

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 5, 2023

WELCOME AND A NOTE TO VISITORS

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.

The Gathering

*Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
Who creates us,
Redeems us,
And calls us by name.

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: *Most merciful God,
We confess that we have sinned against you
And your beloved children.
We have turned our faces away from your glory
When it did not appear as we expected.
We have rejected your word
When it made us confront ourselves.
We have failed to show hospitality
To those you called us to welcome.
Accept our repentance for the things we have done
And the things we have left undone;
For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe
In the glory of your Son Born among us,
And reflect your love for all creation.
Amen.*

P: Rejoice in this good news:
In † Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.
You are descendants of the Most High,
Adopted into the household of Christ,
And inheritors of eternal life.
Live as freed and forgiven children of God.
C: Amen.

*Opening Hymn

"Dearest Jesus, at Your Word"

Red #520

**Dearest Jesus, at your word
We have come again to hear you;
Let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
And in glowing faith be near you
As the promises here given
Draw us wholly up to heaven.**

**All our knowledge, sense, and sight
Lie in deepest darkness shrouded
Till your Spirit breaks the night,
Filling us with light unclouded.
All good thoughts and all good living
Come but by your gracious giving.**

**Radiance of God's glory bright,
Light of Light from God proceeding,
Jesus, send your blessed light;
Help our hearing, speaking, heeding,
That our prayers and songs may please you,
As with grateful hearts we praise you.**

**Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Praise to you and adoration!
Grant us what we need the most;
All your gospel's consolation
While we here on earth await you,
Till in heav'n with praise we greet you.**

*Greeting

*P: Grace and peace from God our Creator,
from God who became one of us, Jesus Christ,
and may the promised gifts of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Kyrie 18

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Music: Jacques Boffroy
© 1995, Les Éditions de Talat, GEA Publications, Inc., agent

*Kyrie

1. **Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.**
2. **Christe eleison. Christe eleison.**
3. **Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.**

Glory to God

WOV #607



☐ Glo - ry to God in the high - est, —



— and peace — to God's peo -



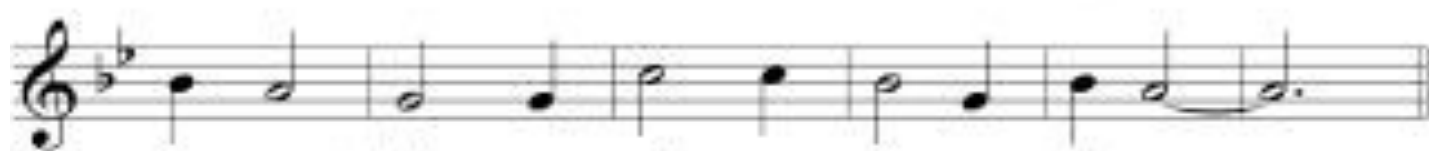
ple on earth! —



☐ Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y



God and Fa - ther, — we wor - ship you, we



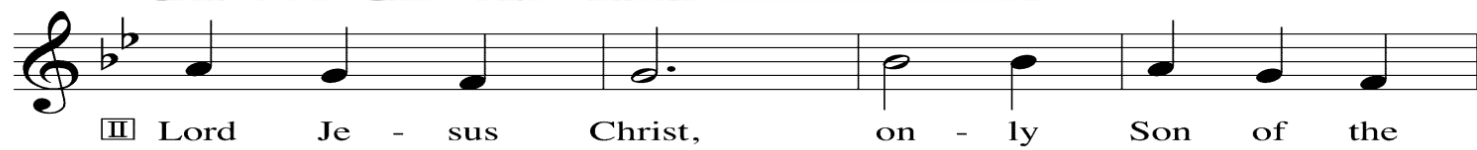
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. —



