

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 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.

2500 Soquel Avenue

Santa Cruz, CA 95062

831/476-4700 FAX 831/476-3918

email: office@ststephenslutheran.org

Web Address: www.ststephenslutheran.org

Office Hours: Mon.—Fri. Noon—5:00 pm

Ministers: The People of St. Stephen's

Pastor: Rev. James P. Lapp

Church Administrator: Leslie Lapp

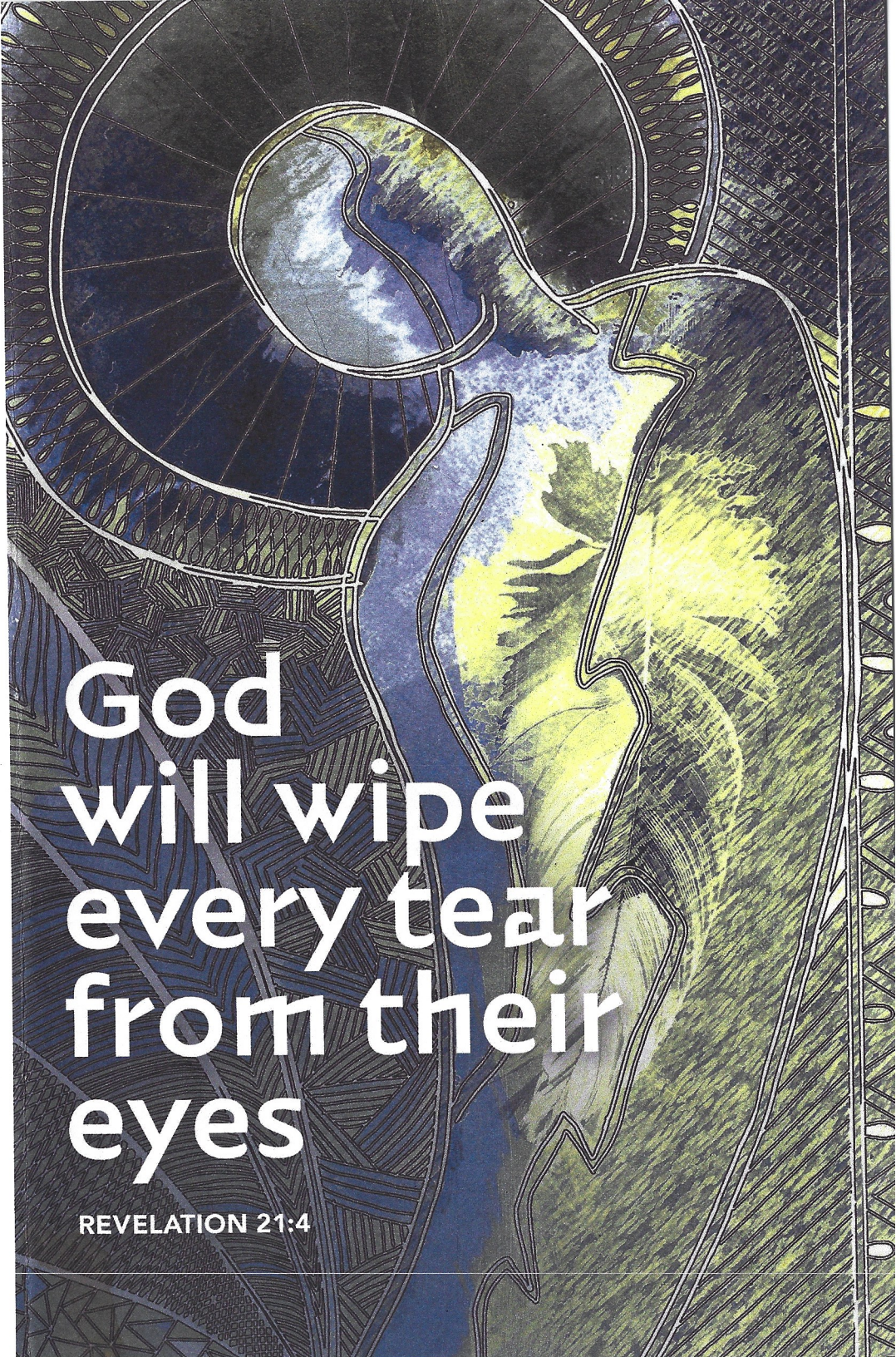
Music Directors: Gary Roberts

Sunday School: Leslie Lapp

Pre-School Director: Kathy Berens

Custodian: John Hopping

Music used by permission Onelicense #A-706539



God
will wipe
every tear
from their
eyes

REVELATION 21:4

All Saints Sunday

November 7, 2021

Welcome to people new to this church or faith, long time Lutherans, and Christians and faiths 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 & questioning believers. This is a place where you are welcome to celebrate & sorrow, rejoice & recover. This is a place where lives are made new.

Welcome on this GLORIOUS day!

Instructions: Please fill out the enclosed orange "Worship Slip" and place it in the offering plate with your offering, as a sign of thanksgiving for all of God's blessings.

Prelude

The Gathering

*Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

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 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.

