



Protect
them in
your name

JOHN 17:11

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 12, 2024

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 "All Christians, One and All REJOICE"
Writtenberg 1524

The Gathering

*Call to Worship

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: **Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
The Wellspring of Grace,
Our Easter and our joy.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us come into the light,
the revealing and healing light of God.

(Silence is kept for reflection)

P: God of grace and glory,

**C: We confess to you all the ways in which
we dismiss the resurrection news.
We are slow of heart to believe.
Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin.**

**C: Renew us in grace, reawaken our trust,
strengthen our hope,
and restore us to living in your ways,
Through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

P: The Risen Christ's first words to his disciples were:
Peace be with you.
Sisters and brothers, rejoice with all creation!
The light of the risen Christ puts to flight all evil,
Casts out hate and brings peace.
Jesus + Christ loves you and has freed us all from sin.
Rejoice and welcome this freedom as a cherished gift!
Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!

*Opening Hymn

“You Are Holy” Red #525 (Sing 3 times)

You are holy, you are whole. You are always ever more
Than we ever understand. You are always at hand.
Blessed are you coming near. Blessed are you coming here
To your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised
from dead.

You are holy,	you are wholeness,
You are present.	Let the cosmos praise you, Lord!
Sing hosanna	in the highest!
Sing hosanna!	Sing hosanna to our God!

*Greeting

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: The beauty of the Creator inspire us,
The grace of the Good Shepherd be with us,
and the unity of the Breath of Life enfold us all.

C: May it be so!

*Prayer of the Day

God Stories

The Word of God

First Reading

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Celebrate pg. 1

Second Reading

1 John 5:9-13

Celebrate pg. 2

*Alleluia

“Alleliua, Alleluia, Give Thanks” WOV # 671 vs.4

Refrain: **Alleluia, Alleluia, gi-ve thanks to the Risen Lord.**
Alleluia, Alleluia,gi-ve praise to Christ’s name.

Verse: **God has proclaimed the just re-ward:**
Life for all people, A-a-lelu-ia. (Refrain)

*Gospel Reading

John 17:6-19

Celebrate pg. 3

P: The Holy Gospel acc. to St. John, the 17th 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

“Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth” Red #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.

*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

“Christ Our Light” Robert Farlee 1950

Offertory Prayer

P: Giver of life,

C: **Whatever we ask, in accordance with your will,**

We receive and our cup overflows.

Confident in divine abundance

And humbly eager to turn from covetous greed,

We return what we have received for the Shepherd’s work,

That green pastures and safe folds,

Will welcome any who live in fear;

That peaceful waters will sustain hurting hearts;

That a voice of welcome will be heard at each door;

That a feast will be prepared for all who hunger and thirst;

And all may safely find enough.

In the name of the One who is our comfort. 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 (Sung)

**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.**

*Invitation to Communion

P: The risen Christ is made known to us
In the breaking of the bread.
Come and be nourished at God's table.

(You may be seated)

Holy Communion

*Guests: EVERYONE is welcome to come forward to receive
Communion as part of this church family!*

Communion Hymn

“Take Oh, Take Me As I Am” Red #814 (repeat often)

**Take, oh, take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

The Sending

*Communion Blessing

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

C: Amen

*Prayer after Communion

P: Let us pray:
Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us
And nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness
And share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
Our Redeemer and Friend.

C: Amen

*Blessing

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: The God of resurrection power,
The Christ of unending joy,
And the Spirit of Easter hope
+ Bless you now and always.

C: Amen.

*Closing Hymn

“Go My Children With My Blessing” Red #543

“Go my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.
In my love’s baptismal river I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”

“Go my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you heard my dear Son’s story,
here you touched him, saw his glory.
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.”

“Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit’s power filled you,
here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.”

*Dismissal

P: Alleluia! Go in Peace. Rejoice and be glad..

C: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Music

“The Day of Resurrection”
Robert Farlee 1950

Serving Today

Reader: Robert Alvarado

Coffee Host: Robert & Judi Alvarado

Office Support: Sheila Buswell & Sherilyn Jager



*The Altar Flowers are offered
by Jeanette & Tom Dawson to celebrate
Mothers & Conrad's 7th birthday*

Property Work Day

Saturday May 18

9:00—11:00

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, Pruning, Windows & Cleaning.

