A large, dark wooden cross is positioned on the right side of the image, extending from the bottom to the top. The cross is made of thick, dark wood with a slightly weathered appearance. The background is a light, overcast sky. On the left side of the cross, there is a large, stylized text overlay. The text is arranged in a vertical stack, with the words "SO", "MUST THE", "SON OF", "MAN", "BE", "LIFTED", and "UP" stacked from top to bottom. The words "SON OF" and "MAN" are in a larger, bold, reddish-brown font, while the other words are in a smaller, bold, dark grey font. The text is set against a light, textured background that looks like a piece of paper or a screen.

SO
MUST THE
SON OF
MAN
BE
LIFTED
UP

JOHN 3:14

4th Sunday in Lent

March 10, 2024

The Gathering

Music “Herzlick Lieb” Aaron Miller

Welcome

*Confession and Forgiveness

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

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
 Who writes the law on our hearts,
 Who draws all people together through Jesus.

C: **Amen.**

P: Held in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin
 In the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P: Holy God,

C: **We confess that we are caught in snares of sin
 And cannot break free.
 We hoard resources while our neighbors
 Are hungry and cold.
 We speak in ways that silence others.
 We are silent when we should speak up.
 We keep score in our hearts.
 We let hurts grow into hatred.
 For all these things and for sins only you know,
 Forgive us, Lord.
 Amen.**

P: Here is a flood of grace:
Out of love for the whole world,
God draws near to us,
Breaks every snare of sin,
Washes away our wrongs,
And restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ.
C: Amen.

*Opening Hymn *"Give to Our God Immortal Praise!"* #848

Give to our God immortal praise!
Mercy and truth are all his ways;
Wonders of grace to God belong;
Repeat his mercies in your song.

He sent his Son with pow'r to save
From guilt and darkness and the grave.
Wonders of grace to God belong;
Repeat his mercies in your song.

Give to the Lord of lords renown;
The King of kings with glory crown.
His mercies ever shall endure
When lords and kings are known no more!

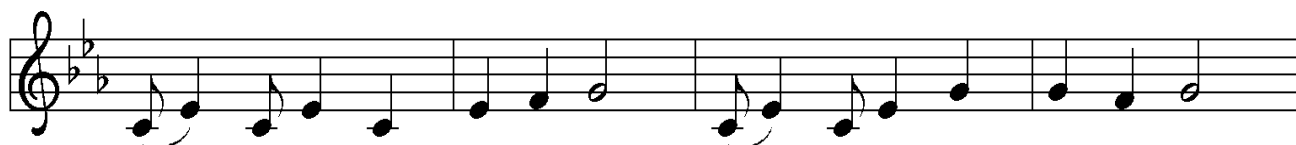
*Greeting

*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—We bring our burdens and cares to God ELW #151

Kyrie



1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
2 Chris - te e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son.
1, 3 Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
2 Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Chris - te e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son.
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, . . . have mer - cy. Christ, . . . have mer - cy.

(No Hymn of Praise during Lent)

*The Salutation

P: May God be with you.

C: And also with you.

*Prayer of the Day

Celebrate insert pg. 1

P: Let us pray...

C: Amen

The Word of God

First Reading: Numbers 21:4-9 Celebrate insert pg. 1

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10 Celebrate insert pg. 3

R: Word of God, word of life

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 3rd Chapter

C: Glory to you, O God.

*Holy Gospel John 3:14-21 Celebrate insert pg. 3

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Jim Lapp

*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.

(hymn continued)

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.

*Prayers of the Church

Celebrate insert pg. 4

*Passing of the Peace

P: May the peace of God be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offering

*"We give thanks to God for the gifts of life, for grace and forgiveness
for each day, and for everlasting life."*

*Offertory Hymn “Give Me a Clean Heart” Margaret Douroux

Refrain

Give me a clean heart so I may serve thee. Lord, fix my heart so that I may be used by thee. For I'm not worthy of all these blessings. Give me a clean heart, Lord, and I'll follow thee.

