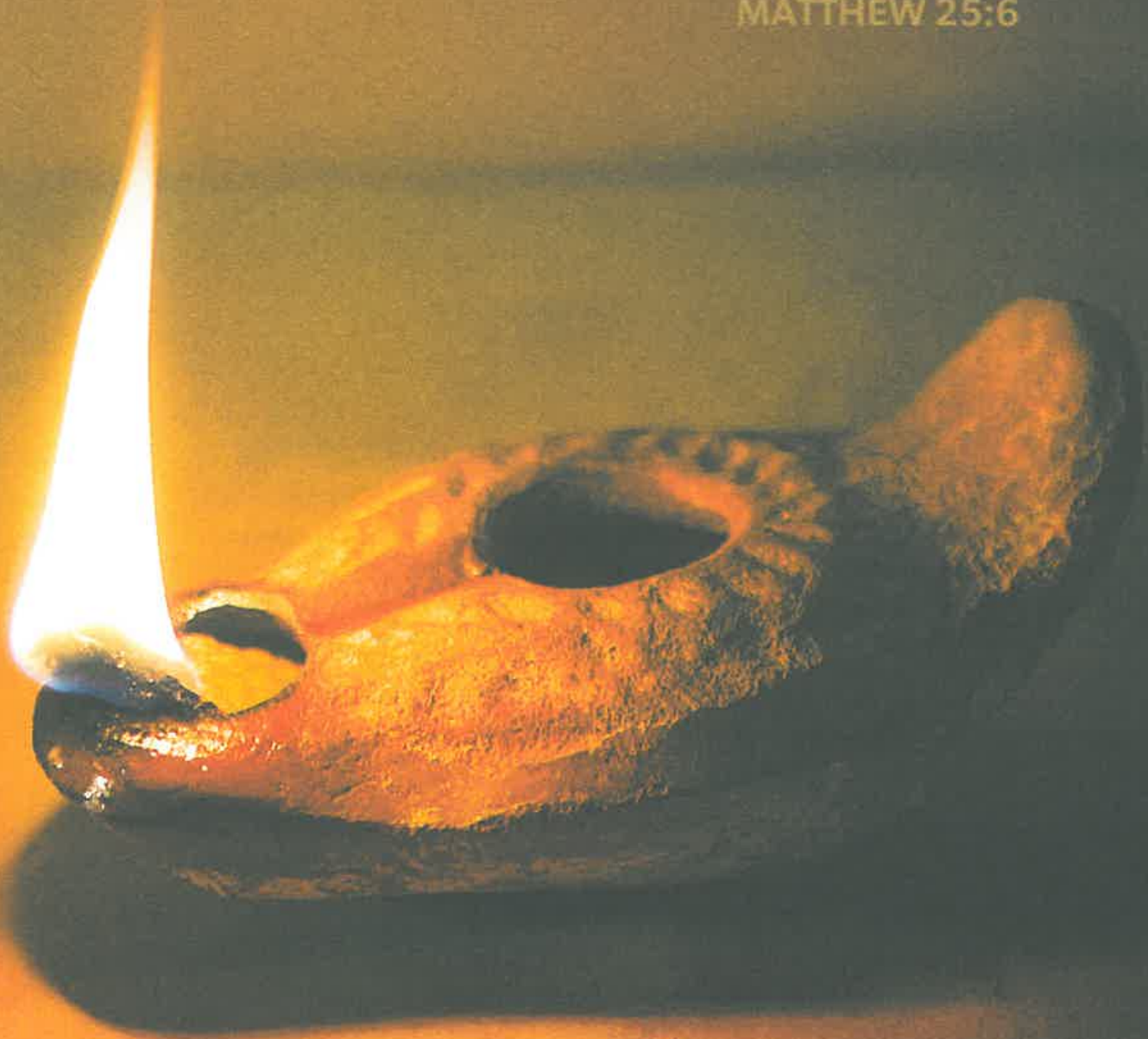


*Here is the
bridegroom!
Come out
to meet him*

MATTHEW 25:6



**24th Sunday after Pentecost
November 12, 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

O Christ, Our Light
Setting, Paul Manz

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 *"My Lord, What a Morning"* #438

REFRAIN

My Lord, what a morning; my Lord, what a morning;
Oh, my Lord, what a morning, when the stars begin to fall.

You will hear the trumpet sound,
To wake the nations underground,
Looking to my God's right hand,
When the stars begin to fall. REFRAIN

You will hear the sinner cry,
To wake the nations underground,
Looking to my God's right hand,
When the stars begin to fall. REFRAIN

You will hear the Christian shout,
To wake the nations underground,
Looking to my God's right hand,
When the stars begin to fall. REFRAIN

*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,

Musical score for the Kyrie section. It consists of three staves of music in G major and 2/4 time. The first staff is labeled 'Assistant:' and the second and third are labeled 'Congregation:'. The lyrics are: 'Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.' The melody is simple and repetitive, with a final cadence on the third staff.

