



Whoever
welcomes you
welcomes
me

MATTHEW 10:40

5th Sunday after Pentecost

July 2, 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

Prelude in D Minor
Serej Rachmaninoff

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

“This Is My Father’s World” Red #824

**This is my Father’s world, and to my list’ning ears
All nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is my Father’s world; I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
His hand the wonders wrought.**

(hymn continued)

This is my Father's world; the birds their carols raise;
The morning light, the lily white,
Declare their maker's praise.
This is my Father's world; he shines in all that's fair.
In the rustling grass I hear him pass;
He speaks to me ev'ry where.

This is my Father's world; oh, let me not forget
That, though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world;
why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is king, let heaven ring;
God reigns, let earth be glad!

*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

Jeremiah 28:5-9

Celebrate pg. 1

Second Reading

Romans 6:12-23

Celebrate pg. 2

*Gospel Acclamation

ELW #175

ALLELUIA



*Gospel Reading Matthew 10:40-42 Celebrate pg. 3

P: The Holy Gospel acc. to St. Matthew, the 10th 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. Gary Stevenson

*Hymn of the Day

“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

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.

*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

Prelude in E Minor
Frederic Chopin op.28, no.4 Abridged

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 *"Take My Life, That I May Be"* #685

Take my life, that I may be
Consecrated, Lord, to thee;
Take my moments and my days;
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of thy love;
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing
Always, only, for my King;
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I with-hold;
Take my intellect, and use
Every pow'r as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine;
It shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
It shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for thee.

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 *“This Little Light of Mine” #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.

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.

*Dismissal

P: Go in Peace. Share the harvest.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Music

Gotta Sohn Kommer J.S Bach
And all that Jazz



Serving Today

Reader: Elke Spires

Coffee Host:

Office Support: Sheila Buswell & Sherilyn Jager



Cradle Roll

This is a wonderful opportunity to welcome families to our church with faithful resources. Thoughtful support and inspiration mailed monthly. Only one hour per month from your home. Please let the office know if you are able to help with this service.

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



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!

Prayer Concerns

SHORT TERM:

Isaac & Matteo, Tony, Sandi Csik, Janiea Paustian, Amy Wimmer, Gray, Hailey, Jesse, Joyce, James, John, Elida, Jeannie, Anetta, Jane, 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, Joel Hurttgam, Jacob & Family, 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, Mateo, Family of Mark Cronquist, Barbara Stiles, Paul Cunningham, Anita & Howard, Sydnei Wilbywold, Paul Paustian, 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, Stephanie Jager, Parents, Healthcare workers & teachers.

LONG TERM:

Biergiel—Colclough family, 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.



The Altar Flowers are offered
By Tina Gates in loving memory of
husband Bill and mother Virginia



Sunday Readers

&

Coffee Hosts

&

Altar Guild

*Sign up in the Narthex
Thank You!*

Upcoming Events:

July Benevolence Offering
ELCA World Hunger

July 5	Women's Café Group 6:00 pm
July 6	No Bible Study until July 13
July 6	Mens beginner A.A. 7:00 pm
July 7	A.A. 7:00 pm
TBA	Confirmation 6:30 pm
July 11	Knitters Guild 6:15 pm
July 11	Church council 6:30 pm
July 11	Boy Scouts 7:00 pm
July 13	Preschool chapel 10:15 am
July 13	Bible Study RESUMES 11:00 am & 7:30 pm
July 19	Newsletter Deadline Noon
July 19	Women's Café Group 6:00 pm
July 20	Knitters Guild 10 am
July 27	NL Collating 2:00 pm

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."*

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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
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