1 I'm not asking for the
2 Some-times I am up, and

Fine

Music Good News Singers:
 “Beautiful Things” Mike & Lisa Gungor

*Offertory Prayer

P: Jesus, you are the bread of life
 And the host of this meal.
 Bless these gifts that we have gathered
 That all people may know your goodness.
 Feed us not only with this holy food
 But with hunger for justice and peace.
 We pray this in your name.

C: **Amen.**

*The 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 God our Creator

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P: It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always
 offer thanks and praise to you, O God, through Jesus Christ,
 who bids us turn to you and prepare for the Paschal feast.

*Words of Institution

*Lord's Prayer (sung)

**C: Our Fa-ther in hea-ven,
hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

For--give 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**

Invitation to Communion

P: Bread for the journey.
A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

Lamb of God

LMGM2

LAMB OF GOD

The musical score is written for two staves in 4/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are distributed across the staves as follows:

Staff 1: Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins

Staff 2: of the world, have mer-cy on us.

Staff 3: Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins

Staff 4: of the world, have mer-cy on us.

Staff 5: Lamb of God, you take a - way the

Staff 6: sins of the world, grant us peace, grant us peace.

Music: Tillis Butler, © Augsburg Fortress.

Holy Communion

Visitors: You are welcome to come forward to receive Communion as part of this church family! Children are welcome to come and receive a special blessing if they have never communed. Communion is by intinction, we dip the bread into either the wine (red) or grape juice (white). Please follow the guidance of the ushers.

*Prayer after Communion

P: Generous God,
At this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.
As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,
Now make us one loaf to feed the world;
In the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. **C: Amen.**

*Post Communion Hymn

"Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth" #735

Mothering God, you gave me birth,
in the bright morning of this world.
Creator, source of ev'ry breath, you are my rain,
My wind, my sun.

Mothering Christ, you took my form,
Offering me your food of light,
Grain...of life, and grape of love, your very body
For my peace.

Mothering spirit, nurt'ring one,
In arms of patience hold me close,
So that in faith I root and grow until I flow'r,
Until I know.

*Blessing

P: Beloved,
We are God's own people, Holy, washed, renewed.
God bless you and keep you, Shower you with mercy,
Fill you with courage, And + give you peace.
C: Amen.

Now, Lord

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in

peace: your word has been ful - filled. My

own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -

pared in the sight of all peo - ple: a light to re -

veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your

peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther,

and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,

as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and

will be for - ev - er. A - men.

*Closing Hymn

“Lift High the Cross”

Red #660

REFRAIN:

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God.

REFRAIN

All newborn servants of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of him who died.

REFRAIN

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. REFRAIN

So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! REFRAIN

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share your bread.

C: Thanks be to God.

Music Traditional Lenten Postlude
 Scottish Melody

Serving Today

Reader: Bill Schraft

Coffee Host: Janet Slay

Altar Guild: Connie Cunningham

Office helpers: Sheila Buswell & Sherilyn Jager



Sign up for Altar Flowers

Lots of openings after Easter
Use our florist, or byo.
Dedicate to loved ones.



**Provide Lunches for
Volunteers
Tuesday, March 26**
(4th Tuesday of each month)

Contact the church office
if you can provide:
Sandwiches, Fruit, Chips or Cookies

**Property Work Day
Saturday March 23**
(palm cutting)

For those of you who remember, we used to have a committee who faithfully & proudly took care of our property. Now, we have you. Yes, YOU. Please sign up for an hour or two.

**Rain or Shine, there is plenty of work to do .
.. inside & out!**

Standard: Weeding, Windows and Cleaning. Sometimes: Mopping the church floor, kitchen, Tree-trimming, Painting and Re-organizing.



