

*Martha
welcomed
Jesus
into her
home*

LUKE 10:38



6th Sunday after Pentecost

July 20, 2025

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 ”Come Rejoicing, Praises Voicing”

The Gathering

*Confession and Forgiveness

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

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Seeking reconciliation with God and neighbor,
let us remember the gift of baptism and confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God of mercy

**C: We confess that we have sinned against you,
Against one another,
And against the earth entrusted to our care.
We are worried and distracted by many things,
And we fail to love you above all else.
We store up treasures for ourselves
And turn away from our neighbors in need.
Forgive us,
that we may live in the freedom of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P: When we were laid low by sin and the world's evil,
God made us alive together with Christ,
Forgiving us + all our trespasses
By taking the sin of the world to the cross.
For freedom Christ has set us free:
Rejoice in this good news!

C: Amen.

*Opening Hymn "Gather us In" (Here In This Place) Red #532

Here in this place new light is streaming
Now is the darkness vanished away
See in this space our fears and our dreamings
Brought here to you in the light of this day

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken
Gather us in, the blind and the lame
Call to us now, and we shall awaken
We shall arise at the sound of our name

We are the young; our lives are a myst'ry
We are the old who yearn for your face
We have been sung throughout all of hist'ry
Called to be light to the whole human race

(hymn continued)

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty
Gather us in, the proud and the strong
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly
Give us the courage to enter the song

Here we will take the wine and the water
Here we will take the bread of new birth
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters
Call us a~new to be salt for the earth

Give us to drink the wine of compassion
Give us to eat the bread that is you
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true

Not in the dark of buildings confining
Not in some heaven light years away
Here in this place the new light is shining
Now is the kingdom, and now is the day

Gather us in and hold us forever
Gather us in and make us your own
Gather us in, all peoples together
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone

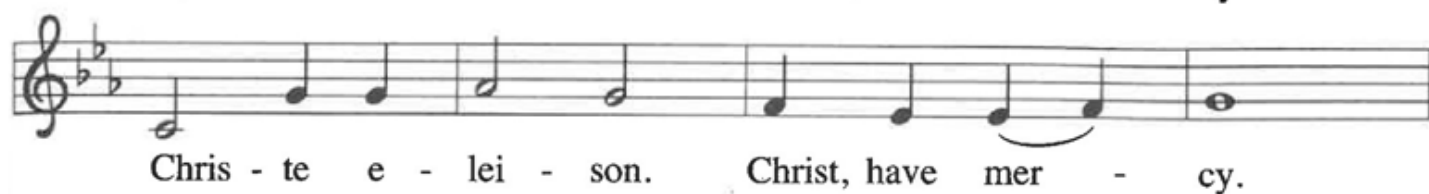
*Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

