 *Sixth candle is extinguished*

Hymn: "O Sacred Head Now Wounded"

**#351 vs.2**

The Lord's Prayer