

*Lazarus,  
come out!*

JOHN 11:43

# Fifth Sunday in Lent

## March 26, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

Welcome Visitor! We pray the service will be a blessing for you and that you will join us again soon. Thank you for worshiping with us—Your presence is a joy to this faith community. Please fill out the “Worship Slip” and place it in the offering plate as a way to help welcome you further and another way of offering yourself to God on this day! We welcome children (wiggles & all), however there is a family room adjacent to the sanctuary if you prefer.

“\*”Asterisk means, “Please Stand”

### The Gathering

#### \*Confession and Forgiveness

*This confession provides extended silence for listening, pondering, and self-reflection as the season of Lent calls for.*

*All may make the sign of the cross,  
the sign marked at our baptism on our forehead..*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: God of heaven and earth,  
You come in close and make us yours.  
Equip us by your Spirit to confess our sin,  
Embrace your forgiveness,  
And seek the way you set before us in your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen**

P: With honesty of heart, let us confess our sin as individuals and  
as part of the human family.

*(Silence is kept as we call these things to mind and heart)*

P: Merciful God,

**C: Forgive us.**

**We confess that we have turned from you, and we  
cannot break free from the power of sin.**

P: We have spoken when we should have kept quiet.

*Silence*

P: We were silent when we should have said something.

*Silence*

P: We acted when we knew better.

*Silence*

P: We were still when we know we should have moved.

*Silence*

P: For the wrong we have done,  
For the good we have failed to do,  
Have mercy on us,  
Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen**

P: People of God, look to Jesus † Christ  
Given to heal you and set you free  
Because God loved the world so much.  
Take hold of life—abundant and eternal life!

**C: Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn

*“Christ, Be Our Light”*

*Red #715*

**Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
Light for the world to see.**

*REFRAIN*

***Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.***

**Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has pow’r to save us.  
Make us your living voice.                      *REFRAIN***

**Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
Shared until all are fed.                      *REFRAIN***

*(hymn continued)*

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others,  
Walls made of living stone.            *REFRAIN*

Many the gifts, many the people,  
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
Signs of your kingdom come.        *REFRAIN*

\*Greeting

P: From the One who was, who is and who is to come:  
    Grace and peace be with you all.  
**C: And also with you.**

\*Kyrie—We bring the cares and burdens of our lives to God



1. Lord, have mer-cy.    Lord, have mer-cy.    Lord,    have mer - cy.  
2. Christ, have mer-cy.    Christ, have mer-cy.    Christ,    have mer - cy.  
3. Lord, have mer-cy.    Lord, have mer-cy.    Lord,    have mer - cy.

Prayer of the Day

Celebrate Page 1

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

## The Word of God

First Reading

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Celebrate p.1

R: Word of God, Word of Life.  
**C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 130

(read responsively)

Celebrate p.2

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

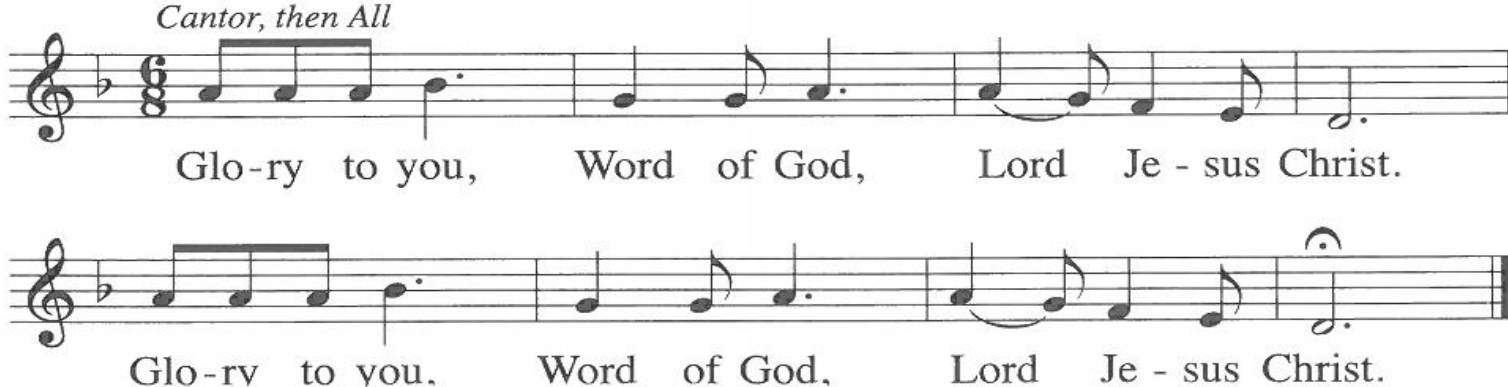
\*Gospel Acclamation

Cantor solo first

All sing twice afterwards

## GOSPEL

*Cantor, then All*



Glo-ry to you, Word of God, Lord Je - sus Christ.

