

St Stephen

Lutheran Church, ELCA



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

December 10, 2017

Second Sunday of Advent

10:15am

Rev. Dr. Sidney Nelson, Interim Pastor

—WE GATHER—

INTRODUCTION

John called people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing would get in the way of the Lord's coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who comes to wake us from sleep, who leads us into the light of grace.

C: Amen.

P: Let us prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.
Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God of all time:

C: We confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We often ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace. In your mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.

P: In † Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven and all things are made new.
Rejoice in this good news!

C: AMEN.

OPENING SONG:

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (verse 1 and 2 only)

ELW #240



- 1 Light one can - dle to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the light ban - ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the light ban - ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the light ban - ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the light ban - ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954
Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune
Text © 1984 Fortress Press, 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.

KYRIE (Sung)


Refrain




Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.




Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.




1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Refrain

HYMN OF PRAISE "This is the feast"

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

Refrain



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of



vic - t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray together:

C: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. AMEN

Children's message
Temple talk

Pastor Nelson
Pastor Nelson

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 40:1-5

¹Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD’s hand double for all her sins. ³A voice cries out: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

L: This is the word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM (ELW): PSALM 85:1-2, 8-13

¹You have been gracious to your land, O LORD;
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

²**You have forgiven the iniquity of your people
and blotted out all their sins.**

⁸I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

⁹**Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land.**

¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹**Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.

¹³**Righteousness shall go before the LORD
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

SECOND READING: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

⁸Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance.

¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

¹¹Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ^{15a}and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

L: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: Please Rise for the Gospel Acclamation.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Alleluia”

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,’ ”

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Sidney Nelson

SERMON SONG:

My Lord, What a Morning

ELW #438

Refrain



My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn - ing; oh,



my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be - gin to fall.



- 1 You will hear the trum - pet sound,
- 2 You will hear the sin - ner cry, to wake the na-tions un - der - ground,
- 3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,



look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be-gin to fall.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: BURLEIGH, African American spiritual

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: Guided by the light of Christ, let us pray for the coming dawn of joy, healing, and comfort for all God's people.

After each petition of the prayer is said:

A: Lord, in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

P: We raise our prayers to you, O God, in the name of the one who is, who was, and who is to come, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: 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:

He Came Down
(verses 1 & 2 only)

ELW #253



1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional
Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

A: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Dialogue

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

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:

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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.

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.

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.

The Lord's Prayer

C: Amen.

**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: Welcome to the Lord's table.

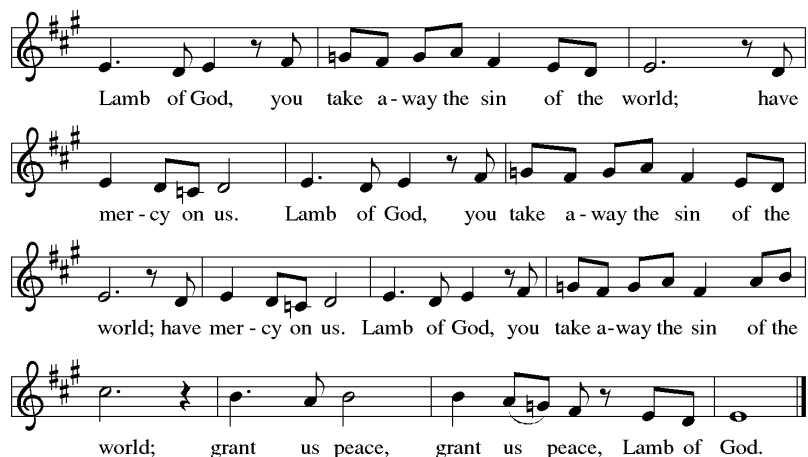
Reception of Communion

The body of Christ, given for you.

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

Communion distribution today is at the Altar rail and received by intinction. Please come forward by the center aisle at the direction of an usher, and kneel or stand (as you are able) at the Altar rail. Receive the bread in your hands and dip it in the wine. The wine is alcohol free. There is no group dismissal. Please return to your seats by the center aisle. There will be another communion station below for those that prefer not to come to the Altar rail. 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, Lamb of God.