Prayer Concerns

SHORT TERM: Rebecca Wickham, Robbin, Maria, Ila & Reina, Family of Richard Barker, Margot Wilson, Michael, Steven Kamlin, Keith, Noelle, Ensley, Tom Peyser, Bob Zeigle, Jan, Jessie V., Margaret, Bill Gile, Mike Homer, Randy M., Tim Oldfield, Sierra, Beth's mom, Julie R., Anne Rice, Cheryl Davis, Rosie, The Webber Family, Janet, Sue, Lindsay Rosenberg, Middle East Peace, Maria, Cody Turner, Jan, Jacque N. Diane Strong, Tom Dawson, James, Tina, Lurline Moore, Keith, Taiyo, Marissa, Isaac, James Boudreau, Alvarado family, Dustin, Eric Utto-Galarneau, Father Jack Davis, Sam, Atlas, Sandi Csik, Janica Paustian, Jesse, Joyce, James, John, Elida, Jeannie, Anetta, Jane, Barbara Allen, Kathy, Joel Hurttgam, Sandy, Levi & Alexandria, Gary Toops, Donna Kemper, Lisa & Beau, Craig Dahl, Genell Csik, Paul Cunningham, Paul Paustian, Dawit & Family (Ethiopia), Gaye Cornell, Dorothy, Rachel B., Anne & Chloe Johnston, Nancy, Mateo & Lina, Don, Atlas, Anthony, Steve, 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, 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 & women of Armed Forces, and the Youth of today.



**Help decorate our sanctuary
& honor loved ones**

- ~ Make \$15 checks payable to
St. Stephen's, Memo line "Lily"
- ~ List your dedication on sign up sheet
- ~ Take home your flower after the service.

The Easter lily has traditional and spiritual meaning. Mentioned in the Bible, the white lily symbolizes purity, rebirth, new beginnings and hope and is most often associated with the resurrection of Jesus. In Pagan traditions, the Easter lily is associated with motherhood and is gifted to mothers as a symbol of gratitude.



Easter Sunday
March 29 at 9:00 am

This is not a fundraiser. This is a celebration! This is your opportunity to share in fellowship and welcome people. So, invite folks and let them see “our light shine”. Bring a guest who has never been to St. Stephen’s and receive one FREE meal!

We are also extending our welcome to our senior neighbors, by providing one FREE meal ticket.

- Sponsored by Thrivent Financial -

Donors: Trader Joes, Safeway & Staff of Life

Helpers needed Saturday 10 am to set up

Music at St. Stephen's



Good morning everyone—Thank you Barbara, and Kent for joining the singers for Easter Sunday Celebration.

More talent, and voices are very welcome to sing “Songs of Praise”, for our risen Christ.

Please let me know if you are interested in joining the procession, banners, hand-held instruments are welcome.

“All That Brass “ ~ **New Music for Easter**

Easter Carrillon—Robert J. Powell, Composer

Easter Fantasy on Ancient Hymns —

Sondra K. Tucker, Composer

“The Hallelujah Chorus”, returns —

George F. Handell, composer. And more!

Lenten Services continue every Wednesday Evening

6:00 pm Soup

&

7:15 pm Holden Vespers with Pastor

“I think one of my great things about being a musician is that you never stop learning. “ ~ Yo Yo Ma

JOIN THE MUSIC TEAM !

Yours in Christ, and Mission ~ Gary

Upcoming Events

March Benevolence: St. Stephen's Scholarship Fund

March 12	Knitters Guild 6:15 pm
March 12	Council 6:30 pm
March 12	Boy Scouts 7:00 pm
March 13	Preschool chapel 10:15 am
March 13	Lenten Wednesday 6:00 pm Souper Hosts: Tina Gates & Jeanette Dawson 7:15 pm Holden Evening Prayer
March 14	MMRR Circle 10:30 am
March 14	Mens beginner A.A. 7:00 pm
March 15	A.A. 7:00 pm
March 18	Embroiders Guild 7 pm
March 19	Newsletter Deadline at noon
March 21	Knitters Guild 10 am
March 24	Property Work Day 9:00—11:00 am
March 26	Habitat lunches 10:30 am
March 27	Newsletter Collating 2:00 (help needed)
May 18	6pm AFC Gala Fundraiser Dinner & Silent Auct.



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,
And invite people to share the joy of the Spirit.

Reconciling in Christ Statement

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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831/476-4700 FAX 831/476-3918
email: office@ststephenslutheran.org

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 & Sun. School: Leslie Lapp
Music Director: Gary Roberts
Videographers: Jay Johnston, Kent Madsen & Barbara Rice
Child Development Center Director: Kathy Berens
Custodian: John Hopping

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And Liturgy Augsburg #SBL 14385