

St Stephen

Lutheran Church, ELCA



**Encouraging and
strengthening faith in Jesus,
and sharing the joy of God's love.**

January 08, 2017

Epiphany Sunday

9:00am & 10:15am

Rev. Pedro Suarez, Pastor

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

—WE GATHER—

INTRODUCTION

Epiphany means “manifestation.” On this day we celebrate the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles—that is, to all nations. Some Christian traditions celebrate three great epiphanies on this day: the magi’s adoration of the Christ child, Jesus’ baptism in the Jordan River, and his first miracle, in which he changes water into wine. The word and sacraments are for us the great epiphany of God’s grace and mercy. We go forth to witness to the light that shines brightly in our midst.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please stand as you are able.

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God:

C: Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthens you with power through the Holy Spirit that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

OPENING SONG:

Here I Am to Worship

E B^{sus} F#m E B^{sus}

1. Light of the world, You stepped down in - to dark - ness, o - pened my eyes, let me -
 2. King of all days, oh so high - ly ex - alt - ed, glo - rious in heav - en a -

4 A²(no3) E B^{sus} F#m

— see — Beau - ty that made this — heart a - dore — You,
 - bove. — Hum - bly You came to the earth You cre - a - ted,

7 E B^{sus} A²(no3) B⁷sus

hope of a life spent with — You. — So, here I am to
 all for love's sake be - came — poor. —

⌘ CHORUS

10 E B/D# E/G#

wor - ship, here I am to bow down, here I am to say that You're my God. .

13 A E B/D#

— And You're al - to - geth - er love - ly, al - to - geth - er wor - thy, al - to - geth - er

16 E/G# Last time to Coda ⊕ 1. A A²(no3) 2. A

won - der - ful to me. — And I'll nev -

20 B/D# E/G# A B/D# E/G#

- er know — how much — it cost — to see — my sin — up - on —

23 1. A 2. A B⁷sus D.S. al Coda

— that cross. — And I'll nev - — that cross. — So, here I am to

⊕ Coda 26 A A²(no3) E

THE 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray together:

C: O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Message

—WE HEAR GOD'S WORD—

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 60:1-6

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

L: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14

¹Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.
²**May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.**
³May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.
⁴**May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.**

⁵ May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

⁶ May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.

⁷ In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

¹⁰ May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute, may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts.

¹¹ May all kings fall down before him, all nations give him service.

¹² For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper.

¹³ He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy.

¹⁴ From oppression and violence he redeems their life; and precious is their blood in his sight.

SECOND READING:

Ephesians 3:1-12

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— ²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

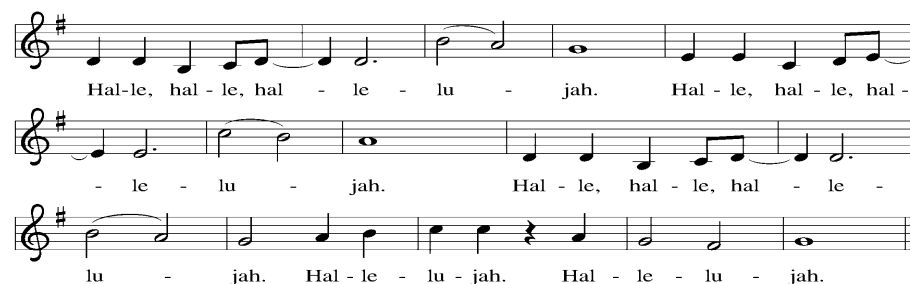
⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him. **Amen.**

L: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: Please stand as you are able for the Gospel Acclamation.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Halle, Halle, Hallelujah ”



Music: Caribbean traditional

P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

GOSPEL:

Matthew 2:1-12

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶ ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’” ⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared.

⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.”

⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was.

¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

P: You may be seated.

SERMON

Rev. Pedro Suarez

— WE RESPOND —

P: Please stand as you are able for the Sermon Song.

SERMON SONG:

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

ELW#311



1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
2 You come with res - cue speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,
3 You shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;
4 Kings shall fall down be - fore you, and gold and in - cense bring;



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, your reign on earth be - gun!
to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, spring in your path to birth.
all na - tions shall a - dore you, your praise all peo - ple sing.



You come to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive
to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to
Be - fore you on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald,
To you shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as -



free, to take a - way trans - gres - sion and
light, whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, are
go; and righ - teous - ness in foun - tains from
cend; your king - dom still in - creas - ing, a



rule in eq - ui - ty.
pre - cious in your sight.
hill to val - ley flow.
king - dom with out end.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.
Music: FREUT EUCH, IHR LIEBEN, Leonhart Schröter, 1540–1602

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

A: Rejoicing in the good news of Christ's birth and dwelling in hope, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

After each petition of the prayer is said:

A: Lord, in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Hear the prayers of your people, glorious God, for the sake of the one who took on our nature and form to redeem the whole world, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us share with one another the peace of the Lord.