(verses 1 and 4 only)



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,
 and open wide our heav'nly home;
 make safe the way that leads on high,
 and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
 O Sun of justice, now draw near.
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*
- 7 O come, O King of nations, come,
 O Cornerstone that binds in one:
 refresh the hearts that long for you;
 restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
 and ransom captive Israel,
 that mourns in lonely exile here
 until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

Text: *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite
 Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.
 Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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Instrumental Music

Cesar Vidaud

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray.

A: God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

~WE ARE SENT FORTH~

Benediction

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

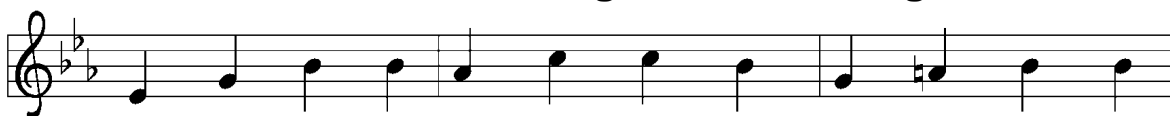
C: Amen.

Announcements

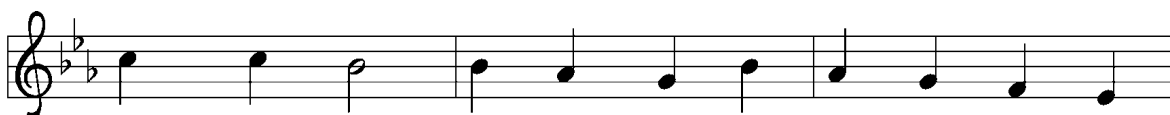
SENDING SONG:

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!

ELW #246



1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is near," we
2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age
3 See the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, come with par - don
4 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the world is
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther



hear it say. "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness,
let us rise; Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling,
down from heav'n. Let us haste, with tears of sor - row,
wrapped in fear, he will shield us with his mer - cy
and the Son with the ev - er - last - ing Spir - it



all you chil - dren of the day!"
shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
one and all, to be for - giv'n;
and with words of love draw near.
while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878

Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823–1889

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

C: 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: Rudy Koch, Laurel Blake, Jim Loggins, Barb Taylor, Diane Adler, Jean Rogers, Katie, Roy and Barbara Kaptain, Lisa Allen, Bob & Jane Reinhold, C.C., Trudy DiCarlo and Marie Koach.

Prayers for Friends of the Church: Jerry, Cheryl, Robert, Craig, Henry Q., Damien S., Monique Rogers and her mom Betty, Marie Trykoski, Myrka Alverist's family, Maggie Alverist, Ann Farrell, Normagene Richardson, Aiden Chase, Rita Stevenson, Mike, Barbara Greco, Dr. Willis Allen, Eleanor Knauf, Alessandra, Cheryl, Nick Caldwell Sr., Lucille Capece, Lexie Sachlis, George F., David Spall, Joan Coletti, Adam Rubino, Berna, Braemen Weiner, Chandler Weiner, Debbie Seckel, Elizabeth Kraus, Kenneth Smith, Mary Taylor, Cynthia, Richard H., Laurie Engelhardt, Diane Adler at the death of her mom Helene Harker, Katie's Paff grandma.

December flowers sponsors: December 3 by Natalie Prego in honor of daughter Aliya's Knowles birthday.
December 10 by Carol Jacobson in honor of Kelly's birthday.
December 12 by Catherine Zippay in memory of Henry Zippay.

Announcements

DECEMBER 24th SCHEDULE: Advent worship: 10:15am "Mary Mother of Our Lord".

Christmas Eve: 5:30pm the children will have a chance to portray those involved in the Christmas story. Come worship the Christ child with good music, inspiring message and candlelight.

7:00 p.m. We hope to be inspired, challenged and filled with the Spirit of God as we sing Christmas tunes. Bring friends and family to celebrate Christ birth. A candlelight at the end of both services help us to remember that Silent and Holy Night!

POINSETTIAS: Starting December 3, 2017 St Stephen will begin selling poinsettias as a fundraiser. Poinsettias can be dedicated to loved ones. They will decorate our altar until after the Christmas Service when you can take home what you purchased. Donation: \$10.00.

