



The truth  
will make you  
free

JOHN 8:32

**Reformation Sunday**  
**October 29, 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      En feste Burg setting      David Cherwien

## ***The Gathering***

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P: Blessed be God, the one who forms us,  
+ Christ Jesus who bears the cross,  
And the Holy Spirit who makes our joy complete.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us come before God in humility, confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Steadfast and faithful God,  
**C: You have revealed the ways of justice,  
yet we fail to follow you.**

**We are overwhelmed  
by the world's violence and suffering.  
We are afraid to risk what we have  
for the sake of others.  
For the harm we have caused,  
known and unknown, forgive us.  
For the unjust demands we place on others  
and your creation, forgive us.  
For the ways we turn away  
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.  
Lead us back to you and set us on the right path:  
In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Friend  
Amen.**

P: Beloved in Christ,  
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.  
God's compassion is beyond compare.  
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.  
In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

**C: Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn      *"A Mighty Fortress is our God" #504*

A mighty fortress is our God,  
A sword and shield victorious;  
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod  
And wins salvation glorious.  
The old satanic foe  
Has sworn to work us woe!  
With craft and dreadful might  
He arms himself to fight.  
On earth he has no equal.

No strength of ours can match his might!  
We would be lost, rejected.  
But now a champion comes to fight,  
Whom God himself elected.  
You ask who this may be?  
The Lord of hosts is he!

(hymn continued)

Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,  
God's only Son, adored.  
He holds the field victorious.

Though hordes of devils fill the land  
All threat'ning to devour us,  
We tremble not, unmoved we stand;  
They cannot overpow'r us.  
Let this world's tyrant rage;  
In battle we'll engage!  
His might is doomed to fail;  
God's judgment must prevail!  
One little word subdues him.

God's Word forever shall abide,  
No thanks to foes, who fear it;  
For God himself fights by our side  
With weapons of the Spirit.  
Were they to take our house,  
Goods, honor, child, or spouse,  
Though life be wrenched away,  
They cannot win the day.  
The Kingdom's ours forever!

\*Greeting

\*P: The grace that is Christ's gift to us, The love of God, and  
the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

KYRIE

Assistant: In peace, in peace,

Assistant:

Congregation:

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy,  
Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have  
mer - cy.

Assistant: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all... (Refrain)

Assistant: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word... (Refrain)

Assistant:

Congregation:

Help, save and de - fend us, O God.  
A - - - men.

NOW THE FEAST

Refrain

*Congregation:*

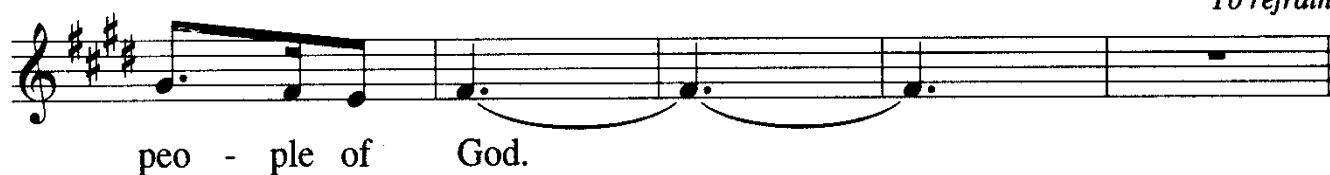
Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,  
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and  
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -  
er - more!

Verse 1:

*Congregation or Congregation 1:*

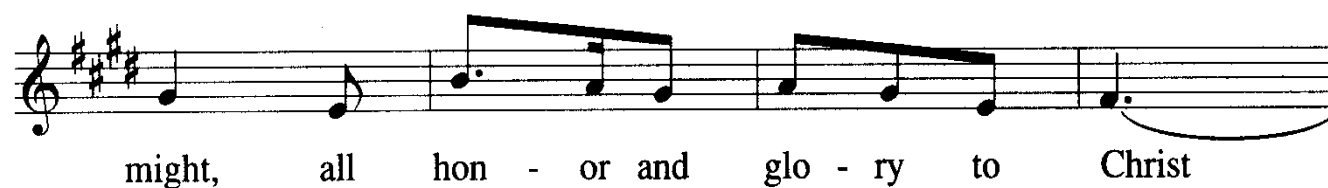
1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once  
slain, whose blood has freed and u -  
nit - ed us to be one great