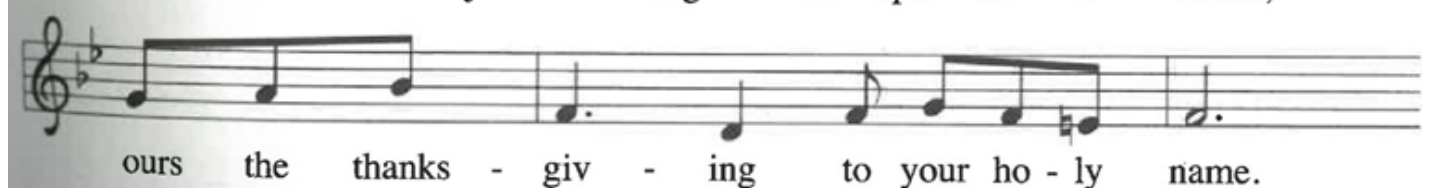
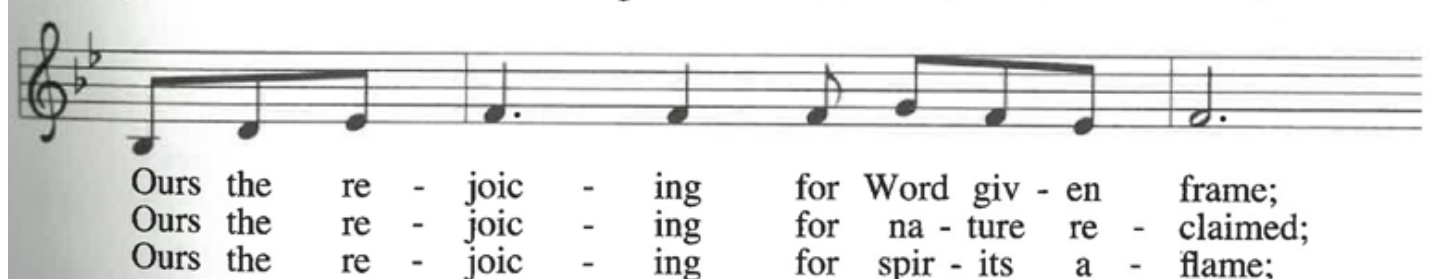
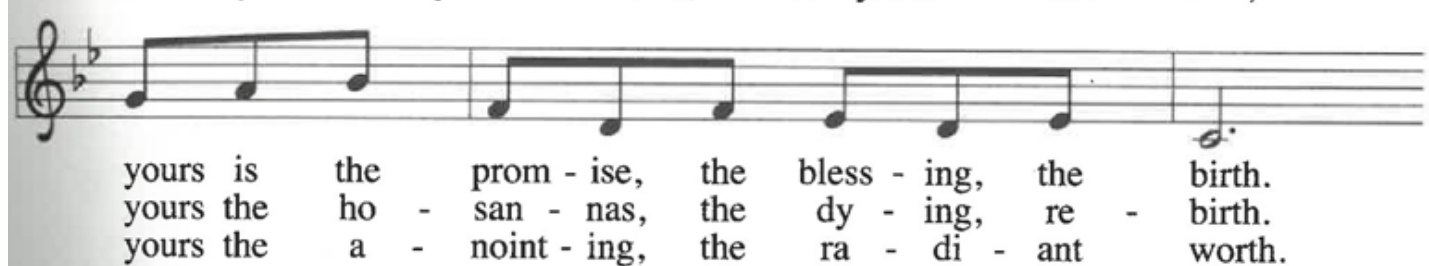
C: And also with you

*Kyrie & Hymn of Praise

ACS #31



One of the following or another song of praise may be sung.



*Prayer of the Day

The Word of God

First Reading Deuteronomy 30:9-14 Celebrate pg. 1

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm Psalm 25:1-10 (read responsively) Celebrate pg. 2

Second Reading Colossians 1:1-14 Celebrate pg. 3

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

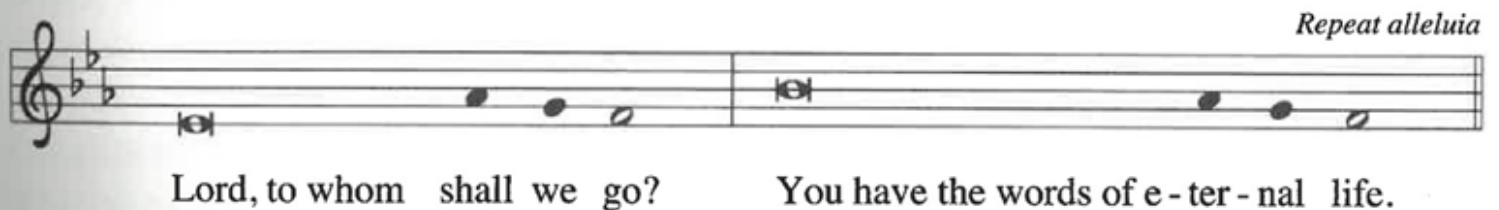
C: Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation

ACS #33



The proper verse may be sung, or all may sing one of these verses.