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)

Musical score for the Assistant and Congregation parts of the Kyrie. It consists of two staves of music in G major and 2/4 time. The first staff is labeled 'Assistant:' and the second is labeled 'Congregation:'. The lyrics are: 'Help, save and de - fend us, O God. A - - - men.' The melody is simple and repetitive, with a final cadence on the second staff.

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

peo - ple of God.

Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and

might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ

To refrain

for ev - er.

Verse 3

Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us,

to make us peo - ple of God; to make

To refrain

all things new.

*Prayer of the Day

Celebrate insert pg. 1

P: Let us pray:

C: Amen

The Word of God

God Stories

First Reading

Amos 5:18-24

Celebrate pg. 1

Second Reading

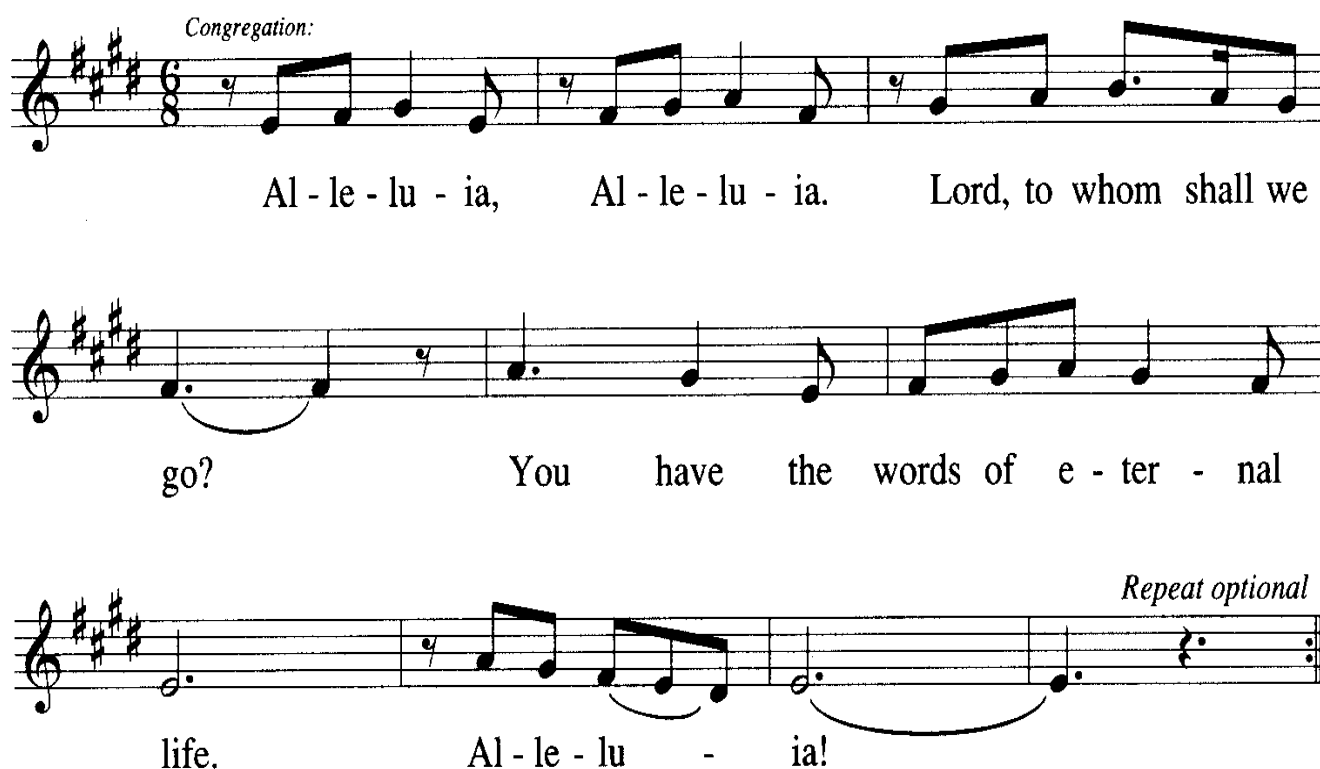
1 Thess. 4:13-18

Celebrate pg. 2

*Gospel Acclamation

ELW #175

GOSPEL VERSE



The musical score is written in a treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 6/8 time signature. It consists of three staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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

Matthew 25:1-13

Celebrate pg. 3

P: The Holy Gospel acc. to St. Matthew, the 25th 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

“What is the World Like”

ACS #1047

What is this world like when God’s will is done?
Mustard seeds grow more than we can conceive:
Roots thread the soil;
Branches reach for the sun.
This is how God moves us each to believe.