*To refrain*



Verse 2

*Congregation or Congregation 2:*

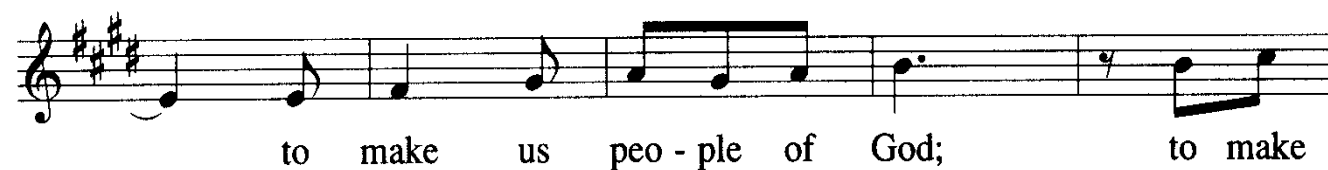


*To refrain*



Verse 3

*Congregation:*



*To refrain*



\*Prayer of the Day

Celebrate insert pg. 1

P: Let us pray:

**C: Amen**

## The Word of God

God Stories

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Celebrate pg. 1

Second Reading

Romans 3:19-28

Celebrate pg. 2

\*Gospel Acclamation

ELW #175

### GOSPEL VERSE

*Congregation:*

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we

go? You have the words of e - ter - nal

life. Al - le - lu - ia! *Repeat optional*

\*Gospel Reading

John 8:31-36

Celebrate pg. 3

P: The Holy Gospel acc. to St. John, the 8th Chapter

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



(The Gospel is read)

P: The Gospel of our Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

Rev. James Lapp

\*Hymn of the Day      *“Borning Cry”*      Red #732

“I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I’ll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized  
to see your life unfold.  
I was there when you were but a child,  
with a faith to suit you well;  
In a blaze of light you wandered off  
to find where demons dwell.”

“When you heard the wonder of the Word  
I was there to cheer you on;  
You were raised to praise the living Lord,  
to whom you now belong.  
If you find someone to share your time  
and you join your hearts as one,  
I’ll be there to make your verses rhyme  
from dusk till rising sun.”

“In the middle ages of your life,  
not too old, no longer young,  
I’ll be there to guide you through the night,  
complete what I’ve begun.  
When the evening gently closes in  
and you shut your weary eyes,  
I’ll be there as I have always been,  
with just one more surprise.”

(Hymn continued)

“I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I’ll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized  
to see your life unfold.”

Confirmation Affirmation of Baptism

Sofia Jean Bartee  
Elizabeth Rose Wingert  
Julia Rose Tracey  
Patrick Stephen Tracey

\*Prayers of the Church

Celebrate insert pg. 4

\*Passing of the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord 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

