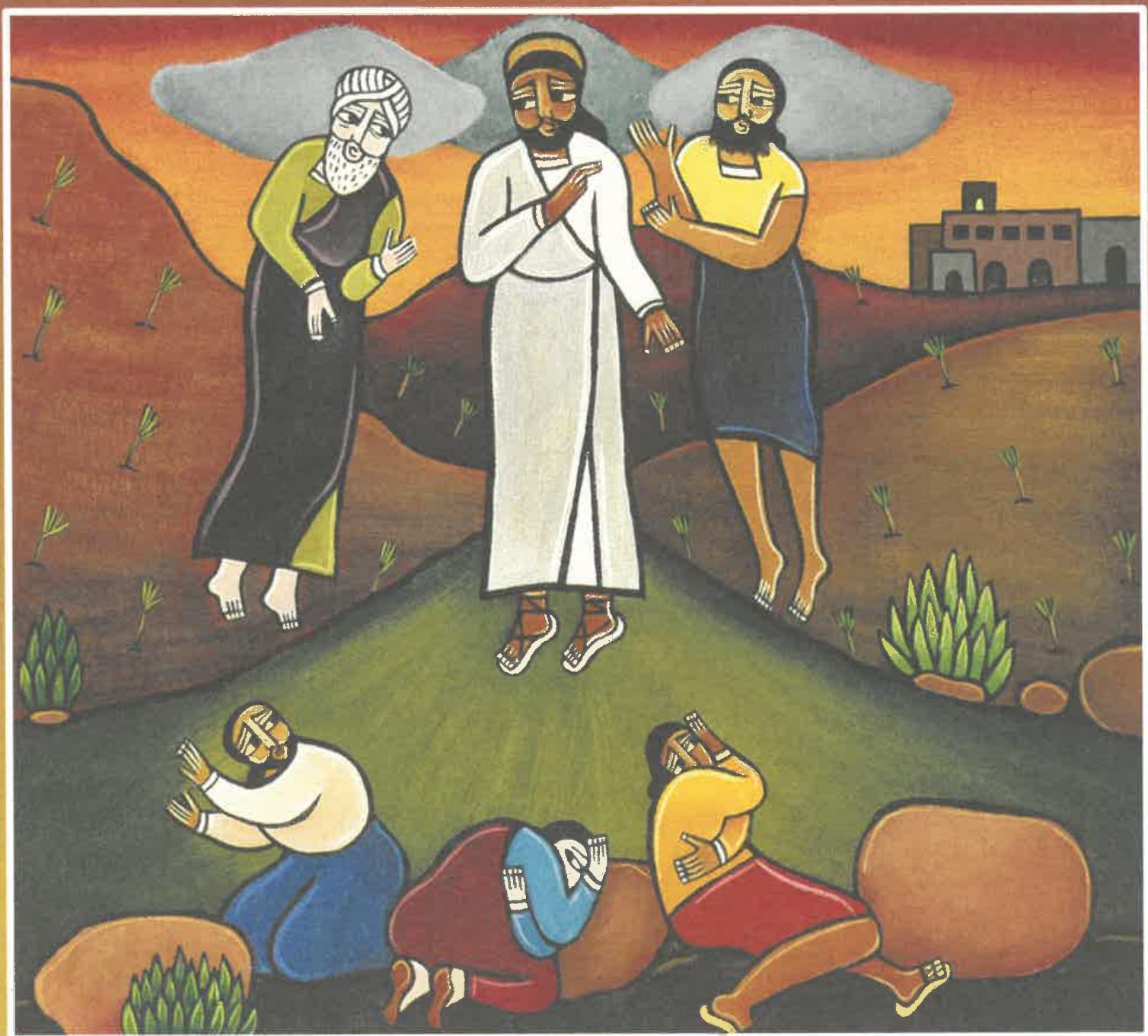


# Jesus was transfigured before them

MATTHEW 17:2



# **Transfiguration of Our Lord**

## **February 15, 2026 at 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.

Music                   “Alleluia, Song of Gladness”

