

St Stephen

Lutheran Church, ELCA



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

January 29, 2017

Forth Sunday after Epiphany

9:00am & 10:15am

Rev. Pedro Suarez, Pastor

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

—WE GATHER—

INTRODUCTION

Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, mourners, the meek, those who hunger for righteousness, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.

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.

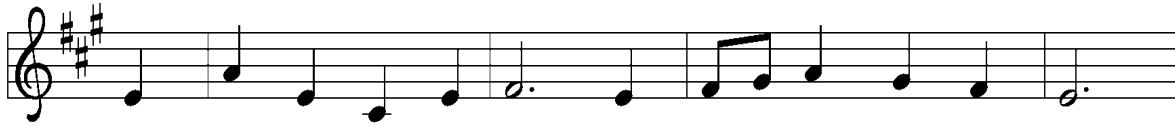
Silence is kept for reflection.

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.



1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;
 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
 as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.
 re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
 stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
 and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936
 Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893
 Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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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: Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Message

—WE HEAR GOD’S WORD—

FIRST READING:

Micah 6:1-8

6 Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ² Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. ³ “O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴ For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵ O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.” ⁶ “With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷ Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” ⁸ He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

L: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 15

¹ O LORD, who may abide in your tent?
Who may dwell on your holy hill?
² **Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,
and speak the truth from their heart;**
³ who do not slander with their tongue,
and do no evil to their friends,
nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;
⁴ **in whose eyes the wicked are despised,
but who honor those who fear the LORD;
who stand by their oath even to their hurt;**
⁵ who do not lend money at interest,
and do not take a bribe against the innocent.
Those who do these things shall never be moved.

SECOND READING:**1 Corinthians 1:18-31**

¹⁸ For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” ²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength. ²⁶ Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹ so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.” **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 ”

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional

P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew, the 5th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord!**

GOSPEL:**Matthew 5:1-12**

5 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: ³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵ “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶ “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷ “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. ⁸ “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹ “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

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:

When the Poor Ones

ELW#725



1 *Cuan-do el po-bre na-da tie-ne y a ún re-par-te,*
 1 When the poor ones, who have noth-ing, still are giv-ing;
 2 When com-pas-sion gives the suf-f'ring con-so-la-tion;
 3 When our spir-its, like a chal-ice, brim with glad-ness;
 4 When the good-ness poured from heav-en fills our dwell-ings;



cuan-do al-guien pa-sa sed y a-gua nos da,
 when the thirst-y pass the cup, wa-ter to share;
 when ex-pect-ing brings to birth hope that was lost;
 when our voic-es, full and clear, sing out the truth;
 when the na-tions work to change war in-to peace;



cuan-do el dé-bil a su her-ma-no for-ta-le-ce:
 when the wound-ed of-fer oth-ers strength and heal-ing:
 when we choose love, not the ha-tred all a-round us:
 when our long-ings, free from en-vy, seek the hum-ble:
 when the strang-er is ac-cept-ed as our neigh-bor:

Refrain / Estribillo



Va Dios mis-mo en nues-tro mis-mo ca-mi-nar;
 We see God, here by our side, walk-ing our way;



va Dios mis-mo en nues-tro mis-mo ca-mi-nar.
 we see God, here by our side, walk-ing our way.

2 *Cuando alguno sufre y logra su consuelo,* 3 *Cuando crece la alegría y nos inunda,*
cuando espera y no se cansa de esperar, *cuando dicen nuestros labios la verdad,*
cuando amamos, aunque el odio nos rodee: *cuando amamos el sentir de los sencillos:*
 Estribillo Estribillo

4 *Cuando abunda el bien y llena los hogares,*
cuando alguien donde hay guerra pone paz,
cuando "hermano" le llamamos al extraño:
 Estribillo

Text: José Antonio Olivar, b. 1939; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951
 Music: EL CAMINO, Miguel Manzano, b. 1934
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INSTALLATION OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

A: Called to be a light to the nations, let us pray for God's justice, peace, and healing.