Glo-ry to you, Word of God, Lord Je - sus Christ.

\*Gospel Reading

P: The Holy Gospel acc. to St. John the 11th Chapter Cel. p. 3

C: **Glory to you, O God.**

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Rev. James P. Lapp

\*Hymn of the Day "*What Wondrous Love is This*" Red #666

**What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss  
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,  
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul?**

**When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,  
When I was sinking down, sinking down,  
When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,  
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,  
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.**

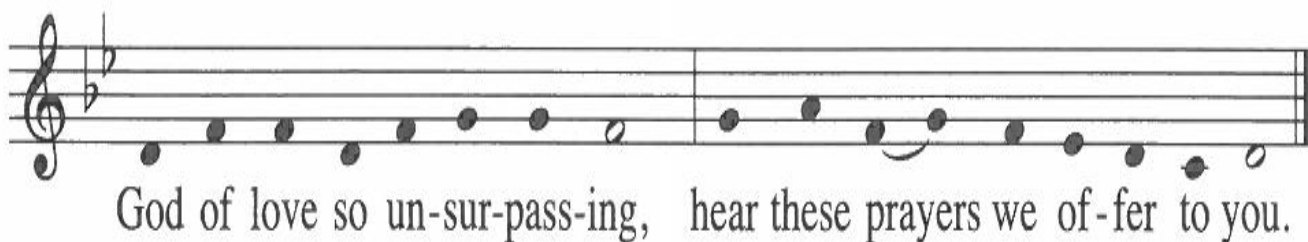
(hymn continued)

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;  
To God and to the Lamb I will sing;  
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am,  
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,  
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;  
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing God's love for me,  
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
And through eternity I'll sing on.

\* Prayers of the Church - sing after each petition

## PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL



## The Meal

\*Passing of the Peace

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

C: **And also with you.**

Offering

\*Offertory Prayer

P: Merciful God,

Receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving  
And the offering of our lives,  
That following in the way of the cross,  
We may know the joy of the resurrection;  
Through Christ our Lord.

**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 our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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

### \*Words of Institution

### \*Lord's Prayer

P: God, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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 and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

Communion Hymns

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world,  
have mer - cy on us. *Repeat as needed* Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world, *Last time* grant us peace.

*“Amazing Grace”* Red #779

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found  
Was blind, but now I see**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
And grace my fears relieved  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed!**

**Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come  
Tis grace has brought me safe thus far  
And grace will lead me home**

(hymn continued)

**The Lord has promised good to me;  
His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures.**

**When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we'd first begun.**

\*Communion Blessing

P: May this Holy Communion of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen, keep and unite us now and forever.

**C: Amen**

\*Prayer after Communion

P: Embodied God,  
At your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus.  
With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise,  
Empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors  
And touch the world with your love.

**C: Amen**

## **Sending**

\*Blessing

P: May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth,  
And claimed us as children of the light,  
Strengthen you on your journey into life renewed.  
May God bless you and keep you.  
May God's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.  
May God look upon you with favor  
And give you † peace.

