



# RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT

JOHN 20:22

# Day of Pentecost

May 28, 2023

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.”

Music

## 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.*

**Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
who greets us in this and every season,  
whose word never fails,  
whose promise is sure.  
Amen**

Let us confess our need for God’s grace and love in our lives.

Merciful God,

**We confess that we fall short of your hope for humanity.  
We hurt our community at times.**

**We squander your blessings.  
We neglect to share your bounty.  
In the name of Jesus,  
Forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**Holy God,  
We confess that we have failed to always be honest.  
We have lacked the courage to speak.  
We have spoken too quickly and hurtfully at times.  
In the name of Jesus,  
Forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.  
God offers boundless grace when we fail.  
Claim the gift of God's mercy:  
You are freed and forgiven  
In the name of + Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn      *"O Day Full of Grace"*      #627  
vs. 1, alt. 2~4

**1. O day full of grace that now we  
see appearing on earth's horizon,  
Bring light from our God that we may be  
abundant in joy this season.  
God, shine for us now in this dark place;  
Your name on our hearts emblazon.**

**2. How blest was that gracious midnight hour,  
When God in our flesh was given;  
Then brightened the dawn with light and pow'r  
That spread o'er the darkened heaven;  
Then rose o'er the darkened heaven;  
Then rose o'er the world that Sun divine,  
Which gloom from our hearts has driven.**      (continued)

3. Yea, were ev'ry tree endowed with speech,  
And were ev'ry leaflet singing,  
They never with praise God's worth could reach,  
Though earth with their praise were ringing.  
Who fully could praise the Light of life  
Who light to our souls is bringing?

4. As birds in the morning sing their praise,  
God's fatherly love we cherish,  
For giving to us this day of grace,  
For life that shall never perish.  
The church God has kept two thousand years,  
And hungering souls did nourish.

\*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**

Kyrie

“Spirit, Open My Heart”

ACS #1043

**REFRAIN**

Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.  
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving.  
Spirit, open my heart.

1. God, replace my stony heart  
with a heart that's kind and tender.  
All my coldness and fear  
to your grace I now surrender.

**REFRAIN**

2. Write your love upon my heart  
as my law, my goal, my story.  
In each thought, word, and deed,  
may my living bring you glory.

REFRAIN

3. May I weep with those who weep;  
Share the joy of friend and neighbor.  
As I live from day to day,  
love will be my finest labor.

REFRAIN

\*Prayer of the Day

God Stories

## The Word of God

First Reading

Acts 2:1-24

Celebrate pg. 1

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

Celebrate pg. 2

\*Gospel Acclamation

ELW #175

### ALLELUIA



\*Gospel Reading

John 7:37-39

Celebrate pg. 3

P: The Holy Gospel acc. to St. John, the 7th Chapter  
C: **Glory to you. O God.**

*(The Gospel is read)*

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

Message

Rev. James Lapp

\*Hymn of the Day

*“As the Wind”      ACS #943*

As the wind song through the trees,  
as the stirring of the breeze,  
so it is with the Spirit of God,  
as the heart made strangely warm,  
as the voice within the storm,  
so it is with the Spirit of God.  
Never seen, ever known where this wind has blown  
bringing life, bringing pow’r to the world,  
as the dancing tongues of fire,  
as the soul’s most deep desire,  
so it is with the Spirit of God.

As the rainbow after rain, as the hope that’s born again,  
so it is with the Spirit of God,  
as the green in the . . . spring,  
as a kite on a . . . String, so it is with the Spirit of God,  
making worlds that are new, making peace come true,  
bringing gifts, bringing love to the world,  
As the rising of the yeast, as the wine at the . . . feast,  
so it is with the Spirit of God.

\*The Prayers of the Church

Celebrate, Page 4

**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.

### Music

### Offering Prayer

P: God of field and forest, sea and sky,  
You are the giver of all good things.  
Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,  
And multiply your graciousness in us,  
That the world may be fed with your love,  
Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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 thanks and praise.**

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 it is 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: The gifts of God for the people of God.  
Come for all is ready!**

(You may be seated)

Invitation to Communion

*All people are called to Christ's table.  
Come, receive what is good.*

Communion Hymn

*“Breathe on Us, Breath of God”* ACS #941

*Breathe on us, Breath of God  
Breath of God, breathe on us.*

**The Sending**

\*Prayer after Communion

P: We thank you, generous God,  
for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table.  
Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world,  
through the one who is our dearest treasure,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen**

\*Blessing

P: The God who calls across the cosmos  
And speaks in the smallest seed  
+ bless, keep, and sustain you  
Now and to the end of the age.

