

***Do you think that I have come
to bring peace to the earth?***

LUKE 12:51

10th Sunday after Pentecost

August 17, 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 “Gwalshmai—from four Carol Preludes
Richard Purvis

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

“God We Gather as Your People” Blue #1038

God, we gather as your people to raise our song above,
And we dare to claim the promise of your love.
Though the day may not yet be here,
We trust it soon will be, when your children will be free.

REFRAIN

Oh, may our hearts and minds be opened,
Fling the church doors open wide.
May there be room enough for ev'ryone inside.
For in God there is a welcome, in God we all belong.
May that welcome be our song.

(Hymn continued)

Oh, we sing for all the children,
That one day they be free;
And we sing for generations yet to be,
That they never have a reason
To doubt that they are blest.
May they, in your love, find rest. **REFRAIN**

Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short
By fear and shame,
So afraid of who they are and whom they love.
May the message now be banished
That your love is for the few;
May their faith in you renew. **REFRAIN**

God, we're working for the future
when children far and wide can . . .
Live their lives with dignity and pride,
As they grow in strength and stature,
May they join us hand in hand,
As against all hate we stand. **REFRAIN**

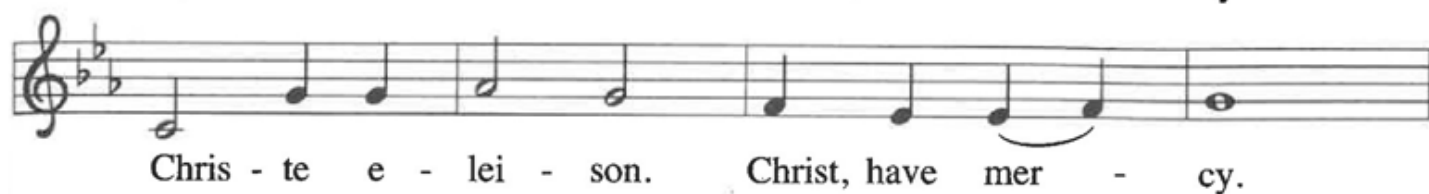
*Greeting

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

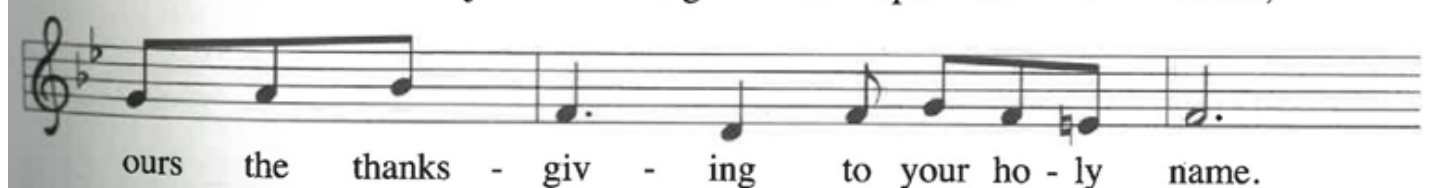
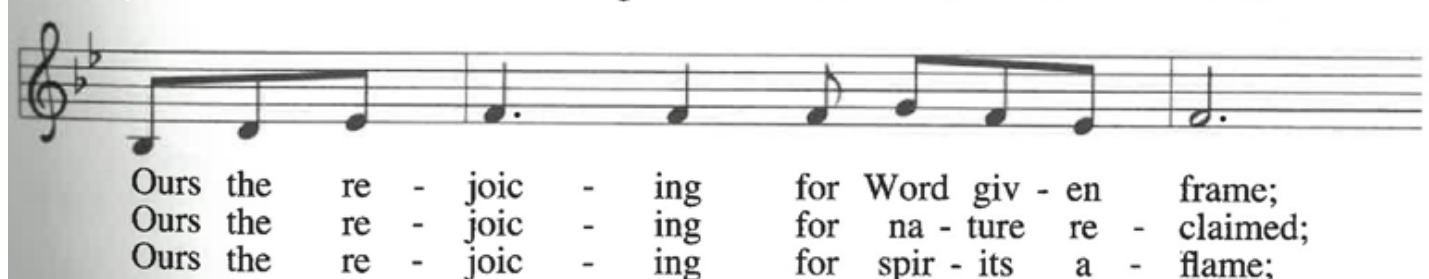
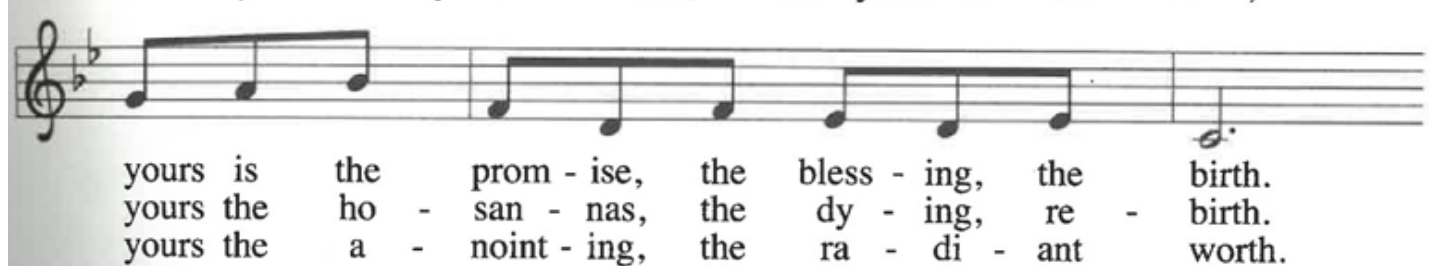
C: And also with you