**C: Amen**

\*Closing Hymn

“Let All Things Now Living” Red #881

**Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving  
To God the creator triumphantly raise,  
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,  
Who still guides us on to the end of our days.  
God’s banners are o’er us, God’s light goes before us,  
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,  
Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,  
As forward we travel from light into light.**

**God rules all the forces: the stars in their courses  
And sun in its orbit obediently shine;  
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,  
The deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.  
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;  
With glad adoration a song let us raise  
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:  
“To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!”**

\*Dismissal

**P: Go in peace. Serve in love.**

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Serving Today**

Reader: Steven Hendrickson

Coffee Host: Connie Cunningham

Altar Guild: Connie Cunningham

Counters: Janet Slay

**Dramatic Readers needed**

**Palm Sunday**

## Prayer Concerns

**SHORT TERM:** Sandi Csik, Family of Gwyn Larson, Joel Hurttgam, Jacob & Family, Judith Alvarado, Family of Kirsten Skiles, Carla Brown, Keith, Sandy, Levi & Alexandra, Norman's Father, friends in Bakersfield, Gary Toops, Donna Kemper, Lisa & Beau, Craig Dahl, Family of Kurt Bell, Genell Csik, Barbara Bartee, Mike Homa, Mateo, Family of Mark Cronquist, 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, 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.

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**ZOOM w/ Pastor Jim**

**check email on  
Weds. for link**



**THURSDAYS 11a -**

**12noon  
& 7:30 – 8:30 pm**

*We will be looking at the upcoming scripture readings for Sunday, to enrich our worship experience and uncover some of the deeper truths of our faith. As we grow in our faith, we grow in community.*

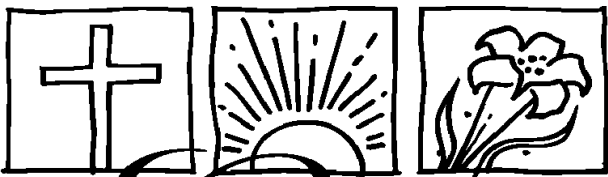


## Women's Build

**Each Wed / Fri / Sat in March**

We appreciate your past support,  
and look forward to a great event!  
Visit our website and follow the prompts:

[habitatmontereybay.com/copy-of-women-build](http://habitatmontereybay.com/copy-of-women-build)



# LENT

Every Wednesday  
through March 29

**Soup Supper – 6:00 pm**

**Worship - 7:15pm**

These worship gatherings are designed to help us reflect more deeply on our walk of faith with God.

The Season of Lent calls all Christians into a time of fasting, prayer and helping those in need in order to help us prepare for the miracle of the Resurrection at Easter.

Invite your friends!

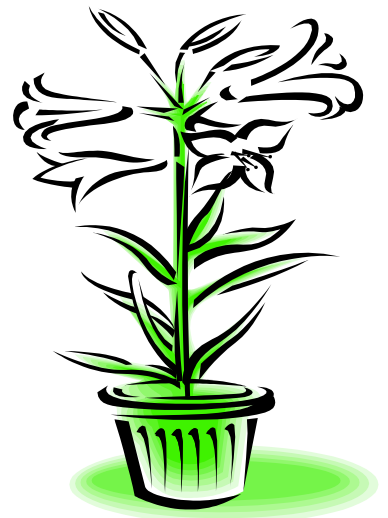
## **Easter Lilies**

To honor loved ones & benefit church ministries

- ~ \$15 checks to St. Stephen's
- ~ Memo line "Lily"
- ~ List your dedication on the sign up sheet

You may take home your Lily after the second service on Easter.

Last chance to order TODAY



### **Prayer Children**

Stay tuned for information on prayer children for the new year. We received a preliminary student list, but it wasn't ready for distribution yet. However, we are getting close to having the final list. We will be contacting you by e-mail and in-person when the list is ready.

## Upcoming Events:

March Benevolence Offering =

St. Stephen's Scholarship Fund

TBA

Confirmation Class 6:30 pm

March 28

Provide Habitat Lunches 10:30 am

March 28

Scouts 7:00 pm

March 29

NL Collate 2:00 pm

March 29

Lenten Wednesday

Soup at 6:00 pm

(hosts: Don Smawley Pozole & Jeanette Dawson)

Holden Evening Prayer at 7:15 pm

March 30

NO Preschool Chapel 10:15

March 30

NO Bible Study

March 30

Men's beginner A.A. 7:00 pm

March 31

Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00 pm

April 3-7

Preschool Closed

HOLY WEEK

April 2

Palm Sunday

April 6

Maundy Thursday worship "The Last Supper"

11 am & 7:00 pm

April 7

Good Friday worship "The Seven Last Words"

7:00 pm

April 9

\* Easter Celebration \* 10 am

with "All that Brass"

**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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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: Jay Johnston, Kent Madsen & Barb Rice

Music used by permission Onelicense #A-706539