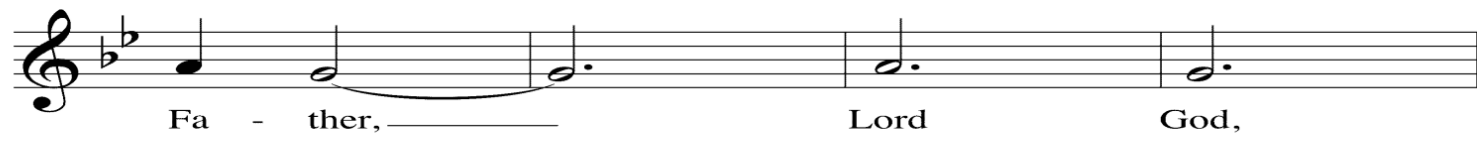
☐ Glo - ry to God in the high - est, — and peace — to God's



peo - ple on earth! —



☐ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the



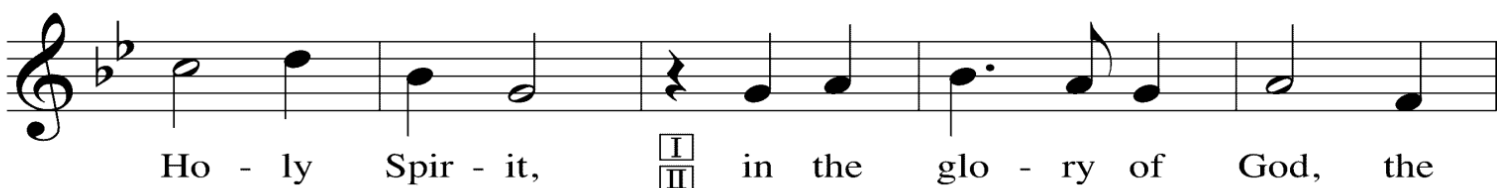
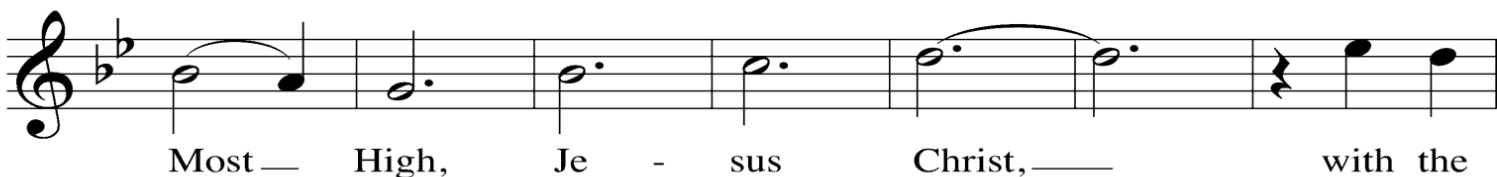
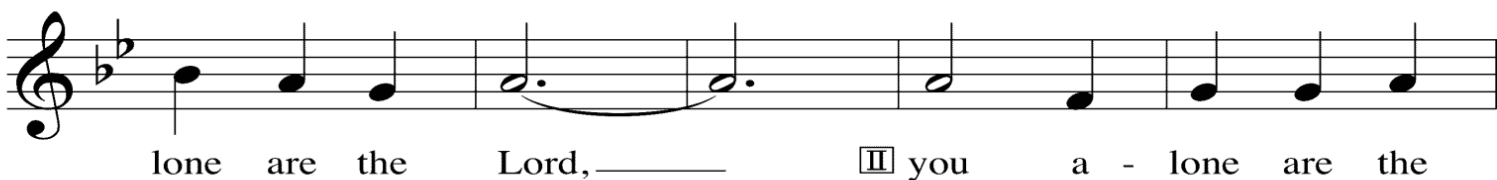
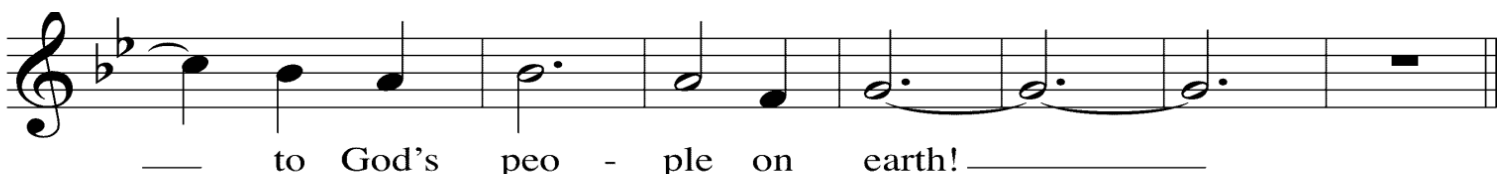
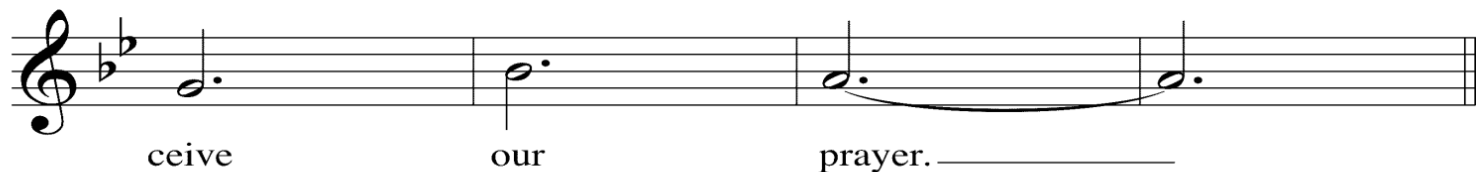
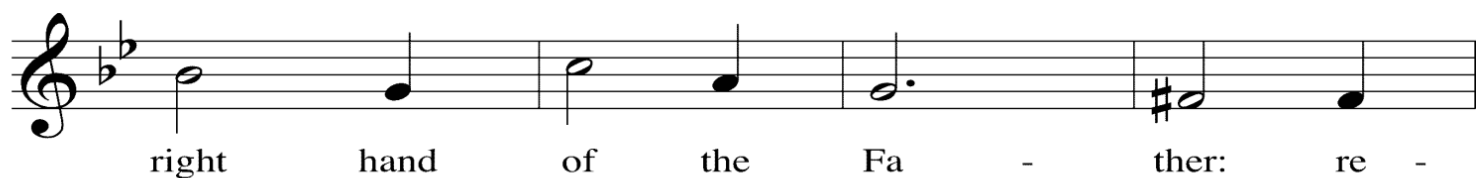
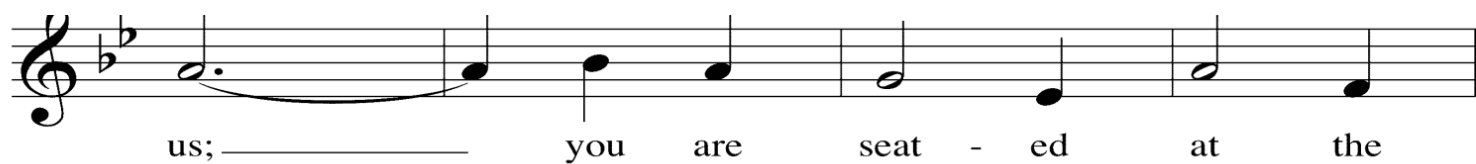
Fa - ther, — Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world: have mer - cy on



