

St Stephen

a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



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

December 22, 2019

Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:15am

The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer, Pastor

Holy Communion

INTRODUCTION to the Fourth Sunday of Advent

The last week of Advent, beginning on December 17, the emphasis shifts from preparing for the return of Christ, to preparing for the birth of Christ at Christmas. The readings for the Fourth Sunday in Advent reflect this emphasis of using the final days of this season to prepare us to come to the manger at Christmas. Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent, we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.



Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Choir Prelude

Welcome

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presider minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the parent who rouses us from slumber,
the One who makes the desert rejoice and blossom,
the deliverer who brings everlasting joy and gladness.

Amen.

Let us come before God in confession.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

To you, O God,

we lift up our souls.

You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you.

Remember not our sins; remember us with your steadfast love.

Show us your ways; teach us your paths;

and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness

in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Children of God, come with joy and draw water from the well of salvation. Remember the gift of baptism: your sin is washed away in the name of † Jesus; you belong to Christ; you are anointed to serve. Stand up and raise your heads! The reign of God is near.

Amen.

The assembly remains standing to sing, turning to the altar as the cross passes by.

The assembly sings the first two verses as the procession moves to the Advent Wreath.



The wreath is then blessed and the fourth candle is lit. The blessing concludes as follows:

P: O house of David, come,

C: let us rejoice, for the Son of God, Emmanuel, comes to be with us. Amen.

Then the assembly sings verses 3, 4 and 5.



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-joyce! Re-joyce!
 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*

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

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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

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,



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept, then the presiding minister leads the prayer.

P: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The assembly sits.



Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 7:10-16

A reading from Isaiah.

¹⁰The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. ¹³Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the

time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 80:1-7, 17-19

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- on the cherubim.

²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and come to help us.**

³Restore us, O God; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

⁴**O LORD God of hosts, how long will your anger fume when your people pray?**

⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

⁶**You have made us the derision of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

¹⁷**Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,
the one you have made so strong for yourself.**

¹⁸And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call up- on your name.

¹⁹**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.**

SECOND READING: Romans 1:1-7

A reading from Romans.

¹Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

After a brief silence, the assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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.

GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-25

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Matthew.

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

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated.

Youth and Children's Message

SERMON

The Rev. Robert Schaefer

Silence for reflection follows the sermon. The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in Song.

HYMN OF THE DAY:

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

ELW #265



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924
Music: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE, Basque carol

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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Keeping awake as we watch for Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

After each petition of the prayer is said:

A: Lord, in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

P: You hear the cries of our hearts, O Lord. Fill us with hopeful expectation, that in each day and hour we may love and serve our neighbors, in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

The people may greet each other with a sign of Christ's peace and may say: Peace be with you.



MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

OFFERING SONG:

My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness

ELW #251



1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!
 2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer - cy ev - er flows.
 3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;



You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.
 With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem - ing hearts ex - pose.
 the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.



Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless - ing shall pro - claim—
 The ruth - less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;
 Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,



great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.
 the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.
 and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

Text: *With One Voice*, 1995, based on the Magnificat
 Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune
 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

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DEDICATION OF BURSE & VEIL and OFFERING PRAYER

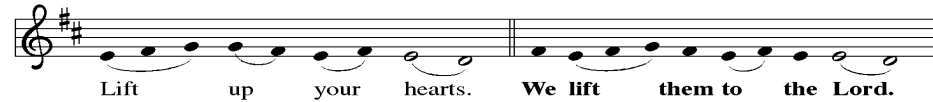
A: Let us pray.

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, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

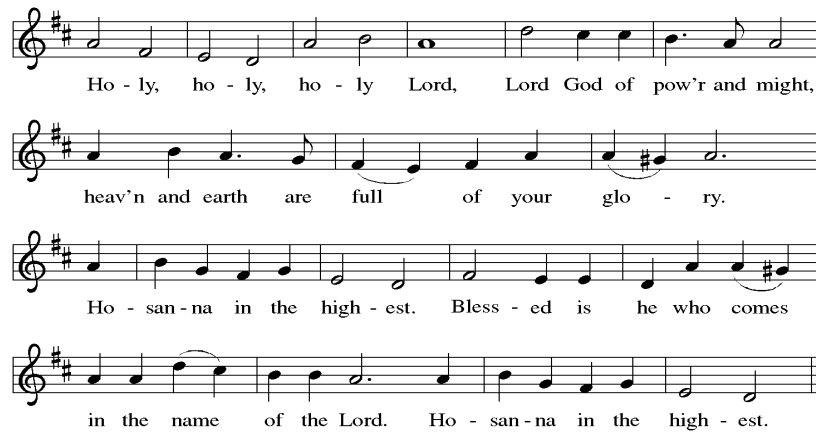


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...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.

