

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

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 Director: Gary Roberts

Pre-School Director: Kathy Berens

Sunday School: Leslie Lapp

Custodian: John Hopping

Powerpoint: Jay Johnston, Kent Madsen & Barbara Rice

Music used by permission Onelicense #A-706539

13th Sunday after Pentecost

September 4, 2022

10:00 a.m.

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.

Please fill out the "Worship Slip" and place it in the offering plate.

(*) Asterisk means, "Please stand as you are able."

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, † one God,
The only Sovereign, who dwells in light;
Christ Jesus, who came to save all from sin;
The Holy Spirit, who lives within us.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination

P: God of overflowing grace,

C: we come to you with repentant hearts.

Forgive us for shallow thankfulness.

Forgive us for passing by the ones in need.

Forgive us for setting our hopes on fleeting treasures.

Forgive us our neglect and thoughtlessness.

Bring us home from the wilderness of sin,

And strengthen us to serve you

In all that we do and say;

Through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Altar Flowers are offered by Sheila Buswell

In memory of Ron

& to honor their wedding anniversary

Upcoming Events:

September Benevolence Offering -
Lutheran Campus Ministry

Sept. tba	Confirmation Class 6:30 pm
Sept. 6	Boy Scouts 7:00 pm (Fellow. Hall)
Sept. 7	Women's Café Group 6:00 pm
Sept. 8	Knitters 7:00 pm
Sept. 8	Preschool Chapel 10:15 am
Sept. 8	Bible Study 11:00 am & 7:30 pm
Sept. 8	Mens beginner A.A. 7:00 pm (Fellowship)
Sept. 9	A.A. 7:00 pm
Sept. 13	Knitting Guild 6:30 pm
Sept. 13	Church Council 6:30 pm
Sept 15	Knitting Guild 10 am
Sept. 26	Newsletter Collate 2:00 pm

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

*Closing Hymn

"Lift High the Cross" Red #660

REFRAIN:

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.**

REFRAIN

**Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God.**

REFRAIN

**All newborn servants of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of him who died.**

REFRAIN

**O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As thou hast promised, draw us all to thee.**

REFRAIN

**So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory!**

REFRAIN

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share the Good News.

C: Thanks be to God.

Prayer Concerns

SHORT TERM: Family of Tom Dunham, Barbara Allen, Family of Audrey Patterson, Beth Stiles, Tara McMilin & family, Anita & Howard, The People of Ukraine, Sydnei Wilbywold, Paul Paustian, Kurt Bell, Will, Deborah Henry, Kathi Chavez, Carla, Ellie, Adrian Cameron, Dawit & Family (Ethiopia), Gaye Cornell, Dorothy, Rachel B., Anne & Chloe Johnston, Kirsten Skiles, Nancy, Marisa & Isaac, Mateo & Lina, Don, Atlas, Margot Wilson, Rose, Will, Sam, Aaron Johnson, Sal, Katarina, Taiyo, Mateo, Stephanie Jager, Parents, Healthcare workers & teachers. **LONG TERM:** Kyle Lapp, Shelby Volpi, Ashley, Jan Wagner, Sandie & Dale, Sanders Family, Linda Johnson, Bailey Ingalls, Jan Shadle, Vi Olly, Michelle, Josh, CJ, Bobbie Erickson, Lupe, Joyce, Susan Anderson, Jan Wagner, Richard C., Brouse Family, Janet Baker, Sandy Godvine, Janelle Yung, Karin, Will, Chris, Pearl Runquist, Volpi & Robe Family, Cabel, Miller, Noah, Esdras, Immigrant families, The Homeless, Our Nation's leaders, Mt. Cross, St. Stephen's Child Development Ctr, Pastor Jim & Our Church Family, men and women of Armed Forces, and the Youth of today.