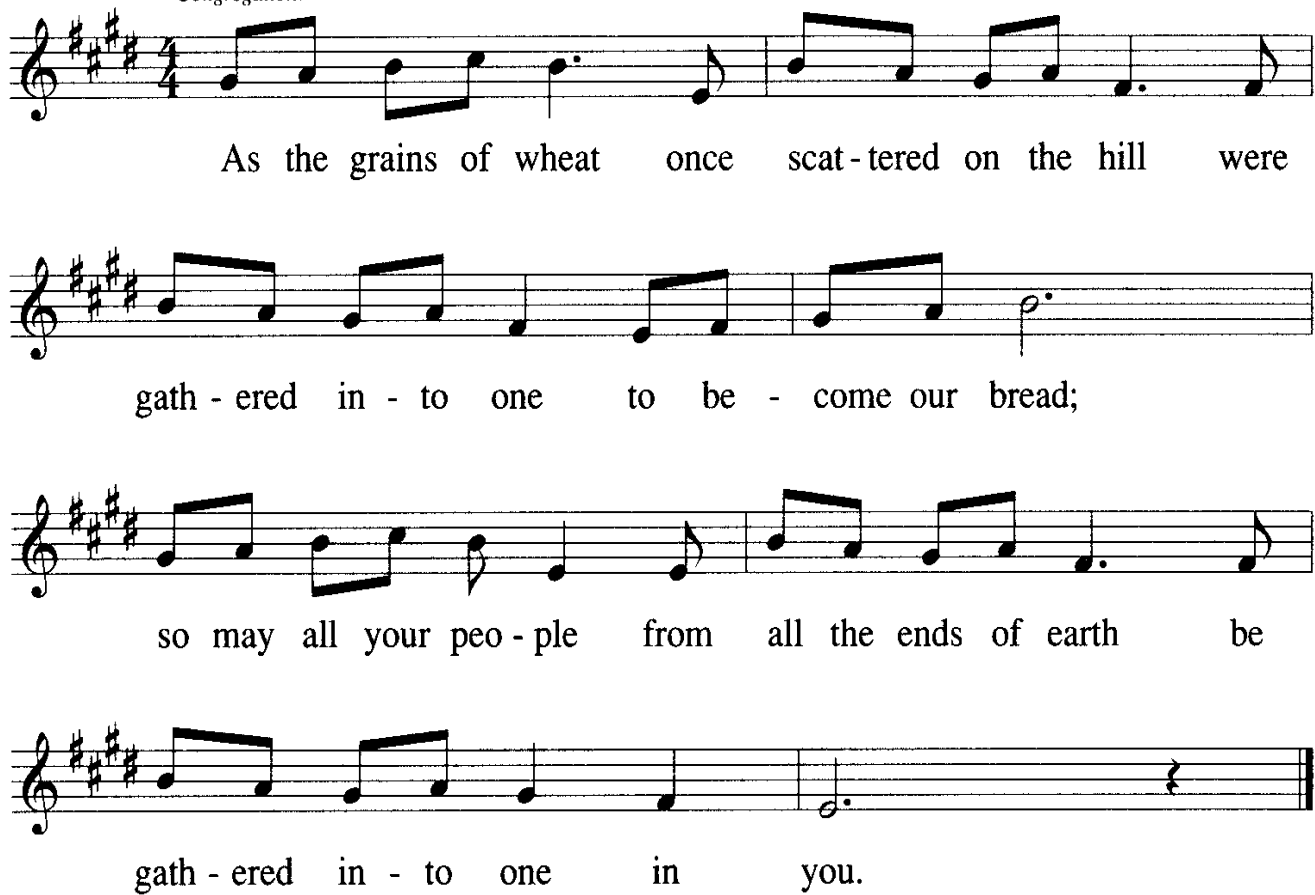
“Lord Jesus, Be Present Now”  
Donald Bosarow