The presiding minister continues to give thanks:

...Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup...We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit...Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours... one God, now and forever.

Amen.

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Communion

P: This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Come now with joy to Emmanuel's table. Feast at the banquet of hope and love.

The bread is broken for the communion. The assembly is seated.

All baptized Christians are invited to participate in the celebration of holy communion. 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.

*At St. Stephen we receive Holy Communion by receiving the bread and then either **drinking directly from the cup** or by **intinction**: (receive the bread in your hand and then dip bread in the wine.)*

Gluten free bread is available on the right side. (please ask)

Alcohol free wine is available on the right side. (please ask)

The body of Christ, given for you. *Response: Amen.*
 The blood of Christ, shed for you. *Response: Amen.*



Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
 O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros.
 have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.

Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
 O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros.
 have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.

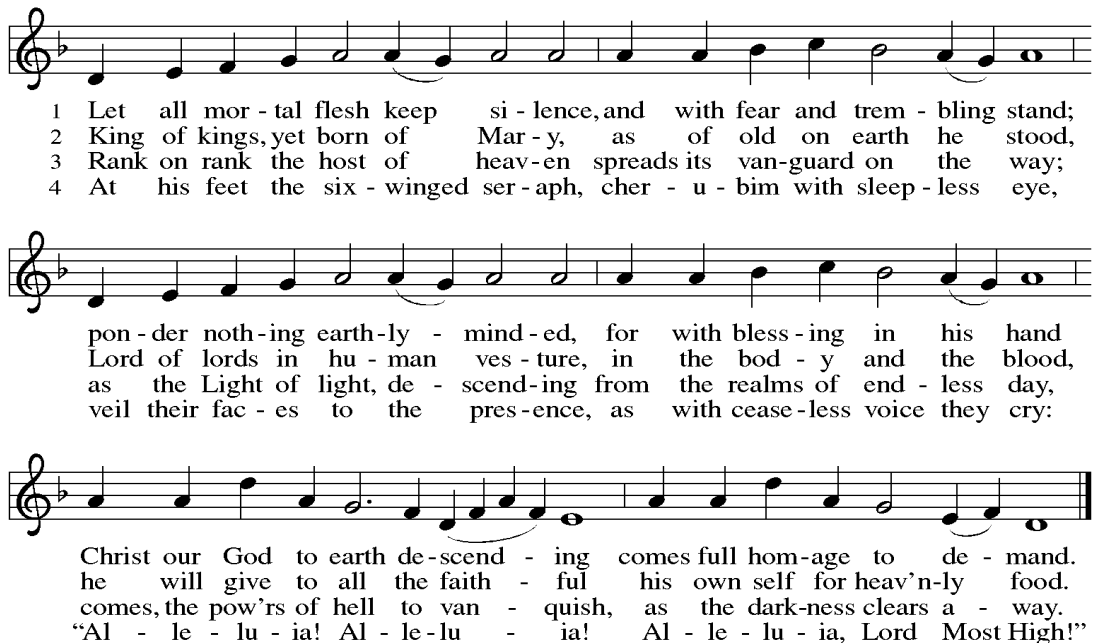
Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
 O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

da - nos tu paz, da - nos tu paz.
 grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

Communion Song:

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

ELW #490



1 Let all mor-tal flesh keep si-lence, and with fear and trem-bling stand;
 2 King of kings, yet born of Mar-y, as of old on earth he stood,
 3 Rank on rank the host of heav-en spreads its van-guard on the way;
 4 At his feet the six-winged ser-aph, cher-u-bim with sleep-less eye,

pon-der noth-ing earth-ly - mind-ed, for with bless-ing in his hand
 Lord of lords in hu-man ves-ture, in the bod-y and the blood,
 as the Light of light, de-scend-ing from the realms of end-less day,
 veil their fac-es to the pres-ence, as with cease-less voice they cry:

Christ our God to earth de-scend-ing comes full hom-age to de-mand.
 he will give to all the faith-ful his own self for heav'n-ly food.
 comes, the pow'rs of hell to van-quish, as the dark-ness clears a-way.
 "Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia, Lord Most High!"