Sometimes: Kitchen, Sanctuary, Tree-trimming,
Painting and Re-organizing.



Lutheran Outdoor Ministries

*"I praise you for I am fearfully
& wonderfully made"
Psalm 139:14*

Mt Cross has brought so much joy to our young campers for over 65 years. Many of our children at St Stephen's have grown in their faith enjoying this outdoor ministry right in our backyard. Mt. Cross thanks you for your continued prayers and support, especially as they emerge from the consequences of the pandemic. We are currently Hiring. Visit "mtcross.org" for info / registration, and job descriptions / apply.

Memorial Day Work Weekend May 24-27

All are invited to volunteer for a weekend of service, fellowship, & fun!

- ♦ **Craft Cabin organizing with Elizabeth Schilling 239-6012 RSVP**
- ♦ Madrone Bathroom Repairs
- Sand Volleyball Court Maintenance
- Dining Hall Bathroom Repairs
- Cabin Deck Repairs
- Trail Maintenance
- ♦ Cabin Deep Cleaning



Prayer Concerns

SHORT TERM: Candace Anderson & family, Family of Gary Meeker, Galahad, Nate Barker, Grandpa Dennis, Bob & Shirley Salter, Monica & Family, Lurline Moore, Barry Hansen, Beth Butler, Travis, Sandy P., Family & friends of Sgt. William Nelson, Jen, Robbin, Maria Mendoza, Ila

& Reina, Family of Richard Barker, Francisco, Margot Wilson, Michael, 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, Keith, Taiyo, Marissa, Isaac, James Boudreau, Alvarado family, Dustin, Eric Utto-Galarneau, Father Jack Davis, Sam, Atlas, Sandi Csik, Janica Paustian, Jesse, James, John, Elida, Jeannie, Anetta, Jane, Barbara Allen, Joel Hurttgam, Sandy, Levi & Alexandria, Gary Toops, Donna Kemper, 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, Lisa & Beau, Linda Johnson, Bailey Ingalls, Jan Shadle, Vi Olly, Bobbie Erickson, Joyce, Mike, 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.

Music at St. Stephen's

Soon the singers will be on their summer break and will return in the Fall. During this time, feel free to share your talents ~ anything musical. We will rejoice! We are happy to welcome back, Kristin to the Music Program.

The Singers will be worshiping through song on May 19th — Pentecost, and 26th ~ Holy Trinity.

Keyboard music for the summer will in part lift-up women composers, some strings, flutes, and vocals.

As always, please give to the Musicians Fund. Many thanks!

*“MUSIC
gives a soul to the universe ,
wings to the mind,
flight to the Imagination,
and life to everything.”*



Yours in Christ, and Mission ~ Gary



Sister Parish

Prayer Child Sponsorships

Thank you to those who have committed to support your prayer children for another year and have made the associated donations. 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

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. Please let me know if you are interested in going to El Salvador.



12th Anniversary Gala Fundraiser

Saturday, May 18 at 6 pm

Tickets at [Afcsantacruz.org](https://afcsantacruz.org)

Upcoming Events:

May Benevolence Offering - Mt. Cross Camp

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| May 14 | Boy Scouts 7:00 pm |
| May 14 | Knitter's Guild 6:15 pm |
| May 15 | ZOOM Bible Study 11 am & 7:30 pm
"Lectio Divina" encounter with the Gospel reading |
| May 16 | Knitter's Guild 10 am |
| May 16 | Mens beginner A.A. Thursday 7:00 pm |
| May 17 | A.A. Friday 7:00 pm |
| May 18 | Property Work Day 9:00 —11:00 |
| May 18 | AFC Gala Fundraiser 6-8:30 pm |
| May 19 & 26 | Pastor Carol Been presiding |
| May 20 | Embroiders Guild 7 pm |
| May 22 & June 5 | Women's Café Group Wednesdays at 6:00 pm |
| May 24-27 | Mt. Cross Volunteer work weekend.
Camp registration now open. Wwww.mtcross.org |
| May 28 | Provide Habitat Lunches 10:30 am |
| June 16 & 30 | Sunday School SUB teacher needed, see Leslie |
| July 10 | Preschool Chapel resumes 10:15 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
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