- WELCOME TO THE LORD'S TABLE -

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING:

Spirit of Gentleness (verses 1 and 4 only)

ELW #396

Refrain



Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness
call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,
stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.

- 1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
- 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
- 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
- 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.

then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;
From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;

and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing:
and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,
and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,
our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.

Refrain

"A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings."
then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.
With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.

Text: James K. Manley, b. 1940
Music: SPIRIT, James K. Manley
Text and music © 1978 James K. Manley, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

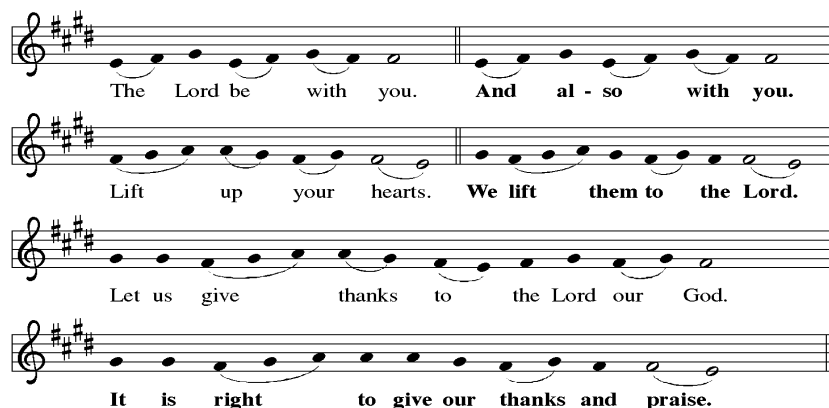
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OFFERING PRAYER

A: Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

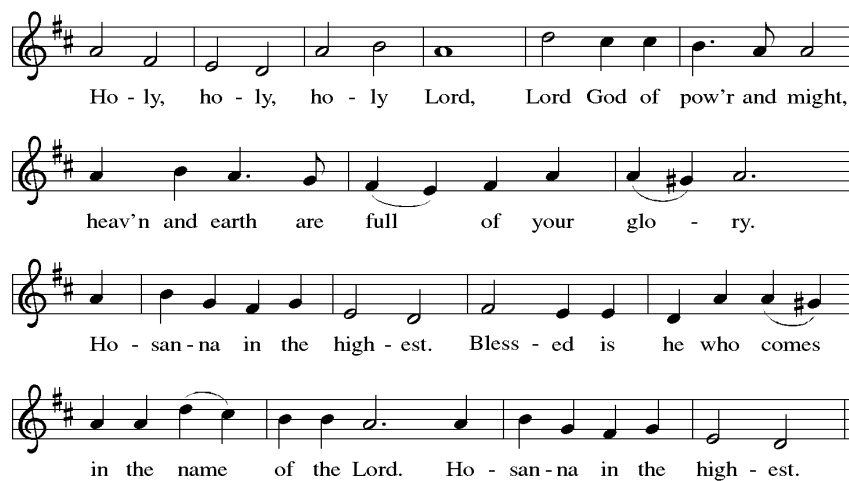
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Dialogue (Sung)



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

P: And now, we come to You in prayer, as our Savior Jesus has taught us:

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation of Communion

P: Christ invites you to a place of honor at this banquet. Welcome to the feast.

We believe Jesus Christ is present in the bread and wine by his Word of Promise. All baptized Christians are invited to participate in the celebration of God's forgiving love, strengthening faith, and grace-filled hope. Those who are not baptized and children not yet communing may come forward for a blessing (please cross your arms on your chest if you desire a blessing).

Reception of Communion

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

Communion distribution is continuous. Please come forward by the center aisle and receive the bread in your hands as you hear the words "The body of Christ, given for you" to which you may respond, "Amen." You may then dip the bread into the cup as you hear the words "The blood of Christ, shed for you," to which you may respond, "Amen." Please note that the communion wine is alcohol-free. Please indicate if you need gluten-free elements.

"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; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Song:

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

ELW #310

- 1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;
- 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, proph-et, priest, and king su - preme;
- 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole weak-ened bod - y, faint - ing soul;
- 4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;

man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,
 and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest;
 man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell-ing all the dev - il's might;
 grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;

branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:
 man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;
 man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring-ing good from ill:
 that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,

an - thems be to thee ad-dressed,
 an - thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.
 an - thems be to thee ad-dressed,
 and may praise thee, ev - er blest,

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807-1885, alt.
 Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622-1702

Instrumental Music

Cesar Vidaud

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

-WE ARE SENT FORTH-

Benediction

P: Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG:

I'm Going on a Journey

ELW #446

1 I'm go-ing on a jour-ney, and I'm start-ing to - day. My
head is wet, and I'm on my way. Christ's mark is on me;
it's on you, too; it says he loves me, and he loves you, too!