COMMITMENT CARDS for our Estimate of Giving can be placed in our offering plate (use envelope for confidentiality); bring to office; by mail; or by email sslcpompano@gmail.com

ADVENT DAY CANCELED:

Dear St. Stephen congregants,

We would like to let you know that the Advent day schedule for this Saturday December 9 have been canceled.

A children's rehearsal to portray the Christmas story will take place on Sunday December 17 right after worship service at 11:30 a.m.

The children's pageant will be Christmas Eve December 24th at 5:30

Let's keep encouraging and strengthening faith in Jesus, and sharing the joy of God's love.

Peace and light,

Pr. Nelson and Deacon Aura

Service Assistants for December

10:15 AM	<u>December 10</u>	<u>December 17</u>	<u>December 24</u>	<u>December 31</u>
ASSISTING MINISTER	Sera Butz	Natalie Prego	Aura Suarez	Aura Suarez
ACOLYTE	Aiyana Cartwright	Katie Paff	Aiyana Cartwright	Katie Paff
LECTOR	Kevin Otterson	Catherine Zippay	Tom Peterson	Rosie Fennelli
USHERS –Need 4 to Serve	Floyd MacDonald Jimmy Fennelli Lynda Smith Zachary Smith	Harry Ambrose Patricia Engle Terry Shumway Catherine Zippay	Lisa Castaneda Linda Hanzlik Lynda Smith Zachary Smith	Floyd MacDonald Jeanne Pettit Harry Ambrose Patricia Engle
Head Usher	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli
GREETERS – Need 2 to Serve	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle	TBA	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle
SOUND	Larry Jones	Dennis Magarrell	Sera Butz	Eric Castaneda
PROJECTION	TBA	Eric Castaneda	TBA	Dennis Magarrell

	<u>December 24 Christmas Eve 5:30p.m Service</u>	<u>December 24 Christmas Eve 7pm Service</u>	
ASSISTING MINISTER	Sera Butz	Aura Suarez	
ACOLYTE	Katie Paff	Aiyana Cartwright	
USHERS	Lynda Smith Pat Belanger	Terry Shumway	Rosie Fennelli
SOUND	Dennis Magarrell	Sera Butz	



“I’m doing great things for the Lord”

You can say this to yourself every week as you gather in worship knowing that your weekly or monthly gift serves God’s beloved children at home and around the world. There is nothing that you can do today (in my opinion) that has more importance than completing this card and submitting it as your commitment to the ministries of your Lord’s church. Your generosity is a reflection of God’s generosity to you. I know a retired farmer from Minnesota that told me this spring as he made his commitment to his church, “you can never out give the Lord.” He also said that “God is good and his generosity abounds in our lives”. You’re giving is a daily act of kindness and gentleness and love to so many people.

“Lord, when did we see you:

Hungry and give you food?

Thirsty and give you drink?

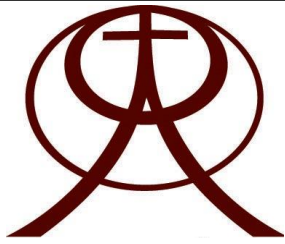
Naked and give you clothes?

And the Lord will answer “In as much as you have done it unto any of these, my children, you have done it unto me.” (Matthew 25 paraphrase)

“This is the day that our Lord has made, let us rejoice and give thankfully to God”

Pastor Nelson

**Please return card: in offering plate
To office
By mail
Or by email to
sslcpompano@email.com**



St Stephen

Lutheran Church, ELCA

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

Sunday Schedule

10:15 a.m. Worship

Holy Communion is celebrated weekly

Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Sidney Nelson – Interim Pastor

ststephenpastornelson@gmail.com

561-235-0929

Cesar Vidaud – Director of Music

Clarence (Teddy) Rowe – Sexton

Aidee Koach – Administrative Assistant

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Congregation Council

Larry Jones - President

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Christian Hecker – Vice-president

Natalie Prego - Secretary

Patricia Engle

Dennis Magarrell

Eric Castaneda - Treasurer

Lynda Smith

Harry Ambrose

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

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