### **The Gathering**

#### Call to Worship

“Come to the Water of Life”      Blue #955

1. All who are thirsty for mercy,  
all who are thirsty for love;  
All who are thirsty for love, for mercy, come:  
Come to the Water of life.
2. All who are thirsty for healing,  
all who are thirsty for touch;  
All who are thirsty for touch, for healing, come:  
Come to the Water of life.
3. All who are thirsty for beauty,  
all who are thirsty for truth;  
All who are thirsty for truth, for beauty, come:  
Come to the Water of life.
4. All who are thirsty for justice,  
all who are thirsty for peace;  
All who are thirsty for peace, for justice, come:  
Come to the Water of life.

## \*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,  
Our creator,  
Our protector  
Our wellspring of life.

**C: Amen.**

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of  
our hearts, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

P: Merciful God,

**C: you speak blessing and compassion into the world.  
Forgive us for the ways we act  
With judgment, cruelty, or indifference.  
We ignore the needs of our neighbors;  
We resist your call to oppose injustice;  
We give in to scarcity and fear;  
We assume the worst about one another.  
Cleanse us from our faults  
And release us from their grasp.  
Show us your loving kindness.  
Restore our heart and repair your world,  
That we may live in Christ's ways.  
Amen.**

P: God proclaims these words of assurance;  
“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.  
I have called you by name. You are mine.”  
In † Christ, you are forgiven.  
In the Spirit, you are made free.  
Refreshed by the waters of mercy,  
Live anew as beloved children of God.

**C: Amen**

\*Opening Hymn    “O Beauty Ever Ancient”   Blue #1100

1 O beauty ever ancient,  
O beauty ever new,  
divine and Holy Presence,  
my being sings to you,

**Refrain:**  
in gratitude, in worship  
my being sings to you!

2 O beauty in creation,  
in world of sound and sight,  
O beauty in the silence,  
in darkness as in light,   [Refrain]

3 O beauty that is movement  
in liquid line of grace,  
O beauty that is stillness  
in lovely form or face,   [Refrain]

4 O beauty of the Spirit  
where love is shining through,  
O beauty ever ancient,  
O beauty ever new,   [Refrain]

\*Greeting

**\*P:** The grace of our Light and Friend Jesus Christ, the love of God our Creator, and the blessing of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

**\*Kyrie** (Here we offer up all our cries for God's help)

1. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.
2. Christe eleison. Christe eleison.
3. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

**Kyrie 18**

The musical score for Kyrie 18 consists of two staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The music is in common time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes in a cursive script. The first line of lyrics is "Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son," and the second line is "le - i - son." The music features eighth-note patterns and rests.