Offering Song

AS THE GRAINS OF WHEAT

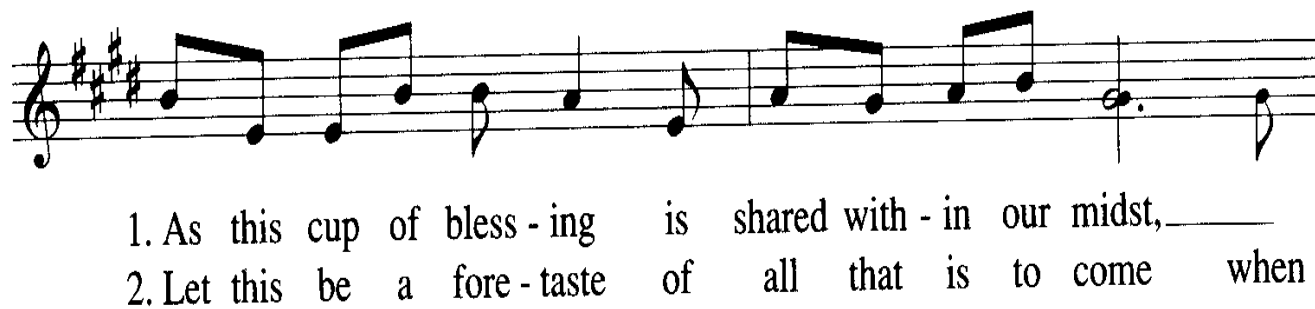
Refrain

*Congregation:*



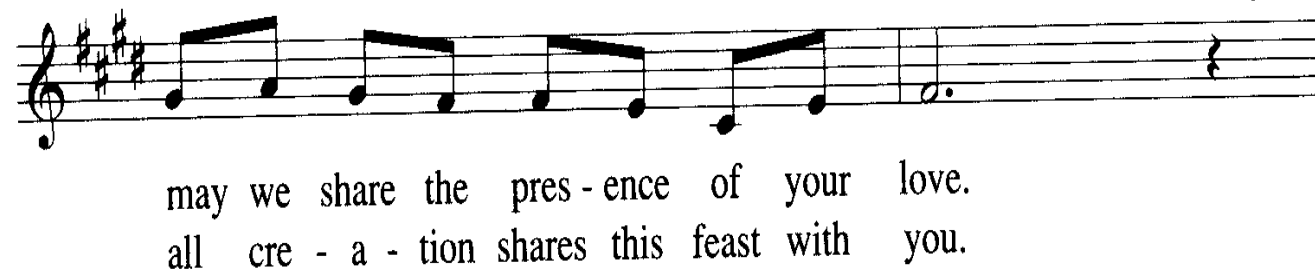
As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in-to one to be-come our bread;  
so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be  
gath-ered in-to one in you.