Text: Liturgy of St. James; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829–1885, alt.
 Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

Additional Communion songs are sung as needed

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray.

Holy One, we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvesters of justice and righteousness, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.



Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Announcements

BLESSING

P: May God, who gathers us in love, lead you into pathways of righteousness and justice.

C: Amen.

P: May God, who knows us more deeply than we know ourselves, lead you in pathways of forgiveness and freedom.

C: Amen.

P: May God, who fills us with good things lead you in pathways of equity and abundance.

C: Amen.

All may make the sign of the cross as they receive God's blessing.

P: Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG:

Canticle of the Turning

ELW# 723



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat
 Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional
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DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Christ is near.

C: Thanks be to God.



In response to the amazing love, mercy and grace of God, St. Stephen Lutheran Church is a community that openly welcomes all who are seeking God's divine love and grace. All are welcome in this place regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation or gender identity, economic situation or life situation, marital or relationship status, or your doubts about faith and church. Our unity is in Christ. Your family, children, friends, spouses and partners are welcome. Your diversity and uniqueness enriches and expands our community. We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

IN OUR PRAYERS...

In our prayers today are these members of our homebound and others of our parish family in need of healing: Normagene Richardson, Mildred Grady, Laurel Blake, Katie Paff, Dorothy Johnson, Carol Chmelynski, Jimmy Fennelli, Edith Reichenbach, Jim Loggins, Roy and Barbara Kaptain, Bob & Jane Reinhold, and Shelley Amato.

Prayers for Friends of the parish: (Please renew your request every 3 weeks)

✠ George, Greg, Ann, Jason, Valerie, Doris ✠ Rudy, Susan, Jose R., Myriam, Christian C., Jake, George, Jill, Jordan, Betty, Pat Jean, Pat Ruth, Jerry, Robert, ✠ Bill Y., Susan, Carol, Bill, Edith, Gene, Annette, Chuck, Betty, Joanna, Tony, John, Ariana, John W., Zeus, Craig, Braemen, Chandler, Aiden, Cheryl, Craig, Robert, Becky, Nettie, Donnie, Lorraine, C.C., Enes, Richie, John.

In a facility or homebound:

- Barbara Kaptain – The Atrium Assistant Living at Boca Raton.
1080 NW 15TH Room 215 Boca Raton, Fl. 33486
- Jane Reinhold – Platinum Loving Group, P. O. Box 410572, Melbourne, FL 32941
- Evelyn Braun – 6152 Verde Trail Room 106 Boca Raton, Fl. 33433
- Jim Loggins - John Knox Village – Woodlands 700 SW 4th St, Pompano Beach, FL 33060
- Bud Danker - 3020 N. Ridge Road Apartment W-316 Ellicott City, MD 21043

Flowers this week sponsored by: Kristi Clark.

Assisting at Worship in December

(w) will give the cup at communion. Thank you all for serving.

10:15 AM	<u>December 22</u>	<u>December 24</u> <i>Christmas Eve Services</i>		<u>December 29</u>
		<u>5:30pm</u>	<u>7:30pm</u>	
ASSISTING MINISTER	Carol Jacobson	Sera Butz	Sera Butz	Sera Butz
ACOLYTE	Natalie Prego	Carol Jacobson	Natalie Prego	Carol Jacobson
LECTOR	Rosie Fennelli	Tom Peterson	Tom Peterson	Pat Belanger
TORCH BEARERS		Eric Castaneda Zachary Smith	Eric Castaneda Chris Belanger	
BOOK BEARER		Pat Belanger	Pat Belanger	
USHERS –Need 4 to Serve	Suzanne Loggins Jeanne Pettit Lynda Smith Lisa Castaneda (w)	Lynda Smith Lisa Castaneda (w)	Patricia Engle Rosie Fennelli (w)	Lisa Castaneda (w) Karin Breslin Pat Engle R. Mottesheard
Head Usher	Rosie Fennelli			Rosie Fennelli
GREETERS – Need 2 to Serve	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle			Rose Jones Kelly Jacobson
SOUND	Sera Butz	Dennis Magarrell	Larry Jones	Larry Jones
PROJECTION	Eric Castaneda	Dennis Magarrell	Larry Jones	Jake VanZile



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship, its Advent! Welcome returning winter residents!