*Prayer of the Day

Celebrate insert pg. 1

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

P: Let us pray... **C: (following the prayer) Amen.**

The Word of God

First Reading

Isaiah 58:1-12

Celebrate pg. 1

L: Word of God. Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

Celebrate pg. 3

L: Word of God. Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation

ALLELUIA



P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew 5th Chapter

C: Glory to you, O God.

*Gospel Reading

Matthew 5:13-20

Celebrate pg. 3

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

Sermon

Rev. James Lapp

*Hymn of the Day

“O God of Mercy, God of Light” Red 714

**1 O God of mercy, God of light,
in love and mercy infinite,
teach us, as ever in your sight,
to live our lives in you.**

**2 You sent your Son to die for all,
that our lost world might hear your call;
oh, hear us lest we stray and fall!
We rest our hope in you.**

**3 Teach us the lesson Jesus taught:
to feel for those his blood has bought,
that ev'ry deed and word and thought
may work a work for you.**

**4 For all are kindred, both far and wide,
since Jesus Christ for all has died;
grant us the will, and grace provide,
to love them all in you.**

**5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,
may we each other's burdens share;
may we, where help is needed, there
give help as though to you.**

**6 And may your Holy Spirit move
all those who live to live in love,
till you receive in heav'n above
all those who live in you.**

*The Prayers of the Church

Celebrate, Page 4

*Passing of the Peace

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

C: And also with you.