*Gospel Reading Luke 10:25-37 Celebrate pg. 3

P: The Holy Gospel acc. to St. Luke, the 10th Chapter

C: Glory to you. O God.

(The Gospel is read)

P: This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

Message

Rev. James P. Lapp

*Hymn of the Day *“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”*

Red #742

What a friend we have in Jesus
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Ev’rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
Oh, what needless pain we bear ~
All because we do not carry
Ev’rything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged –
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev’ry weakness ~
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge –
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he’ll take and shield you;
You will find a solace there?

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 “Dies Irae” Richard Purvis

Offering Prayer

P: Blessed are you, O God,
For the greening earth given for all,
For the talents we are given to share,
And for this bread and fruit of the vine.
Transform us to be the body of Christ,
That, feasting on this food and drink,
Our lives may reflect your generosity;
Through Christ our 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 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: God invites you to this table of bounty.
Come, the banquet is ready.

(Please be seated)

Communion Gathering Song



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn

"Holy, Holy, Holy" Red #473
Santo, Santo, Santo (alternate English / Spanish)

Ho~ly, ho~ly, ho~ly, my heart, my heart a~dores you!
My heart is glad to say the words: You are ho~ly, God!

!San-to, san-to, san-to. Mi Co-ra-zon te a-do-ra!
Mi Co-ra-zon te sa-be de-cir: !San-to e-res Dios!

The Sending

*Prayer after Communion

P: O God, in this Holy Communion
You have welcomed us into your presence,
Nourished us with words of mercy,
And fed us at your table.
Amid the cares of this life,
Strengthen us to love you with all our heart,
Serve our neighbors with a willing spirit,
And honor the earth you have made;
Through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

*Blessing

P: Live your lives in Christ,
rooted and built up in God's Spirit.
May you abound in thanksgiving;
And may the blessing of the holy Trinity, + one God,
Be upon you and remain with you forever.

C: Amen

*Closing Hymn *"For the Beauty of the Earth"* Red #879

For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:

REFRAIN

Christ, our God, to thee we raise
This our sacrifice of praise.

(hymn continued)

For the wonder of each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale and tree and flow'r,
Sun and moon and stars of light: REFRAIN

For the joy of ear and eye,
For the heart and mind's delight,
For the mystic harmony
Linking sense to sound and sight: REFRAIN

For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
For the friends on earth and friends above;
For all gentle thoughts and mild: REFRAIN

For each perfect gift of thine,
Peace on earth and joy in heav'n;
For thyself, best gift divine,
To our world so freely giv'n: REFRAIN

*Dismissal

P: Go in Peace, Christ is sending you.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Music Arise, My Soul, Arise", setting Dale Wood

Serving Today

Reader:

Coffee Host:

Altar Guild: Judi Alvarado

Office Support: Sheila Buswell & Sherilyn Jager



Prayer Concerns

SHORT TERM: Family of Elizabeth Schilling, Tina & family, Family of Patrick McCalmont, Atlas, Ana, Kathybelle Barlow, Family & friends of Rev. Jim Carr, Aundree & family, Mt. Cross Summer Staff, Family of Ed Valencia, Family of Tex Ronning, Carla Brown, Tim Oldfield, James S. Chad Fields, Grey, Ruth Stiles, Riley, Rose, Levi, Lisa J., John B., Linda, Unemployed, Isaac & Marissa, Gloria, Marta's parents, Gary & Louse Matz, Nick, James, Mary D., Tom, Galahad, Debbie, Sam, Nate Barker, Robbin, Francisco, Michael, Keith, Noelle, Ensley, Sierra, Middle East Peace, Tom Dawson, Taiyo, Marissa, Isaac, Alvarado family, Dustin, Father Jack Davis, Sandi Csik, Sam, Adolfo, Elida, Jeannie, Anetta, Nancy, Jane, Barbara Allen, Gary & Marjie Toops, Rachel B., Anne & Chloe Johnston, Mateo & Lina, Don, Atlas, Sal, Katarina, Stephanie Jager.