Verses



1. As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,——  
2. Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

*To refrain*

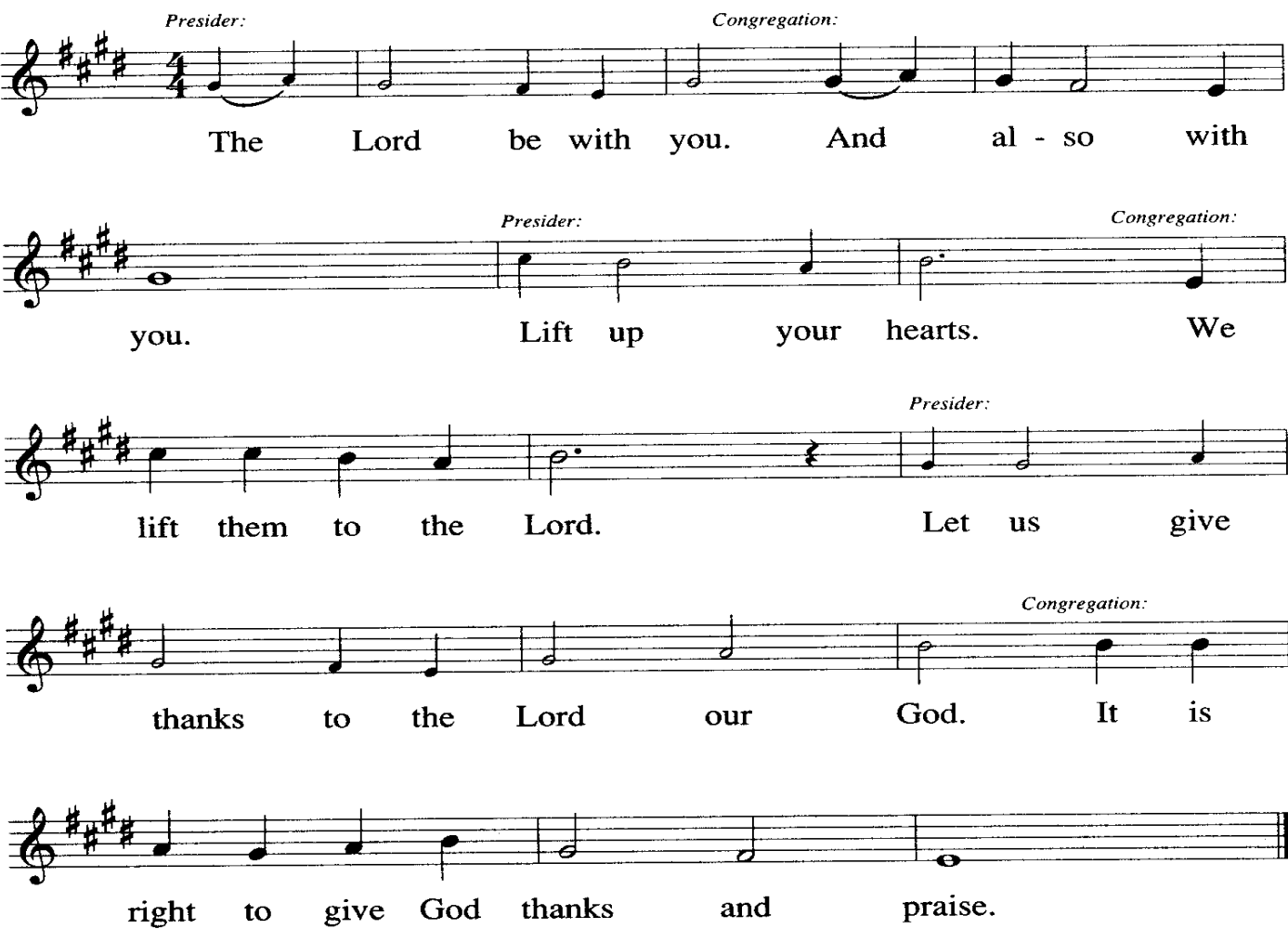


may we share the pres-ence of your love.  
all cre-a-tion shares this feast with you.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider:

Congregation:

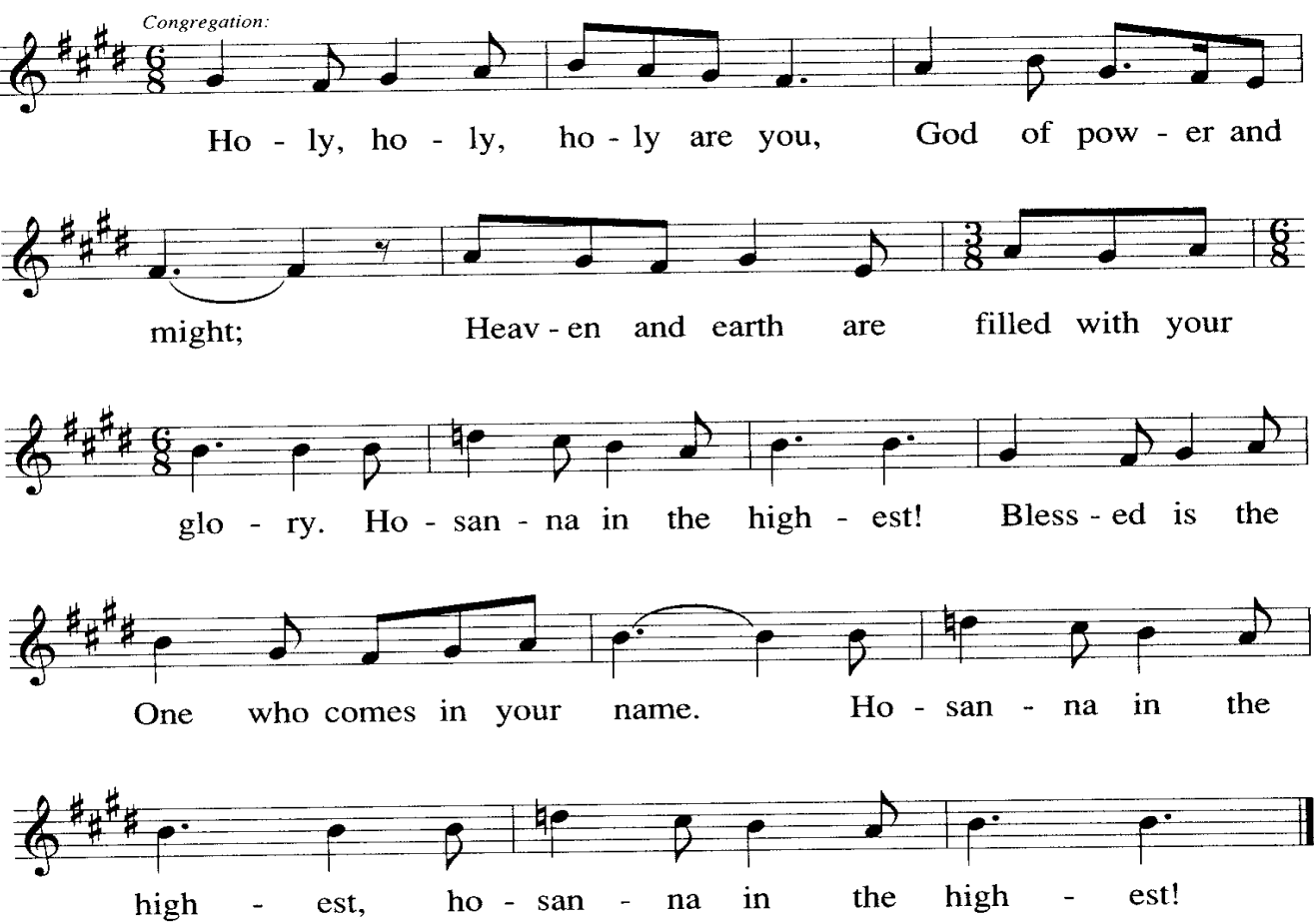


The Lord be with you. And al - so with  
you. Lift up your hearts. We  
lift them to the Lord. Let us give  
thanks to the Lord our God. It is  
right to give God thanks and praise.

P: It is our duty and delight... and join their unending hymn:

HOLY

Congregation:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the  
One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

\*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 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.**

Reception of new member

James San Miguel

LAMB OF GOD

Congregation:

Congregation or Assistant:

Lamb of God,            you    take   a - way   the   sin   of   the  
\*    you    break the chains of ha - tred   and  
      you    are   the   way   of   jus - tice   and  
      you    are   the   way   of   mer - cy   and

Congregation:

world:  
fear:            have mer - cy on us,            mer - cy on us,  
peace:  
love:

Congregation:

Congregation or Assistant:

mer - cy    on    us.            Lamb of God,            you

Congregation:

take a - way the sins of    the world:            grant    us peace,

grant    us peace,            grant    us            peace.

The Holy Communion

Everyone is most welcome to receive this means of God’s love and grace! Communion is by intinction, which means that we dip the bread into the cup. The red is wine and the white is grape juice.

## Communion Hymn

*“Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart” Red #800*

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;  
Wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;  
Stoop to my weakness, strength to me impart,  
And make me love you as I ought to love.

I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,  
No sudden rending of the veil of clay,  
No angel visitant, no op’ning skies;  
But take the dimness of my soul away.

Have you not bid me love you, God and King;  
All, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind:  
I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.  
Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!

Teach me to love you as your angels love,  
One holy passion filling all my frame:  
The baptism of the heav’n descended dove,  
My heart an altar, and your love the flame.

## \*Communion Blessing

P: May this Holy Communion of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and keep you in God’s grace  
now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### Prayer after Communion

P: Blessed be your name, O God  
for we have feasted on your Word,  
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.  
Strengthened by this food,  
send us to gather the world to your banquet,  
where none are left out and all are satisfied.  
In Jesus' name we pray.