2 I'm be-com - ing this day a saint of God. It
real-ly does-n't mat-ter what roads I trod. Wher - ev - er I go, God's
been there, too. God's love has touched me and will car - ry me through.

3 There are oth - er saints who have said a - men. They'll
keep me faith-ful to my jour-ney's end. A - long the way
I want to be the kind of per-son that God set free.

Text: Kenneth D. Larkin
Music: WET SAINTS, Edward V. Bonnemère, 1921–1996
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DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the joy of God's love.

Thanks be to God.

IN OUR PRAYERS

In our prayers today are these members of our homebound and others of our parish family in need of healing: We also need to pray for, Ingrid Koslowski, Jean Rogers, Katie, Christopher Belanger, Janet Isner, Paul Hanzlik, Roy Kaptain, Bob & Jane Reinhold, Larry and Beverly Sheehan, Chico E., and C.C.

Prayers for Friends of the Church: Aiden Chase, Brenna Taylor, Rita Stevenson, Mike, Barbara Greco, Dr. Willis Allen, Eleanor Knauf, Vera Debolt, Martha Hamze, Alessandra, Rhea, Doris, Cheryl, Nick Caldwell Sr., Dennis VanCour, Lucille Capece, Lexie Sachlis, George F., David Spall, Joan Coletti, Isolina Quintana, Adam Rubino, Berna, Braemen Weiner, Chandler Weiner, Debbie Seckel, Elaine Brustad, Elizabeth Kraus, Hazel Quire, Juan Tavarez, Kenneth Smith, Mary Taylor, Norma Duckworth, Cynthia, Richard H., Laurie Engelhardt, Dorotka Rodriguez and family., and Barbara Creighton's family.

We are always updating our prayer list. If you would like your name added or removed, please notify Pat Belanger or the office.

Announcements

BREAKFAST BUNCH: Come at 9:00 am for a great breakfast, like always, and have fun! Afterwards, we invite you to stay and help as we put away the Christmas decorations. It's always good to be together and share the work together.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: On February 5, 2017 after 10:15 am service we will have our annual congregational meeting.

BRAIN POWER: Every Tuesday from 9am - 12pm at the Fellowship Hall we will emphasize diets, exercises, sleep, and new ideas to promote "Brain Power". Come and try something new with lots of productive fun! Please spread the word. Have questions? Call Barb Taylor 954-616-7006

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Every Sunday at 11:15 am we have our Sunday school. Children leave right after Holy Communion. Call the church office to register a child or for more information.

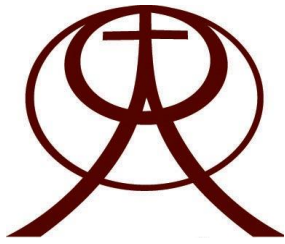
VOLUNTEERS FOR ALTAR CARE: We need volunteers for Altar Care to set up and take down communion on Sundays. Note: If training needed contact Pat Belanger.

Service Assistants for January

10:15 AM	<i>January 8</i>	<i>January 15</i>	<i>January 22</i>	<i>January 29</i>
ASSISTING MINISTER	Sera Butz	Natalie Prego	TBA	Carol Jacobson
ACOLYTE	Carol Jacobson	Sera Butz	Madison Kibler	Pat Belanger
LECTOR	Juliet Crawford	Rosie Fennelli	Rick Dunton	Catherine Zippay
USHERS –Need 4 to Serve	Lynda Smith Zachary Smith Floyd MacDonald Sherry Fox	Harry Ambrose Patricia Engle Sherry Fox Lisa Castaneda	Darin Kibler Marsha Kibler Drew Kibler Sherry Fox	Floyd MacDonald Sherry Fox Linda Hanzlik Web Antill
Head Usher	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli
GREETERS – Need 2 to Serve	Kelly Jacobson	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones	Ruth Wagle Caroline Smith
SOUND	Eric Castaneda	Dennis Magarrell	Sera Butz	Dennis Magarrell
PROJECTION	Katie Paff	Katie Paff	Web Antill	Larry Jones



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St Stephen

Lutheran Church, ELCA

**Encouraging and strengthening faith in Jesus, and
sharing the joy of God's love.**

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.

Holy Communion is celebrated weekly

Church Staff

Rev. Pedro Suarez – Pastor

ststephenpastor@gmail.com

Cesar Vidaud – Director of Music

Clarence (Teddy) Rowe – Sexton

Aidee Koach – Administrative Assistant

sslcpompano@gmail.com

Congregation Council

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councilpresident@ststephenlutheran.net

Web Antill

Eric Castaneda- Treasurer

Christian Hecker

Lynda Smith

Natalie Prego - Secretary

Kathy Runk - Vice Pres.

Office hours: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 Mon- Fri

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