The Communion Meal

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

*Offering Prayer

P: Blessed are you, O God,
Sovereign of the universe
You offer us new beginnings
And guide us on our journey.
Lead us to your table,
Nourish us with this heavenly food,
And prepare us to carry your love
To a hungry world,
In the name of Christ our 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 our thanks and praise.

Eucharistic Prayer

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....and join their unending hymn:

619a

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might:
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est.
 Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na
 in the high-est. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

*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**

Invitation to Communion

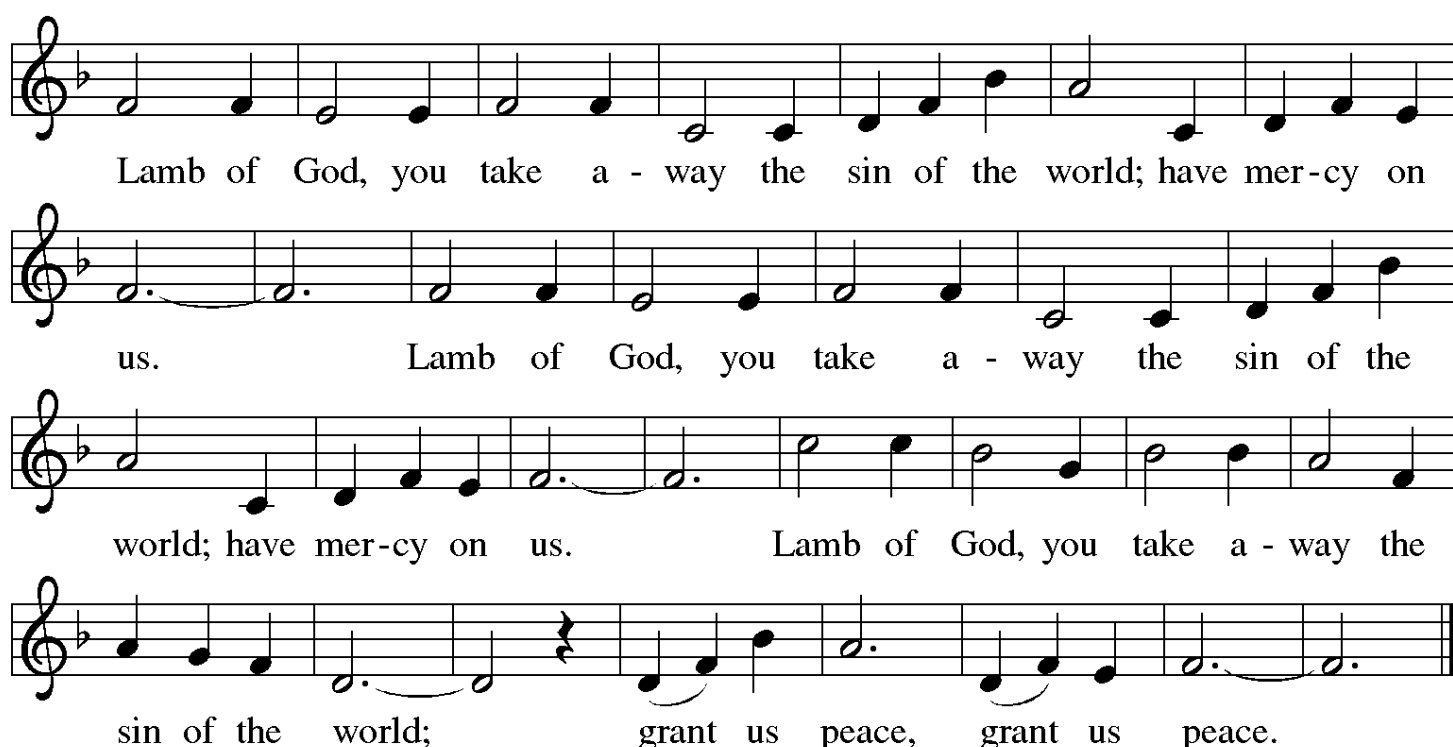
**P: Come to God's table.
 There is a place for you and enough for all.**

Holy Communion

Visitors: You are welcome to come forward to receive Communion as part of this church family! Children are welcome to come and receive a special blessing if they have never communed. Communion is by intinction, we dip the bread into either the wine (red) or grape juice (white). Please follow the guidance of the ushers.

