

Come
to me,
all you
that are
weary

MATTHEW 11:28



6th Sunday after Pentecost

July 9, 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 major
Sergei Rachmaninoff op. 23 , no 4

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

“Bring Many Names” ACS #1094

*Bring many names, beautiful and good,
Celebrate, in parable and story,
Holiness in glory, living, loving God.
Hail and hosanna! Bring many names!*

*Strong mother God, working night and day,
Planning all the wonders of creation,
Setting each equation, genius at play:
Hail and Hosanna, strong mother God!*

(Hymn Continued)

*Warm father God, hugging every child,
Feeling all the strains of human living,
Caring and forgiving, till we're reconciled:
Hail and Hosanna, warm father God!*

*Old, aching God, grey with endless care,
Calmly piercing evil's new disguises,
Glad of good surprises, wiser than despair:
Hail and Hosanna, old, aching God!*

*Young, growing God, eager, on the move,
Saying no to falsehood and unkindness,
Crying out for justice, giving all you have:
Hail and Hosanna, young, growing God!*

*Great, living God, never fully known,
Joyful darkness far beyond our seeing,
Closer yet than breathing, everlasting home:
Hail and Hosanna, great, living God!*

*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

Zechariah 9:9-12

Celebrate pg. 1

Second Reading

Romans 7:15-25

Celebrate pg. 2

*Gospel Acclamation

ELW #175

ALLELUIA



*Gospel Reading Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 Celebrate pg. 3

P: The Holy Gospel acc. to St. Matthew, the 11th 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 “Lord of All Hopefulness” #765

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy:
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the
lathe:
Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

*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 Lilliburlero Richard Purvis

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

*“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”
Red #742*

**What a friend we have in Jesus
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Ev'rything to God in prayer!**

Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
Oh, what needless pain we bear ~
All because we do not carry
Ev'rything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged –
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness ~
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge –
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you;
You will find a solace there.

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 *“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.

*Dismissal

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

Music Rigaudon. Andre Campra



Serving Today

Reader: Barbara Johnston

Coffee Host: Shelly Barker

Office Support: Sheila Buswell & Sherilyn Jager

Sunday Readers

&

Coffee Hosts

&

Altar Guild

**We need
your support**



*Sign up
in the Narthex
Thank You!*



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:

Keith, Linda, Atlas, 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, Barbara Hansen, Tom Harris, Barbara Allen, Rena Brown, Carla Brown, Kathy, Joel Hurttgam, Jacob & Family, Family of Kirsten Skiles, Carla Brown & children, 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, 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 given by
Shelly Barker
In celebration of Xavier Barker's 14th b-day



The Lutheran Office of Public Policy – California (LOPP-CA)

Mission: to advocate with and on behalf of others in the quest for economic protection of human rights, reconciliation, and responsible stewardship of God's Creation.

The annual Lutheran Lobby Day took place on May 17th. Lutherans from across the state gathered to advocate for the following bills:

- SB 4 (Wiener)- **Affordable housing development & zoning reform.** This bill would streamline the process for religious organizations & nonprofit colleges to develop affordable housing on their property.
- AB 249 (Holden)- **Clean drinking water in schools.** This bill would increase testing & disclosure requirements of school drinking water lead levels. It would additionally allocate funding for testing filters & infrastructure improvements to reduce/eliminate lead in water.
- AB 660 (Irwin)- **Food waste, food date labeling reform.** This bill would require the use of uniform terms for food product date labels, i.e. removing 'sell by' dates and making 'best by' or 'use by' dates clearer for consumers. The goal is to help reduce food waste, which is a large problem not only for addressing hunger but also for methane emissions and climate change.
- AB 1534 (Irwin)- **Methane emissions monitoring requirements.** This bill would use remote sensing technology to better identify and then regulate methane emissions from landfills.

Currently, all of these bills are in their respective house's Appropriations Committees.

Upcoming Events:

July Benevolence Offering
ELCA World Hunger

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 13	Mens beginner A.A. 7:00 pm
July 14	A.A. 7:00 pm
July 17	Embroider's Guild 7:00 pm
July 19	Women's Café Group 6:00 pm
July 20	Knitters Guild 10 am
July 20	Newsletter Deadline Noon
July 25	Provide Habitat Lunches 10:30 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

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