If you would like to offer Altar Flowers
sign up in the narthex

Upcoming Events:

October Benevolence Offering = Child Development Center

- | | |
|---------|---|
| Nov. 9 | Church Council 6:30 pm |
| Nov. 9 | Boy Scouts 7:00 pm |
| Nov. 11 | Bible Study 11:00 & 7:30 pm (Zoom) |
| Nov. 15 | Embroider's Guild 7:00 pm |
| Nov. 17 | Women's Café Group 6:00 pm |
| Nov. 21 | Gratitude Sunday |
| Nov. 22 | Child Development Board 11:15 am |
| Nov. 23 | Provide Habitat Lunches 10:30 (sign up narthex) |
| Dec. 1 | Women's Café Group 6:00 pm |

Pastor's Office Hours Wed & Thurs. 10:00 to 1:00

Faith for today, O living faith,
We will be true to you till death.

Faith born of God, oh, call us yet,
Bind us with all who follow you,
Sharing the struggle of your cross
Until the world is made anew.
Faith born of God, O living faith,
We will be true to you till death.

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Sound the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Gary Roberts

Serving today

Ushers:

Reader: Elke Spires

November Special Offering

Sister Parish / Santa Cruz al Salvador

PRAYER CONCERNS

SHORT TERM: Tyler Slay, Family of Rick Oldfield, Family of Ron Buswell, Family of Edna Lindquist, Barb R., Don S., Trace & Clare, Chris & Patty, Gaye Cornell, Harriet Edsall, Joe & Ali, Dorothy, Laura, Gerardo's Family, Family of Jean Petersen, Family of Betty Kievlan, Erickson, Rachel B., Anne & Chloe Johnston, Jane Davis, Kirsten Skiles, Healthcare workers, teachers, Jane, Nancy, Marisa, Margot Wilson, Rose, Sam, George Webber & Family, Aaron Johnson, Don, Lina, Sal, Katarina, Taiyo, Mateo, Stephanie Jager, Cabel, Miller, Kyle, Noah, Esdras, Immigrant families, The Homeless, Our Nation's leaders, Mt. Cross, St. Stephen's Child Development Ctr, Pastor Jim & Our Church Family.

LONG TERM: Jan Wagner, The Sanders Family, Linda Johnson, Bailey Ingalls, Jan Shadle, Vi Olly, John B., Michelle, Josh, CJ, Jeff Tarantino, Susan Anderson, Richard C., Brouse Family,

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.

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 *"For All the Saints"* *Red #422*
vs. 1, 2, 5, 6, 7

1 For all the saints who from their labors rest,...
Who thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
thou, Lord, their captain in the well fought fight;...
thou in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

5 The golden evening brightens in the west;
Soon, soon to faithful servants cometh rest;...
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 But then there breaks a yet more glorious day:
The saints triumphant rise in bright array;
The King of glory passes on his way.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

7 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates...of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

*Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray: now and forever.

Celebrate p.1

C: Amen.

The Word of God

First Reading

Isaiah 25:6-9

Celebrate pg. 1

Psalms (chant responsively)

Psalms 24:5

Celebrate pg. 2

Second Reading

Revelation 21:1-6

Celebrate pg. 3

*Gospel Acclamation

"Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks"
WOV #671 vs. 2

REFRAIN

**Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.**

Spread the good news o'er all the earth:

Jesus has died and has risen. REFRAIN

*Gospel Reading

John 11:32-44

Celebrate pg. 3

P: The Holy Gospel acc. to St. John the 11th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O God

(The Gospel is read)

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ

*Post Communion Prayer

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

*Blessing

P: God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being;
Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead;
Holy Spirit, living voice,
calling and enlightening the church;
Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
Bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

*Closing Hymn

"Faith of Our Fathers"

Red #813

**Faith of our fathers, living still
In spite of dungeon, fire, and sword.
Oh, how our hearts beat high with joy
Whene'er we hear that glorious word.
Faith of our fathers, holy faith,
We will be true to you till death.**

**Faith of our mothers, daring faith,
Your work for Christ is love revealed,
Spreading God's word from pole to pole,
Making love known and freedom real.
Faith of our mothers, holy faith,
We will be true to you till death.**

**Faith of our sisters, brothers too,
Who still must bear oppression's might,
Raiding on high, in prisons dark,
The cross of Christ still burning bright.**

Communion Hymn

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus" Red #742

What a friend we have in Jesus
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Ev'rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
Oh, what needless pain we bear -
All because we do not carry
Ev'rything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged -
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness -
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge -
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you;
You will find a solace there.

The Sending

*Communion Blessing

P: May this Holy Communion from Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in God's grace now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sermon

Rev. James P. Lapp

*Hymn of the Day

"Borning Cry" Red #732

"I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell."

"When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun."

"In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been,
with just one more surprise."

"I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold."

*The Prayers of the Church Celebrate, Page 4
(our Saints next pg)

Our Saints:

*Ron Buswell
Jean Calvert
Edna Lindquist
Rick Oldfield
Jean Petersen
Lu Sluiter*

The Communion Meal

* Passing of the Peace

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

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

Offertory 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.**

*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 God thanks and praise.**

Eucharistic Prayer

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

*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**

P: Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread,
And make us one with you.

Holy Communion

We have changed our practice in order to reflect our concern for the most vulnerable among us. Jesus often lifted up those who were most at risk in life as ones that we all need to care for lovingly. May this way of receiving draw us nearer to God's ways.

Please have your prepared elements ready to receive Holy Communion. Please commune yourself or a loved one with you with the words: "The Body of Christ given." and "The Blood of Christ shed."