#195

Lamb of God



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

Communion Hymn

"This Little Light of Mine" Red #677

**This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

**Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

(hymn continued)

**Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

Communion Blessing

P: May this Holy Communion of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen us and keep us in God's grace now and forever.

C: Amen

Prayer after Communion

P: We give you thanks, gracious God,
For we have feasted on the abundance of your house.
Send us to bring good news
And to proclaim your favor to all,
Strengthen with the richness of your grace
In your Son, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

The Sending

*Blessing

P: God who leads you in pathways of righteousness,
Who rejoices over you,
And who calls you by name,
† Bless your going about and your coming in,
Today and forever.

C: Amen

*Closing Hymn

"God, Whose Almighty Word"

Red #673

**God, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard
And took their flight:
hear us, we humbly pray,**

and where the Gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.

Christ, who once came to bring,
on your redeeming wing,
Healing and sight;
health to the troubled mind,
sight where illusions blind;
Oh, now to humankind
let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love,
life giving, holy dove,
Speed forth your flight;
move on the water's face
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.

Holy and blessed three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might;
boundless as ocean's tide,
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth, far and wide,
let there be light.

*Dismissal

P: Go with Christ into a weary world.
Share the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

*There are opening on the flower chart if you
would like to dedicate some*



Serving Today

Readers & Coffee Hosts: Scout Troop #633

Prayer Concerns

SHORT TERM: Gary Toops, Donna Kemper, Lisa, Family of Sandie Sanders, Craig Dahl, Family of Kurt Bell, Genell Csik, Barbara Barte, Mike Homa, Mateo, Family of Mark Cronquist, Erica Curry, Rosio, Barbara Stiles, Alessandra, John W., Family of Connor Kowalski, Shiela P., Mary Smith, Paul Cunningham, Barbara Allen, Beth Stiles, Anita & Howard, Sydnei Wilbywold, Paul Paustian, Deborah Henry, Carla, Ellie, Adrian Cameron, Dawit & Family (Ethiopia), Gaye Cornell, Dorothy, Rachel B., Anne & Chloe Johnston, Kirsten Skiles, Nancy, Marisa & Isaac, Mateo & Lina, Don, Atlas, Anthony, Steve, Margot Wilson, Rose, Will, Sam, Aaron Johnson, Sal, Katarina, Taiyo, Mateo, Stephanie Jager, Parents, Healthcare workers & teachers.

LONG TERM: April McCalmont, Marty Nehring, Miller Mouw, Kyle Lapp, Shelby Volpi, Ashley, Dom, 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, People of Ukraine, 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.

Sign up to help on Sundays

It takes a lot of us to make things run smoothly during worship. Welcoming new folks & each other is our priority, so we cannot do without GREETERS. There are also spots for READERS and SET UP. Don't be shy, training is available. And let's be honest, COFFEE is always nice.

Upcoming Events:

February Benevolence Offering =
Association of Faith Communities
Rotating Shelter & Safe Spaces

TBA	Confirmation Class 6:30 pm
Feb. 7	Scouts 7:00 pm
Feb. 9	MMRR Women's Circle 10:30am TBD If interested, please call Rebecca 423-2950
Feb. 9	Preschool Chapel 10:15
Feb. 9	Bible Study 11:00 & 7:30 pm (Zoom)
Feb. 14	Church Council 6:30 pm
Feb. 14	Embroider's Guild 7:00 pm Fireside
Feb. 15	Women's Café Group 6:00 pm
Feb. 16	Knitters Guild 10 am
Feb. 20	Embroiders Guild 7 pm
Feb. 21	Provide Habitat Lunches 10:30 am
Feb. 22	Lent begins Ash Wednesday worship 7:15 pm
March 1	Wed. Soupers 6:00 pm (sign up to cook!) Followed by Holden Vespers at 7:15 pm

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

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."*

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Ministers: The People of St. Stephen's
Pastor: Rev. James P. Lapp
Church Administrator: Leslie Lapp
Church Musician: Gary Roberts
Sunday School: Leslie Lapp
Pre-School Director: Kathy Berens
Custodian: John Hopping
Videographers: Kent Madsen & Barb Rice

Music used by permission Onelicense #A-706539