## Glory to God

WOV #607

8

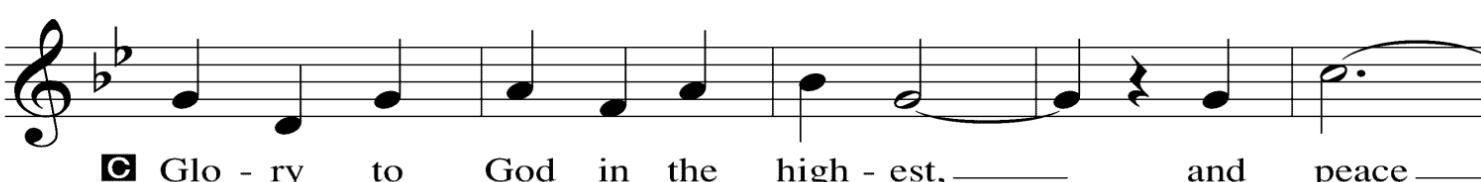
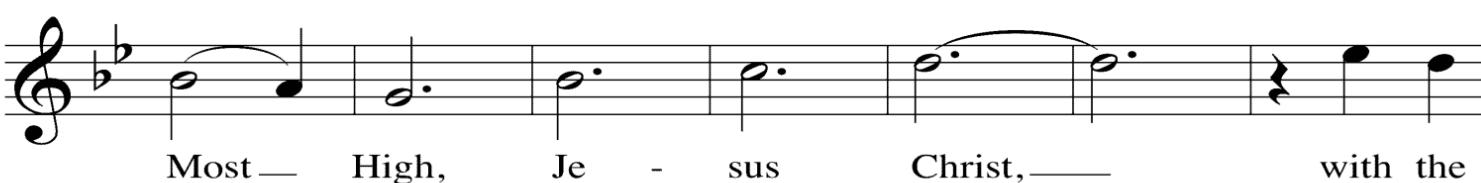
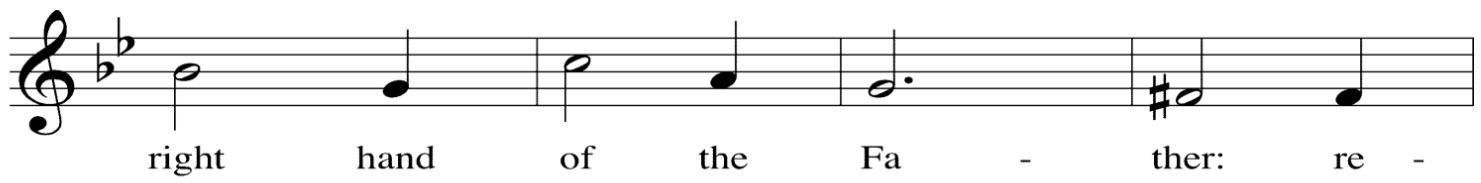
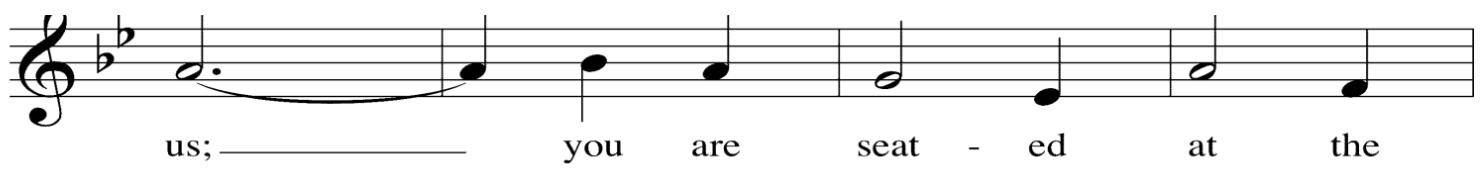
Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to God's people on earth!

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty  
God and Father, we worship you, we  
give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's  
people on earth!

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the  
Father, Lord God,

Lamb of God, you take away the  
sin of the world: have mercy on



\*Prayer of the Day

Celebrate insert pg. 1

P: May God be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us Pray...

**C: (following the prayer) Amen.**

## The Word of God

First Reading

Exodus 24:12-18

Celebrate pg. 1

L: Word of God. Word of Life

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 2

Choir & Cong.

Celebrate pg. 2

Second Reading

2 Peter 1:16-21

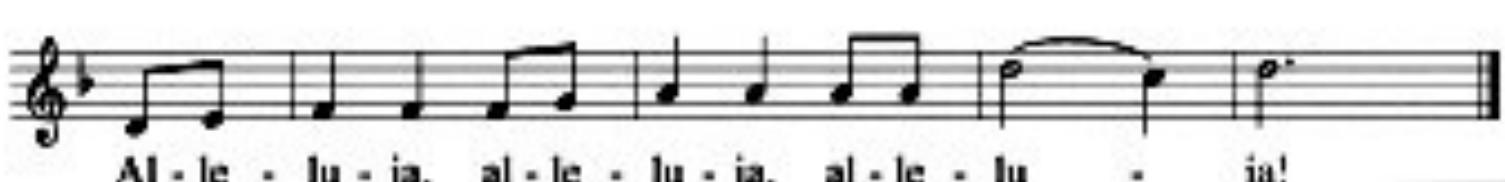
Celebrate pg. 2

L: Word of God. Word of Life

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## ALLELUIA

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

\*Gospel Acclamation

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mathew the 17th Chapter  
C: Glory to you O God.

