

Lord, save me!

MATTHEW 14:30

11th Sunday after Pentecost

August 13, 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

Trumpet Tune

John Stanley.. 1712~1786

Blinded at two, and the youngest person to Graduate from Oxford with a BMus.

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

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” Red #859

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the God of creation!
My heart is longing to offer up sweet adoration.
Melody make; dulcimer, harp, now awake.
Sound forth your praise, ev'ry nation.**

**Praise the Almighty, o'er all life so wondrously reigning,
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen? All that is needful has been
Sent by God's gracious ordaining. (hymn continued)**

Praise the Almighty,
who prospers your work and defends you;
See from the heavens
the showers of mercy God sends you.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do;
Infinite Love here befriends you.

Praise the Almighty! In wonder my spirit is soaring!
All that has life and breath,
come now with praises outpouring.
Let the amen sound from God's people again,
Gladly forever adoring!

*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

1 Kings 19:9-18

Celebrate pg. 1

Second Reading

Romans 10:5-15

Celebrate pg. 2

*Gospel Acclamation

ELW #175

ALLELUIA



*Gospel Reading Matthew 14:22-33 Celebrate pg. 3

P: The Holy Gospel acc. to St. Matthew, the 14th 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

“Build a Longer Table” ACS #1062

*Build a longer table, not a higher wall,
Feeding those who hunger, making room for all.
Feasting together, stranger turns to friend,
Christ breaks walls to pieces;
False divisions end.*

*Build a safer refuge, not a larger jail;
Where the weak find shelter, mercy will not fail.
For any place where justice is denied,
Christ will breach the jail wall, freeing all inside.*

*Build a broader doorway, not a longer fence.
Love protects all people, sparing no expense.
When we embrace compassion more than fear,
Christ tears down our fences; all are welcome here.*

*When we lived as exiles, refugees abroad,
Christ became our doorway to the reign of God.
So must our tables welcome those who roam.
None can be excluded; all must find a home.*

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

“Caprice” Maurice Green
English composer and organist 1696 ~ 1765

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

“Here is Bread” Red #483

Here is bread, here is wine
Christ is with us, he is with us
Break the bread, taste the wine
Christ is with us here

REFRAIN In this bread there is healing!
 In this cup is life forever!
 In this moment, by the Spirit
 Christ is with us here

Here is grace, here is peace
Christ is with us, He is with us
Know his grace, find his peace
Feast on Jesus here REFRAIN

Here we are, joined in one
Christ is with us, He is with us
We'll proclaim till he comes
Jesus crucified! REFRAIN

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

“Making Their Way” ACS #979

Making their way down through the ages,
Sinners and saints have heard God’s call:
Wealthy and poor, powerful, lowly,
Jesus’ disciples, one and all.
Gathered for worship, offering thanks,
The greatest with the least have come to share this
feast.

Making their way all the world over,
Christians assemble on this day,
Hearing the Word, sharing the Banquet,
Learning to walk in Jesus’ way.
Members of Christ, united in love,
They seek our God to know, and so together grow.

Making our way season by season,
Pilgrims, we journey till life’s end,
Traveling light, sharing the riches,
Caring for stranger as for friend,
Till in the joy of longing fulfilled,
Together we will come to our eternal home.

*Dismissal

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



Music

Festive Postlude

By American organist, composer, and teacher.
1913 ~ 1994 San Francisco

* Music today is a collection of
English , And American talents *

Serving Today

Reader: Mark Linder

Coffee Host: Janet Slay

Office Support: Sheila Buswell & Sherilyn Jager

Music at St. Stephen's



September:

Introducing a new hymn

“Come Christians Join to Sing That Song”

A l l e l u i a !

With the Good News Singers & Brass Ensemble.

Still looking forward to strings & woodwinds in our service. Many talented young musicians are eager to participate in our church music. So, come on down!

Thanksgiving Brass — November 19

Christmas Brass — December 31

Please donate to the “Musicians Fund”
to enhance our worship together

Musical Quote:

“Music was my refuge. I could crawl into the space in between the notes and curl my back to the loneliness.”

~ Maya Angelou

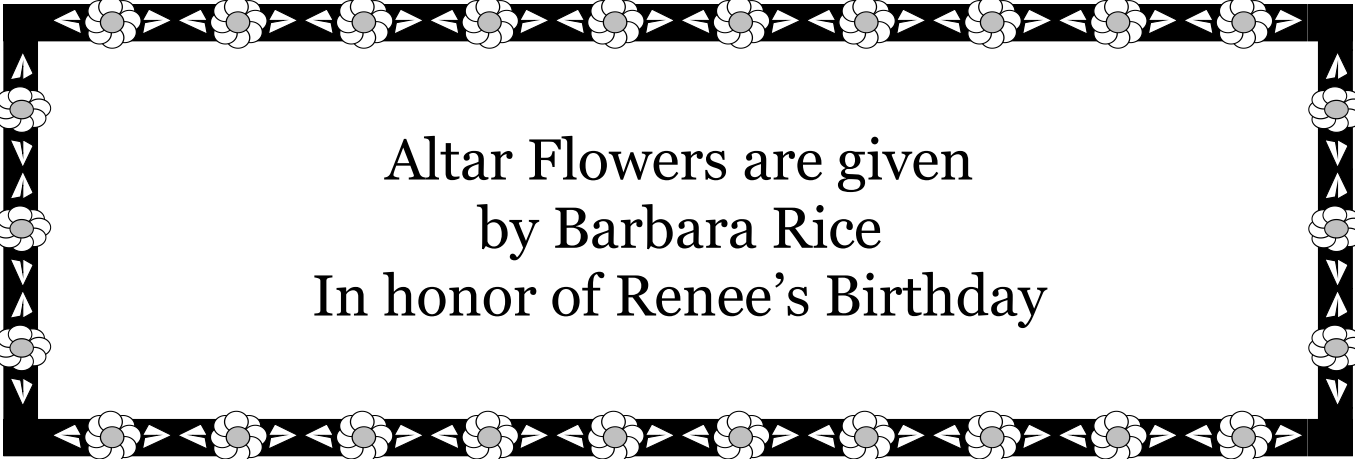
Prayer Concerns

SHORT TERM:

Keith, Andre, Joshua & Andrea, Irma, Family of Deane Strong & M. Hudi, Sam, Family of Jim Schafer, Jamie Sheehan, Family of Ron Mullen, Family of Sonya Miller, Ralph, Aria Brown, Karin Zaun, Family of Mark Oeding, Conrad, Boudreau family, Chelsea, John, Mateo, Tim, Charmaine, 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 Barte, 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, 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.



Altar Flowers are given
by Barbara Rice
In honor of Renee's Birthday



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:

August Benevolence Offering
California Lutheran University
& Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary

TBA	Confirmation 6:30 pm
Aug. 15	Boy Scouts 7:00 pm
Aug. 16	Women's Café Group 6:00 pm
Aug. 17	Knitters Guild 10 am
Aug. 17	Preschool chapel 10:15 am
Aug. 17	Bible Study 11:00 am & 7:30 pm
Aug. 17	Mens beginner A.A. 7:00 pm
Aug. 18	A.A. 7:00 pm
Aug. 21	Newsletter Deadline Noon
Aug. 22	Provide Habitat Lunches 10:30 am
Aug. 29	NL Collating 2:00 pm
Sept. 23	Marshall Bautz Memorial 1:00 pm Christ Lutheran Aptos

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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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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