**C: Amen.**

### \*Blessing

P: May the God of glory,  
+ Jesus Christ, the Lover of all humanity,  
and the Spirit who lives in you,  
bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### Closing Hymn

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

Red #836

1. Joyful, joyful we adore thee,  
God of glory, Lord of love!  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,  
Praising thee, their sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,  
Drive the gloom of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness,  
Fill us with the light of day.
2. All thy works with joy surround thee,  
Earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around thee,  
Center of unbroken praise.



Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain  
Call us to rejoice in thee.

3. Thou art giving and forgiving,  
Ever blessing, ever blest,  
Wellspring of the joy of living,  
Ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,  
All who live in love are thine;  
Teach us how to love each other,  
Lift us to the joy divine!

\*Dismissal

P: Go in Peace. God is at work in you.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Music      Lord Now Let Your Servant. Setting  
Sulo Salomen

Serving Today

Reader: Steven Hendrickson

Coffee Host: Don Smawley & More

Office Support: Sheila Buswell & Sherilyn Jager



*The Altar Flowers are given by  
Shelly Barker  
In honor of the Confirmands*

## **Prayer Concerns**

**SHORT TERM:** Middle East Peace, Carla Brown, James, Tina, Lurline Moore, Keith, Taiyo, Marisa, Isaac, Monte Anderson, Beth's mom, George Webber, James Boudreau, Frank, Dustin, Julie, Caitlin S., Family of Lupe Rodriguez, Eric Utto-Galarneau, Father Jack Davis, Corcoran family, Keith, Frank, Susan, Mike Homer, Charlie & Tracy, Andre, Joshua & Andrea, Irma, Family of Deane Strong & M. Hudi, Sam, Jamie Sheehan, Ralph, Aria Brown, Karin Zaun, Chelsea, John, Tim, Charmaine, Linda, Atlas, Tony, Sandi Csik, Janica Paustian, Amy Wimmer, Gray, Hailey, Jesse, Joyce, James, John, Elida, Jeannie, Anetta, Jane, Barbara Rowe, George & Scott, Darlene Woodburn, Barbara Hansen, Tom Harris, Barbara Allen, Kathy, Joel Hurttgam, Sandy, Levi & Alexandria, Norman's Father, Gary Toops, Donna Kemper, Lisa & Beau, Craig Dahl, Genell Csik, Barbara Barte, Barbara Stiles, Paul Cunningham, Anita & Howard, Sydnei Wilbywold, Paul Paustian, Dawit & Family (Ethiopia), Gaye Cornell, Dorothy, Rachel B., Anne & Chloe Johnston, Nancy, Mateo & Lina, Don, Atlas, Anthony, Steve, Margot Wilson, Rose, Will, Aaron Johnson, Sal, Katarina, 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, 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.

# Upcoming Events:

October Benevolence Offering  
S.S. Child Development Center

- |             |                                                                 |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Oct. 31     | Pre school Halloween parade 9:45 am                             |
| Oct. 31     | Boy Scouts 7:00 pm                                              |
| Nov. 1 & 22 | Women's Café Group 6:00 pm                                      |
| Nov. 2      | Preschool chapel 10:15 am                                       |
| Nov. 2      | Bible Study 11:00 am & 7:30 pm                                  |
| Nov. 2      | Mens beginner A.A. 7:00 pm                                      |
| Nov. 3      | A.A. 7:00 pm                                                    |
| Nov. 5      | Daylight Savings "Fall Back" All Saints Day                     |
| Nov. 5      | Watch for MMRR Angel gift tree                                  |
| Nov. 9      | MMRR Circle 10:30 am<br>Baking muffins for our Senior neighbors |
| Nov. 14     | Church Council 6:30 pm                                          |
| Nov. 16     | Knitters Guild 10 am                                            |
| Nov. 18     | Property Work Day 9—11 am                                       |
| Nov. 19     | Consecration Sunday<br>Bring your tithes and commitments        |
| Nov. 28     | Provide Habitat Lunches 10:30 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

Music used by permission Onelicense #A-706539