What is the world like when God’s will is done?
Witness the wandering children coming home;
Watch as the parent breaks into a run.
This is how God longs for us when we roam.

What is the world like when God’s will is done?
No more is neighbor just ally or friend;
Peace thrives in places where once there was none.
This is how God works when rivalries end.

What is the world like when God’s will is done?
Ready for feasting, we watch through the night,
tending our lamps till the new days’ begun.
This is how God readies us for the light.

These are the stories that Jesus imparts,
Filled with the Spirit who joins us as one.
Born through our voices, our hands, and our hearts,
This is a new world where God’s will is done.

*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

Meditation ~ Richard Purvis
American composer

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: The Lord be with you. *Congregation:* And al - so with

Presider: you. *Congregation:* Lift up your hearts. We

Presider: lift them to the Lord. Let us give

Congregation: 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**

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.

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.

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

REFRAIN:

*This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long:
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.*

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

REFRAIN

Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

REFRAIN

*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

“Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning” ACS #949

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
For this work's almost done.

REFRAIN

Children, don't grow weary;
Children, don't grow weary,
Children, don't grow weary,
For this work's almost done.

Darker midnight lies before us,
Darker midnight lies before us,
Darker midnight lies before us,
For this work's almost done. **REFRAIN**

Lo, the morning soon is breaking,
Lo, the morning soon is breaking,
Lo, the morning soon is breaking,
For this work's almost done. **REFRAIN**

(hymn continued)

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
For this work's almost done. **REFRAIN**

*Dismissal

P: Go in Peace. God is at work in you.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Music Festive Postlude ~ Richard Purvis

Serving Today

Reader: Mark Linder

Coffee Host: Gina Mendoza

Office Support: Sheila Buswell & Sherilyn Jager

Prayer Concerns

SHORT TERM: *Middle East Peace, Diane Strong, Family of Jean Patterson, San Diego families of Nancy & Sam, Renee, Brandon, Tom Dawson, Rena Brown, James, Tina, Lurline Moore, Keith, Taiyo, Marisa, Isaac, Monte Anderson, Beth's mom, George Webber, James Boudreau, Alvarado family, 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, Atlas, Tony, Sandi Csik, Janica Paustian, Amy Wimmer, Gray, Hailey, Jesse, Joyce, James, John, Elida, Jeannie, Anetta, Jane, Barbara Rowe, George & Scott, Barbara Allen, Kathy, Joel Hurttgam, Sandy, Levi & Alexandria, Norman's Father, Gary Toops, Donna Kemper, Lisa & Beau, Craig Dahl, Genell Csik, Barbara Bartee, 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.*



*The Altar Flowers are given by
Susan Gross
To the Glory of God*

Tent of Abraham, Sarah & Hagar

Lift up your hands. Lift up your voices.
Lift up your hearts

Time to LISTEN in the midst of the NOISE.

TODAY 1:00—3:00

1818 Felt Street

Discuss our Call to Action for Peace

Music at St. Stephen's

Join the Music Team 2024

Hey friends, there is music in the air, can't you just feel those harmonic progression and intervals, bursting all around you. We all like music, and appreciate our gifts. Why not share with our church family and join the music team? If you teach an instrument or voice, please let me know. There is always room for more celebration through music.

Hebrews 2:12

“I will declare your name to my sisters, and brothers in the assembly and will sing your praises.”



Consecration Giving Thanks ~
November 19
Rawly Capone, Trumpet

Good News Singers (GNS)
Will sing for us in November and
during Advent. Thank you Janet,
Margaret, Tina & Bill.

Advent Christmas Brass — December 17
Full Brass Ensemble 10 am

Please donate to the “Musicians Fund” to enhance our worship together. Yours in Christ & Mission,
Gary

Musical Quote:

“Music is a weapon in the war against unhappiness.”

Upcoming Events:

November Benevolence Offering
Santa Cruz El Salvador Sister Parish

- Nov. 14 Knitters Guild 6:15 pm
- Nov. 14 Church Council 6:30 pm
- Nov. 14 Boy Scouts 7:00 pm
- Nov. 16 Knitters Guild 10 am
- Nov. 16 Preschool chapel 10:15 am
- Nov. 16 MMRR Circle 10:30 am
Baking muffins for our Senior neighbors
- Nov. 16 Bible Study 11:00 am & 7:30 pm
- Nov. 16 Mens beginner A.A. 7:00 pm
- Nov. 17 A.A. 7:00 pm
- Nov. 18 Property Work Day 9—11 am Sign up today!
- Nov. 18 COPA Civic Academy 1:00 to 5:00 (fellow hall)
- Nov. 19 Consecration Sunday
Bring your tithes and commitments
- Nov. 22 Women's Café Group 6:00 pm
- Nov. 28 Provide Habitat Lunches 10:30 am
- Nov. 29 Newsletter Collating 2:00

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
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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