\*Gospel Reading      Matthew 17:1-9      Celebrate pg. 3

P: The Gospel of the Lord.  
C: **Thanks be to God**

Sermon      Rev. James P. Lapp

\*Hymn of the Day      “*Joyful is the Dark*”      BLUE #1096

Joyful is the dark, holy, hidden God,  
Rolling cloud of night beyond all naming;  
Majesty in darkness, energy of love,  
Word in flesh, the mystery proclaiming.

Joyful is the dark, Spirit of the deep,  
Winging wildly o'er the world's creation,  
Silken sheen of midnight plumage black and bright,  
swooping with the beauty of a raven.

Joyful is the dark, shadowed stable floor;  
Angels flicker, God on earth confessing,  
As with exultation, Mary, giving birth,  
Hails the infant cry of need and blessing.

Joyful is the dark, coolness of the tomb,  
Waiting for the wonder of the morning;  
Never was that midnight touched by dread and gloom;  
Darkness was the cradle of the dawning.

Joyful is the dark, depth of love divine,  
Roaring, looming thundercloud of glory,  
Holy, haunting beauty, living, loving God.  
Hallelujah! Sing and tell the . . . story!

## \*The Prayers of the Church

## Celebrate, Page 4

## \*Passing of the Peace

P: May the peace of God be with you always.  
C: **And also with you.**

## The Communion Meal

Offering — We honor and worship God by returning some of the gifts with which we have been blessed.

## Offering Hymn      "This Little Light of Mine"      Red #677

This little light of mine, I'm goin'~a let it shine;  
This little light of mine, I'm goin'~a let it shine;  
This little light of mine, I'm goin'~a let it shine;  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'~a let it shine;  
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'~a let it shine;  
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'~a let it shine;  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'~a let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'~a let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'~a let it shine;  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

### \*Offering Prayer

P: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,  
And your abundance to the depths of the seas.  
Bless what we offer to your service;  
Our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.  
Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,  
Now and always.

**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 our thanks and praise.**

### Eucharistic Prayer

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**

## Invitation to Communion

**P: The joy of the Lord is our strength.  
    Come eat this meal of gladness.**

## 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).*

## Lamb of God

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

Hymn      *“Beautiful Savior”*      RED #838

Beautiful Savior, King of creation,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee,  
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,  
Robed in flow’rs of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,  
He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,  
Bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer  
Than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,  
Now and forevermore be thine!

### \*Communion Blessing

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

**C: Amen.**

### \*Prayer after Communion

P: Nourishing God,  
At this table you have refreshed us  
With holy gifts of food and drink.  
Strengthen us for service,

And send us out to embody your good news  
Of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.  
In the name of Christ we pray,

**C: Amen**

## **The Sending**

### \*Blessing

P: The Spirit of the triune God † Bless you with joy,  
Anoint you with compassion, And send you in love.

**C: Amen**

\*Closing Hymn    “We Are Marching in the Light”    RED #866

We are marching in the light of God,  
we are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching in the light of God,  
We are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, marching,  
we are marching, marching,  
We are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching, marching,  
we are marching, marching,  
We are marching in the light of God.