*Kyrie & Hymn of Praise

Blue #31



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



*Prayer of the Day

The Word of God

First Reading

Genesis 15:1-6

Celebrate pg. 1

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 33:12-22 (read responsively)

Cel. pg. 2

Second Reading

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

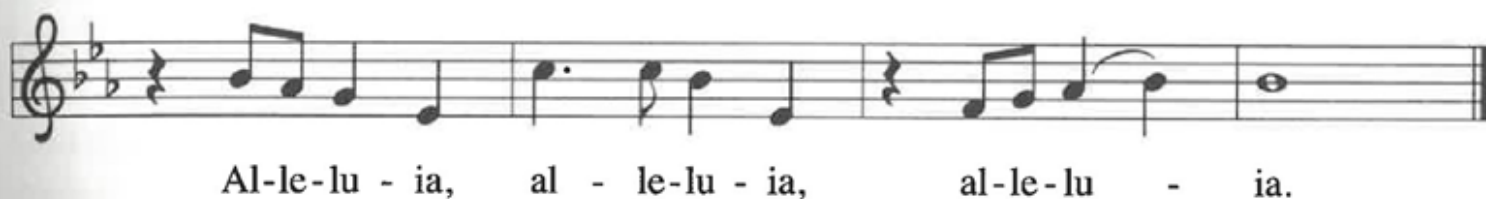
Celebrate pg. 3

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation

Blue #33



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



*Gospel Reading

Luke 12:13-21

Celebrate pg. 3

P: The Holy Gospel acc. to St. Luke, the 12th 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

“Come Now, O God” Blue #902

Come now, O God, when our love is forsaken.

Come, when our bedrock
of faith has been shaken.

Come, when our deepest of hopes
are mistaken.

Come, Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

Come, when we squander
the freedom you gave us.

Come, break the systems of sin that enslave us.

Come, though we wonder
if you can still save us,

Come, Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

Come, put an end to our self serving madness.

Come, while the world is
enshrouded in sadness.

Come, turn the tears of our mourning
to gladness.

Come, Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

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 “Occasional Oratorio” G.F. Handel 1683~1759

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

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” Red #815

I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life... is Jesus. **REFRAIN**

REFRAIN

In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see... the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,
And show me the way to the Father. REFRAIN

I'm looking for... the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run.... With patience the race,
We shall know the joy... of Jesus. REFRAIN

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

“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, Christ is sending you.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Music "Fostlude in G" G.F. Handel

Serving Today

Reader: Beth Stiles

Coffee in Fellowship room

Altar Guild: Judi Alvarado

Office Support: Sheila Buswell & Sherilyn Jager



The Altar Flowers are given
by Rebecca Wickham
To Celebrate Chelsea's birthday

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





Prayer Concerns

SHORT TERM: Jennifer Linkeon, Corrine & Daniel, Tom D., Connie Garcia & Family, Laura, Ayla, Tate, The World & Texas, Family of Elizabeth Schilling, Tina & family, Family of Patrick McCalmont, Atlas, Ana,

Kathybelle Barlow, Family & friends of Rev. Jim Carr, Mt. Cross Summer Staff, Family of Ed Valencia, Family of Tex Ronning, Carla Brown, Tim Oldfield, James S. Chad Fields, Grey, Levi, Lisa J., John B., Linda, Unemployed, Gloria, Marta's parents, Gary & Louse Matz, Nick, James, Mary D., Galahad, Debbie, Sam, Nate Barker, Robbin, Francisco, Keith, Noelle, Ensley, 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, Isaac & Marissa, 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 *

New Ways of Giving

Our *Virtual Offering Plate* has been enhanced. Donations can be made by: credit card, debit card, PayPal, Venmo and Zelle.

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:

August Benevolence Offering -
Cal. Lutheran University & Pacific Lutheran Theo. Seminary

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|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| August 18 | Embroiders Guild 7:00 pm |
| August 19 | Scouts 6:00 pm |
| August 19 | Church Council 6:30 pm |
| August 20 | Preschool Chapel 10:15 |
| August 20 | Bible Study Weds. 7:30 pm |
| August 21 | Knitter's Guild 10 am |
| August 21 | Newsletter Deadline |
| Aug. 21 | Women's Café Group 6:00 pm Thursdays
Dinner and devotions |
| August 21 | Mens beginner A.A. Thursdays 7:00 pm Fireside |
| August 22 | A.A. Fridays 7:00 pm Fellowship Hall |
| Aug. 28 | Newsletter Collating 2:00 pm helpers needed |
| September 2 | Trinity Tuesday 6:30 pm
Pub Theology Discretion Brew 41st Ave. |
| Sept. 14 | MMRR Bake Sale |

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."*

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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