After each petition of the prayer is said:

A: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Receive these prayers in the name of Christ, the light of the world, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **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:

Jesus, the Very Thought of You
(verses 1, 2, and 3 only)

ELW #754



1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of you fills us with sweet de - light;
2 No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the mind re - call
3 O Hope of ev - 'ry con - trite soul, O Joy of all the meek,
4 O Je - sus, be our joy to - day; help us to prize your love;



but sweet-er far your face to view and rest with - in your light.
a sweet-er sound than your blest name, O Sav - ior of us all!
how kind you are to those who fall! How good to those who seek!
grant us at last to hear you say: "Come, share my home a - bove."

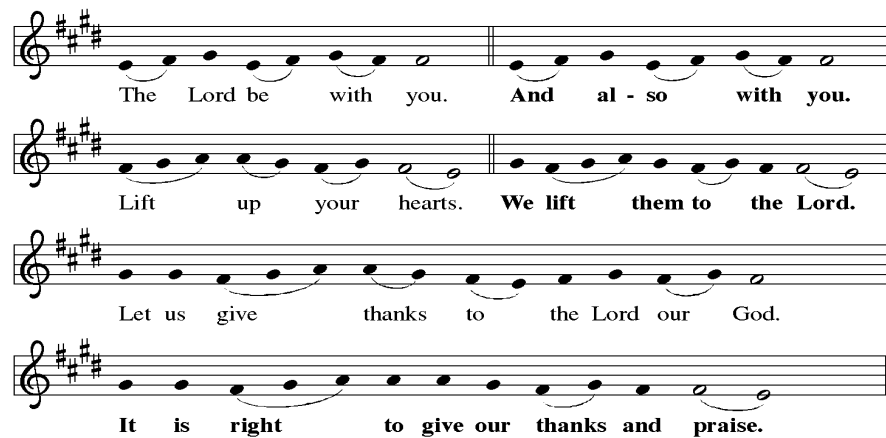
Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878
Music: ST. AGNES, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

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

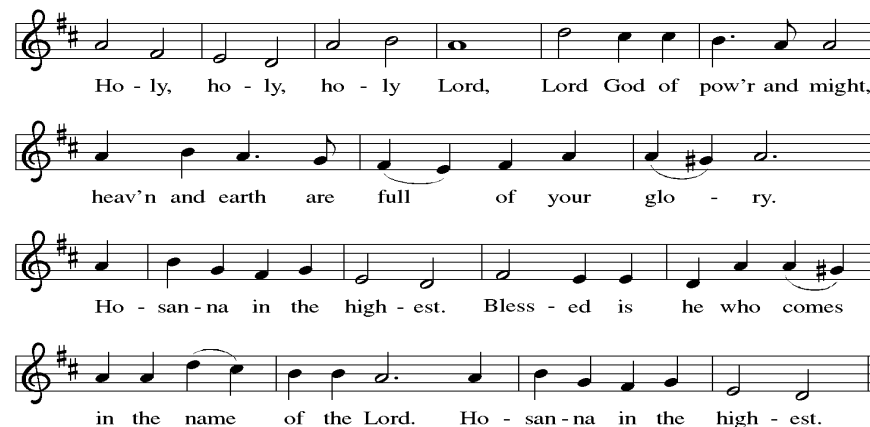
Dialogue (Sung)



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:

We Are Called

ELW #720

1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the
2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your . . mer - cy to all those in
3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be

Lord! We are called to be light for the king - dom, to
fear! We are called to be hope for the hope - less so
one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as

live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God.
ha - tred and blind - ness . . . will be . . . no more.
sis - ters and broth - ers . . . u - nit - ed in love.