## Additional stanzas ad lib:

# We are dancing...

*We are praying...*

*We are singing...*

### **\*Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Music                    “Oh What Wondrous Image”

## Serving Today

Reader: Robert Bartee  
Altar Guild: Tina Gates  
Coffee Host : Shelly Barker  
Office Help: Sheila Buswell & Sherilyn Jager

\* Sign up to Read, Host Coffee & Dedicate Altar Flowers \*



**SHORT TERM** Camryn, Corbin, Marilyn, Nathan, Dorothy Ronning, Bob Holzwarth, Amanda, Mary Robe & Family, Renee, Family of Laura Gates, Sina & Bella, Chad Fields, Laura, Ayla, Beth Stiles, Margaret Schraft, Laura & twin babies, James, Don & Taiyo, Pr. Gary & Corinne Stevenson, Family of Bobbie Erickson, Kevin, Beth, Liz, Sam, Florence, Tom Williams, Tim Oldfield, Kathy M., Nancy, Corrine & Daniel, Connie Garcia & Family, Family & friends of Rev. Jim Carr, Grey, Levi, James, Galahad, Debbie, Sam, Nate Barker, Robbin, Keith, Noelle, Ensley, Middle East Peace, Tom Dawson, Dustin, Father Jack Davis, Adolfo, Elida, Jeannie, Anetta, Jane, Barbara Allen, Gary & Marjie Toops, Rachel B., Anne & Chloe Johnston, Isaac & Marissa, Mateo & Lina, Atlas, Sal, Katarina.

**LONG TERM** Those suffering with Mental Illness, James Sheehan, Biergiel—Colclough family, Eric Utto-Galarneau, Beth UG, Brian Utto, Kathy Brooks, Joel Hurtgamm, Dawit & family (Ethiopia), Miller, April, Aaron Johnson, Shelby, Ashley, Frank, Joe, Lisa & Beau, Linda Johnson, Jan Shadle, Vi Olly, Mike, Susan Anderson, Brouse Family, Janet Baker, Sandy Godvine, Janelle Yung, Karin, Will, Chris & 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 \**



Missing a pew buddy? A phone call to someone who is not here goes a long way.

**Lenten Wednesdays  
6:00 pm  
(Worship 7:00pm)**



**Feb. 25  
March 4, 11, 18 & 25**

2 Hosts needed each evening.  
Provide soup, bread /crackers & cookies.  
Sign up now.

### **Other Giving Options**

We are now able to receive donations made by:  
credit card, debit card, PayPal, Venmo & 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>





# PANCAKE BREAKFAST & EASTER CELEBRATION

Sunday, April 5

- Apply for a Thrivent Action Team Grant. Contact Leslie or Tina ASAP.
- Set up, servers & clean up. See sign up sheet.
- Help with Childrens activities during worship & egg hunt after
- Sign up to order an Easter Lily to help decorate the sanctuary.
- Plan ahead and invite folks. Let them see “our light shine”.

# **Upcoming Events:**

February Benevolence Offering = Association of Faith Communities Rotating Shelter & Safe Spaces

- Feb. 16 Preschool Closed
- Feb. 17 Scouts 6:00 pm
- Feb. 18 Preschool Chapel 10:15 am
- Feb. 18 Lent begins: Ash Wednesday Worship 11 am & 7 pm
- Feb. 19 Men's A.A. Group 7:00 pm
- Feb. 20 A. A. Group 7:00 pm
- Feb. 20 Newsletter Deadline Noon
- Feb. 25 Soup Suppers begin 6:00 pm  
Sign up now
- Feb. 25 Taize Service 7:00 pm (after soupper)
- Feb. 26 Newsletter Collating 2:00 pm
- March 3 Trinity Tuesday 6:30 pm Discretion Brewery  
come for honest conversation and genuine community
- March 12 Women's Circle of Promise 10:30 am
- March 13-15 Mt. Cross Women's Retreat
- March 29 Palm Sunday Dramatic Worship  
Readers needed

**Pastor's Office Hours Wednesdays 10 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](http://www.ststephenslutheran.org)  
Office Hours: Mon.—Friday. 12:00 —5:00 pm

Ministers: The People of St. Stephen's  
Pastor: Rev. James P. Lapp  
Church Administrator: Leslie Lapp  
Church Musician: Gary Roberts  
Sunday School: Leslie Lapp  
Pre-School Director: Kathy Berens  
Custodian: John Hopping  
Videographers: Jay Johnston, Kent Madsen & Barb Rice

Music used by permission Onelicense #A-706539