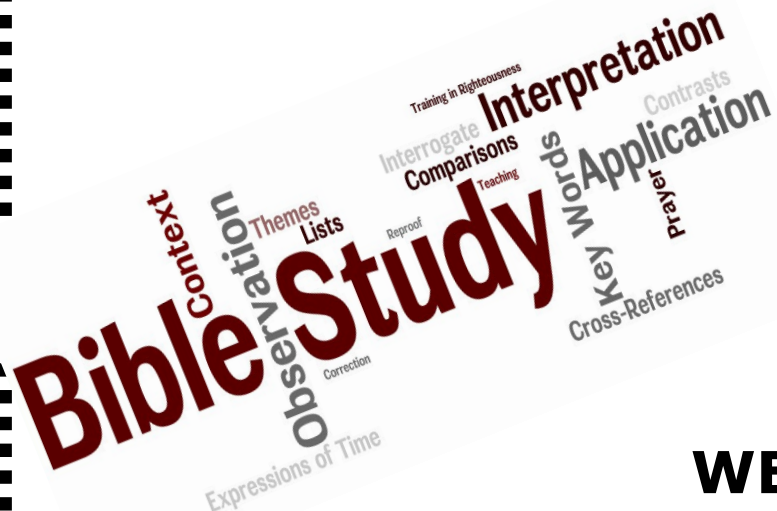
LONG TERM: Those suffering with Mental Illness, James Sheehan, Biergiel—Colclough family, Eric Utto-Galarneau, Joel Hurtgamm, Dawit and family (Ethiopia), Miller, April, Aaron Johnson, Shelby, Ashley, Frank, Joe, Dom, Lisa & Beau, Linda Johnson, Jan Shadle, Vi Olly, Bobbie Erickson, Mike, Susan Anderson, Brouse Family, Janet Baker, Sandy Godvine, Janelle Yung, Karin, Will, Chris and John B. Immigrant families, The Homeless, People of Ukraine, People of Palestine/Israel, Our Nation's leaders, Mt. Cross, St. Stephen's Child Development Ctr, S.S. Senior Housing, Pastor Jim & Our Church Family, men & women of Armed Forces, and the Youth of today.

Please notify when to remove



The Altar Flowers are given
by Shelly Barker in Celebration
of Xavier Barker's birthday

Our Preschool is enrolling NOW. Ages 2-4
Full & Part Time openings. Tell your friends!
Contact Kathy 462-4453



On ZOOM
with Pr. Jim

Check email on
Tues. for link

WEDNESDAYS
7:30 – 8:30 pm

As we grow in our faith, we grow in community.

New Ways of Giving

Our *Virtual Offering Plate* has been enhanced. We are now able to receive donations made by: credit card, debit card, PayPal, Venmo and Zelle.

There are three choices:

- 1) **Vanco**, our regular electronic giving provider;
- 2) **PayPal / Venmo / Zelle** for single one-time gifts;
- 3) **PayPal** with the possibility of recurring donations and an option to cover the fees.

All are available at
<https://ststephenslutheran.org>
 Or by scanning this QR code.



Upcoming Events:

July Benevolence Offering - ELCA World Hunger

TODAY Special Congregational Meeting 11 am
Preschool enrollment & Spanish Speaking Ministry

TODAY Ed Valencia Memorial 2:00 pm

July 21 Embroiders Guild 7:00 pm

July 22 Scouts 6:00 pm

July 23 Preschool Chapel 10:15

July 23 Bible Study Weds. 7:30 pm

July 24 Mens beginner A.A. Thursdays 7:00 pm Fireside

July 25 A.A. Fridays 7:00 pm Fellowship Hall

July 26 Paul Cunningham Memorial
12:00 pm Scotts Valley Community Center

August 5 Trinity Tuesday 6:30 pm
Pub Theology Discretion Brew 41st Ave.

August 7 & 21 Women's Café Group 6:00 pm Thursdays
Dinner and devotions

August 17 Back to School Blessing & Potluck

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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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