**C: Amen**

\*Closing Hymn

*“How Great Thou Art”*      Red #856

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
Thy pow’r throughout the universe displayed;

*REFRAIN*

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;      *REFRAIN*

*(hymn continued)*

But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died to take away my sin;                 *R*

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
And there proclaim, “My God, how great thou art!”

## \*Dismissal

**P:** Go in Peace. Share the harvest.  
**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

# Music

## Serving Today

Reader: Nancy Loya

Coffee Host: Connie Cunningham

Office Support: Sheila Buswell & Sherilyn Jager

\* \* \* \* \*

# Cradle Roll

## Coordinator needed

*This is a wonderful opportunity to welcome families to our church with faithful resources. Thoughtful support and inspiration mailed monthly. Please let the office know if you are interested in helping with this service.*



*Thank you Candace Anderson  
for your YEARS of faithful service.*

## Prayer Concerns

**SHORT TERM:** Sandi Csik, Janiea Paustian, Amy Wimmer, Gray, Joshua, Jesse, Hailey, James, Barbara Rowe, George & Scott, Darlene Woodburn, Jacob & Family, Family of Marj Young, Barbara Hansen, Tom Harris, Barbara Allen, Marshall Bautz & Family, Rena Brown, Carla Brown, Kathy, Family of Gwyn Larson, Joel Hurttgam, Jacob & Family, Judith Alvarado, Family of Kirsten Skiles, Carla Brown & children, Keith, Sandy, Levi & Alexandria, 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, Paul Cunningham, Anita & Howard, Sydnei Wilbywold, Paul Paustian, Deborah Henry, 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, 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.





## Sister Parish News

### **Prayer Child Sponsorships -**

Thank you to those who have committed to support your prayer children for another year and have made the associated donations. If you haven't sent yours, there's still time. We would also like you to write a short letter to your prayer child and include a photo. Please send them to:

Marian Langdon  
220 Horizon Way  
Aptos, CA 95003

Or, you may give them to me on Sundays.

As of this writing, there are 6 children that still need a sponsor. If you want to sponsor a child, please let me know. Thank you!

### **2023 Delegation?**

Planning has begun for a delegation this year. It will probably be in November, but the dates have not yet been decided. Please let me know if you are interested in going to El Salvador. Last year's flight cost \$590 roundtrip, so you have some idea. The in-country cost is generally less than \$500. Visiting El Salvador is a life-changing experience!

On behalf of the Board of Directors for Santa Cruz al Salvador (SCaS), I wish to thank all members of St. Stephen's who have contributed towards any of our projects such as the latrines in El Pilar, scholarships in Guillermo Ungo, or University Scholarships.

***Your gifts make a difference!***



# **Mt. Cross Memorial Day Work Weekend (Continues)**

## **Today and Tomorrow**

All are invited to volunteer at camp for a weekend of service, fellowship, and fun!  
Service projects include but are not limited to:

- Madrone Bathroom Repairs
- Sand Volleyball Court Maintenance
- Dining Hall Bathroom Repairs
  - Cabin Deck Repairs
  - Trail Maintenance
- Cabin Deep Cleaning

Enjoy a campfire, s'mores, worship, and delicious food while giving back to the place we love. Together, we can keep Mt. Cross beautiful! See [Mtcross.org](http://Mtcross.org)



**On Zoom or at Church w Pastor Jim**  
check email on Weds. for link

**THURSDAYS from 11a -12noon  
and  
7:30 pm – 8:30 pm**

For the next several months,  
we will be using the biblical resource:

**"Manna and Mercy"**

***A Brief History of God's Unfolding  
Promise to Mend the Entire Universe  
by Rev. Daniel Erlander***

*(the same author as  
"The Tales of The Pointless People",  
which we used in Lent).*

Anyone can join in at any point. Each chapter stands alone, but is also connected as part of the whole story of the Bible.

Copies are available at church for \$10 each.  
Or it can be mailed to you.

## Upcoming Events:

May Benevolence Offering - Mt. Cross  
Lutheran Outdoor Ministry

TBA	Confirmation Class 6:30 pm
June 27	Provide Habitat Lunches 10:30 am
May 28—29	Mt. Cross Work Weekend (continues)
May 29	Office & Preschool Closed for Holiday
May 30	Boy Scouts 7:00 pm
June 1	Preschool chapel 10:15 am
June 1	Bible Study 11:00 am & 7:30 pm
June 1	Mens beginner A.A. 7:00 pm
June 2	A.A. 7:00 pm
June 4	Celebrate Communion with our Sunday School kids
June 7	Women's Café Group 6:00 pm
June 13	Knitters Guild 6:15 pm
June 13	Church Council 6:30 pm
June 15	Knitters Guild 10 am

**Pastor's Office Hours Wed & 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.  
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Web Address: [www.ststephenslutheran.org](http://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

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