Transfiguration of our Lord February 19, 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

<u>*Confession and Forgiveness</u>

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is market 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. 2

P: Rejoice in this good news:

In † Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. Your 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

"Shine Jesus Shine" Red #671

REFRAIN:

Shine, Jesus, shine, Fill this land with the Father's glory; Blaze Spirit, blaze, Set our hearts on fire. Flow, river, flow, Flood the nations with grace & mercy; Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

Lord, the light of your love is shining In the midst of the darkness, shining Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us Set us free by the truth you now bring us Shine on me, shine on me... REFRAIN

As we gaze on your kingly brightness So our faces display your likeness Ever changing from glory to glory Mirrored here, may our lives tell your story Shine on me, shine on me... REFRAIN

Lord, I come to Your awesome presence From the shadows into Your radiance By the blood I may enter Your brightness Search me, try me, consume all my darkness Shine on me, shine on me... REFRAIN

*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.





- 1. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.
- 2. Christe eleison. Christe eleison.
- 3. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Glory to God

WOV #607





*Prayer of the Day

Celebrate insert pg. 1

P: May God be with you.P: Let us pray...C: And also with you.C: (following the prayer) Amen.

The Word of God

First ReadingDeuteronomy 30:15-20Celebrate pg. 1L: Word of God. Word of Life.C: Thanks be to God.

<u>Second Reading</u> 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 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 ReadingMatthew 5:21-37Celebrate pg. 3P: The Gospel of the Lord.C: Praise to you, O Christ.

<u>Sermon</u>

Rev. James Lapp

*Hymn of the Day

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"	Red #815	
I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to the wor The star of my life… is Jesus.	ld. REFRAIN	
REFRAIN In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both al The Lamb is the light of the city o Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.	ike.	
I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus. Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on m And show me the way to the Father.	iy path, REFRAIN	
I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus. When we have run With patience the race, We shall know the joy of Jesus. REFRAIN		
<u>*The Prayers of the Church</u>	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

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

*Offering Prayer

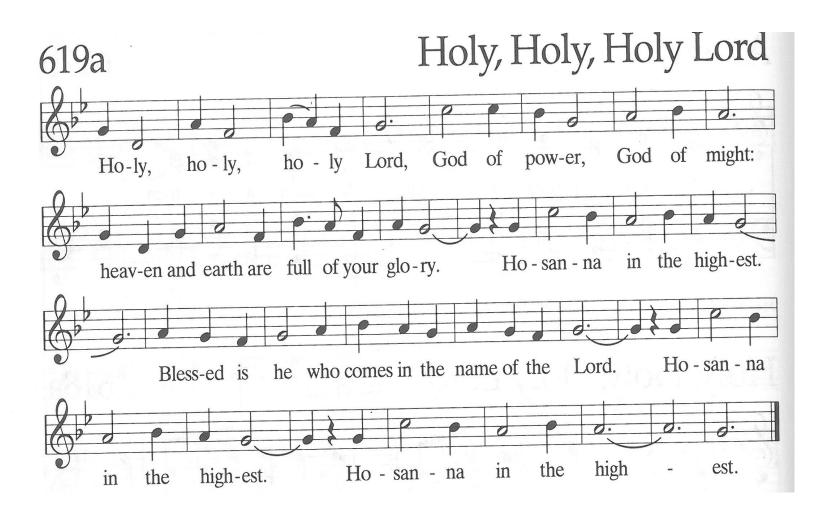
- P: Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe You offer us new beginnings And guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, Nourish us with this heavenly food, And prepare us to carry your love To a hungry world, In the name of Christ our light.
- C: Amen.

*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:



*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

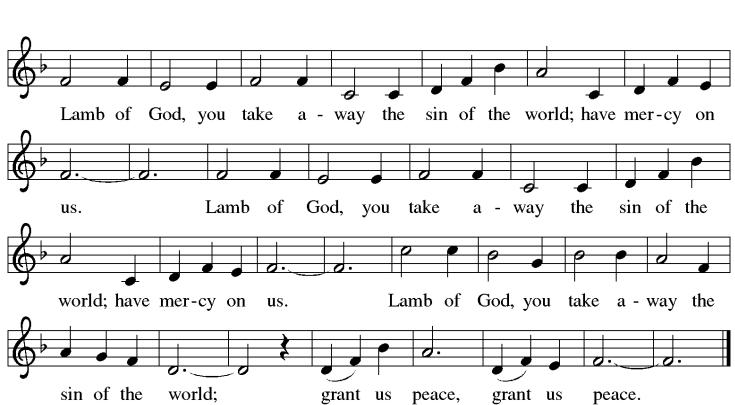
Invitation to Communion

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.





Lamb of God

Communion Hymn

"Beautiful Savior" Red #838

Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man! Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorrowing spirit sing. Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, Bright the sparkling stars on high; Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer Than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, Now and forevermore be thine!

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

*<u>Closing Hymn</u>

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" Red #631

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heav'n to earth come down! Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown. Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast; let us all in thee inherit; let us find thy promised rest. Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be; end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive; suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be; let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee! Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise!

*<u>Dismissal</u>

- P: Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news.
- C: Thanks be to God.

Prayer Concerns

SHORT TERM: Joel Hurttgam, Judith Alvarado, friends in Bakersfield, Gary Toops, Donna Kemper, Lisa, Beau, Family of Sandie Sanders, Craig Dahl, Family of Kurt Bell, Genell Csik, Barbara Bartee, Mike Homa, Mateo, Family of Mark Cronquist, Erica Curry, Rosio, Barbara Stiles, Family of Connor Kowalski, Shiela P., Mary Smith, Paul Cunningham, Barbara Allen, 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, Frank, Joe, 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.

Serving Today

Reader: Barbara Johnston Coffee Host: Rebecca Wickham

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 <u>GREETERS</u>. There are also spots for <u>READERS</u> and <u>SET UP</u>. 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		
ТВА	Confirmation Class 6:30 pm	
Feb. 21	Scouts 7:00 pm	
Feb. 21	Provide Habitat Lunches 10:30 am	
Feb. 22	Lent begins Ash Wednesday worship 11:00 am* & 7:15 pm	
Feb. 23	Preschool Chapel 10:15	
Feb. 23	Bible Study 11:00 & 7:30 pm (Zoom)	
March 1	Wed. Soupers 6:30 pm* NOTE: Time changed from Newsletter* (sign up to cook!) Holden Evening Prayer at 7:15 pm	
March 9	MMRR Women's Circle 10:30am	
March 14	Knitters Guild 6:00 pm	
March 16	Knitters Guild 10 am	
March. 20	Embroiders Guild 7 pm	
	∼ Sign up for Easter Lilies ~	
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."

> 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: <u>www.ststephenslutheran.org</u> Office Hours: Mon.—Fri. Noon—5:00 pm

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

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