Refrain
We are called to act with jus - tice, we are called to
love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -
oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

Text: David Haas, b. 1957
Music: WE ARE CALLED, David Haas
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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-

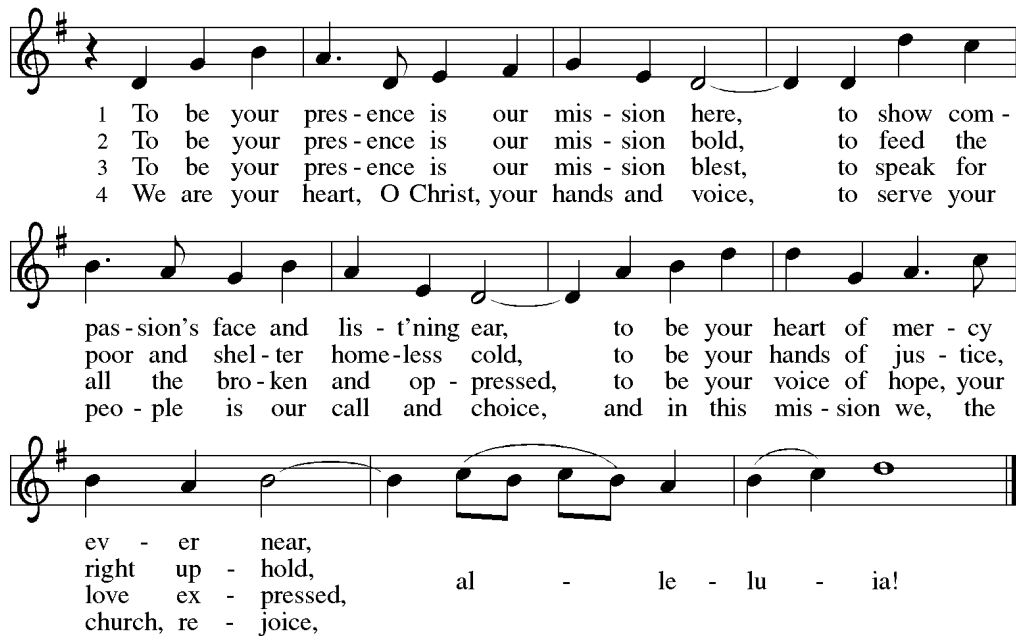
Benediction

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

SENDING SONG:

To Be Your Presence

ELW #546



1 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to show com -
2 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to feed the
3 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to speak for
4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your

pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy
poor and shel - ter home - less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,
all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your
peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the

ev - er near,
right up - hold, al - le - lu - ia!
love ex - pressed,
church, re - joice,

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939
Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924
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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, Diane Adler, 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: Normagene Richardson, 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., Barbara Creighton's family and for Marie Louise Price who passed away this week.

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

Last week Sunday flowers sponsored by: Kelly and Carol Jacobson in loving memory of Don Burroughs.

Announcements

CONTACTS UPDATE: We are updating our contact list, names, phone numbers, and email addresses, please let us know how you prefer to be contacted or to receive the newsletter. Also if you have a family member or friend name that you wish to add in our prayer list please call us at 954.942.4473 or email us at: sslcpompano@gmail.com

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: On February 5, 2017 after 10:15 am service we will have our annual congregational meeting. Those of you, who have to send an annual report, please do so not later than January 27.

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.

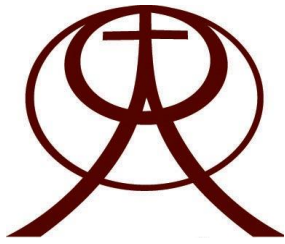
FASHION SHOW FUNDRAISER: Our Annual Fashion Show will be on February 11, 2017 at 11:30 am at Gallupi's restaurant. For tickets and more information contact Rosie Fennelli after service today.

Service Assistants for today

10:15 AM	<i>January 29</i>
ASSISTING MINISTER	Carol Jacobson
ACOLYTE	Pat Belanger
LECTOR	Catherine Zippay
USHERS –Need 4 to Serve	Floyd MacDonald Sherry Fox Linda Hanzlik Web Antill
Head Usher	Rosie Fennelli
GREETERS – Need 2 to Serve	Ruth Wagle Caroline Smith
SOUND	Dennis Magarrell
PROJECTION	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

Larry Jones, President:

councilpresident@ststephenlutheran.net

Web Antill

Christian Hecker

Natalie Prego - Secretary

Eric Castaneda- Treasurer

Lynda Smith

Kathy Runk - Vice Pres.

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

St. Stephen Evangelical Lutheran Church

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