Serving Today

Reader: Elke Summers

☕ Coffee Host: Rebecca Wickham

P: There is joy in heaven over every person who repents.
By the grace of God in † Christ Jesus,
Who gave himself up for us all,
Your sins are forgiven and you are made free.
Rejoice with the angels and with one another!
We are home in God's mercy, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

*Opening Hymn *"God We Gather as Your People"* ACS #1038

**God, we gather as your people to raise our song above,
And we dare to claim the promise of your love.
Though the day may not yet be here,
We trust it soon will be, when your children will be free.**

REFRAIN

**Oh, may our hearts and minds be opened,
Fling the church doors open wide.
May there be room enough for ev'ryone inside.
For in God there is a welcome, in God we all belong.
May that welcome be our song.**

**Oh, we sing for all the children,
That one day they be free;
And we sing for generations yet to be,
That they never have a reason
To doubt that they are blest.
May they, in your love, find rest. REFRAIN**

**Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short
By fear and shame,
So afraid of who they are and whom they love.
May the message now be banished
That your love is for the few;
May their faith in you renew. REFRAIN**

**God, we're working for the future
when children far and wide can . . .
Live their lives with dignity and pride,
As they grow in strength and stature,
May they join us hand in hand,
As against all hate we stand. REFRAIN**

*Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all. **3 C: And also with you.**

Kyrie - Greek for: "God have mercy" ACS setting 12
(We bring our burdens and pleas for God's help)



Gloria ACS setting 12



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

Communion Hymn

"Take Oh, Take Me As I Am" Red #814 (repeat often)

**Take, oh, take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

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

***Post Communion Prayer**

P: Let us pray:

We come again to you, O God,
Giving you thanks that in this feast of mercy
You have embraced us and healed us,
Making us one in the body of Christ.
Go with us on our way.
Equip us for every good work,
That we may continue to give you thanks
By embracing others with mercy and healing;
Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

***Blessing**

P: May God send you light and truth
To keep you all the days of your life.
And may the blessing of Almighty God,
The Father, The † Son, and The Holy Spirit,
Be with you now and forever.

C: Amen.

*Great Thanksgiving

P: May God be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord

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 that we should...

*Words of Institution

*Lord's Prayer - Sung version

**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.
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**

P: Take hold of the life that is God's abundant life.
Come, take your place at the table.

(You may be seated)

Holy Communion

Our practice is to come forward and receive the bread from Pastor Jim, and then pick up a cup of wine (red) or grape juice (white) from the tray. If you choose the pre-sealed bread and cup, please have your prepared elements ready to receive Holy Communion.

*Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray: ...now and forever.

Celebrate p. 1

C: Amen

God Stories

The Word of God

First Reading

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Celebrate pg. 1

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

Second Reading

Philemon 1-21

Celebrate pg. 2

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

*Alleluia

ACS setting 12

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

The proper verse may be sung, or all may sing one of these verses.

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

P: The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the 14th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O God. (The Gospel is read.)

P: The gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

*Hymn of the Day

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

(The Summons)

#798

**“Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
Will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?”**

**“Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare,
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer pray’r in you and you in me?”**

**“Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris’ners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?”**

**“Will you love the you you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you’ve found
to reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and sound in you
and you in me?”**

**Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I’ll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I’ll move and live and grow in you and you in me.**

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.

Offering Song

“Welcome Table” ACS #969

**I’m agoin’a eat at the welcome table,
I’m agoin’a eat at the welcome table, some of these days.
I’m agoin’a eat at the welcome table,
I’m agoin’a eat at the welcome table, some of these days.**

**I’m agoin’a feast on milk . . . And honey,
I’m agoin’a feast on milk . . . And honey, some of these days.
I’m agoin’a feast on milk . . . And honey,
I’m agoin’a feast on milk . . . And honey, some of these days.**

**I’m agoin’a wade ‘cross Jordan’s river,
I’m agoin’a wade ‘cross Jordan’s river, some of these days.
I’m agoin’a wade ‘cross Jordan’s river,
I’m agoin’a wade ‘cross Jordan’s river, some of these days.**

*Offertory Prayer

P: Merciful God,

As grains of wheat scattered upon the hills
Were gathered together to become one bread,
So let your church be gathered together
From the ends of the earth into your kingdom,
For yours is the glory through Jesus Christ,
now and forever.

C: Amen