We are thankful you are here! We especially welcome our guests and our first time guests today. Stop at the desk to pick up a **name tag** if you don't have one. Please take a moment to fill out the attendance cards in the worship folder with your name, number and email—especially if you are visiting so that we can welcome you. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to

contact Pr. Schaefer. Please join us for refreshments and conversation in the gathering area at the back of the church (Narthex) following the liturgy this morning. St. Stephen members: don't forget to put a little something in the jar on the table to help support this ministry! We thank **Linda Hanzlik** for her generous stewardship of this ministry of hospitality!

Wear your name tag every Sunday

If you signed up for one, it is waiting for you. If you need one, just ask! Members and friends, please wear your name tag to every church function. We want St. Stephen Church to be a place where everyone knows your name!



Today we dedicate a new communion veil and burse for the season of Christmas

It is given anonymously to the Glory of God. We are thankful for this gift which will beautify our worship during the weeks of Christmas. We are still in need of a white set for the Easter season and a green set for the Time after Pentecost. If you are interested, see Pastor or Rosie Fennelli.

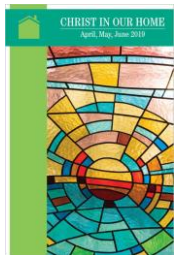
Christmas Eve at St. Stephen—two services

5:30pm Family Christ Mass with Candlelight and Children's Message

7:30pm Festival Sung Christ Mass with Candlelight

First Sunday of Christmas—December 29

10:15am Mass of Christmas Carols and Lessons



Our devotionals, Christ in Our Home and Word in Season are available today

They cover January through March. Pick yours up in the Narthex today and make a New Year's resolution to spend some time in devotion Our Lord every day in 2020.

Live Generously:

Please return your estimate of giving card for 2020!

Our stewardship theme is **LIVE GENEROUSLY**. St. Paul gives the following advice to Christians: *"They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that*



really is life.” (1 Timothy 6:15-19). Please take time to pray about this and return your **Live Generously Estimate of Giving Card** if you did not return it last week on Commitment Sunday.

EXODUS

HOW IT HAPPENED AND WHY IT MATTERS



Tuesday Evening Bible Study returns on January 8!!!

We will gather at 7:00pm in the Luther Room to begin a study of the Book of Exodus. Learn about how God saves the chosen people from slavery and how the Exodus events relate to Christ, to Lent and Easter, and to the Lord’s Supper for Christians. Invite a friend!!

Offering Envelopes for 2020 are here...

Please look for your name and pick them up today. Remember you can also elect to give your offering or special gifts to St. Stephen on our website at www.ststephenlutheran.net. Just go there and click on “Give” and then “electronic giving.”

Offering Envelopes



Florida-Bahamas Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Change for Change tower to the Office of the Bishop in the Florida-Bahamas Synod to assist our brothers and sisters there recover from Hurricane Dorian.

Change for Change Tower: Hurricane Relief in the Bahamas

Through next Sunday, we will be forwarding all money collected in the

Holy Grill needs:

Breakfast continues to be served Wednesday at 9am and dinner at 5pm in the same location in our east lot in front of the sanctuary. Please check the box on the attendance card if interested becoming a volunteer. Be sure to include your email. Pr. Bob will contact you. We continue to collect for these clothing needs: **Men’s/women’s underwear, socks, T-shirts, shorts, towels.**



Serving Schedule: There will be no Holy Grill at St. Stephen on Christmas Day.

2020 Congregation Council Meeting today

The newly elected congregation council will have a brief meeting in the Luther Room following the Liturgy this morning for the purpose of electing officers for the year.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER:

Last Sunday Attendance: 68

Last Sunday Income (all sources): \$ 2,990

**WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY! LIVE GENEROUSLY!
& THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!!!**



Sunday Schedule

10:15 a.m.

Liturgy of Holy Communion

Tuesday Bible Study Resumes in January

Church Staff

The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer – Pastor
pastoratststephen@gmail.com
941-716-5687

Cesar Vidaud – Director of Music

Clarence (Teddy) Rowe – Sexton

Aidee Koach – Administrative Assistant
sslcpompano@gmail.com

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

2019 Congregation Council

Larry Jones - President
councilpresident@ststephenlutheran.net

Christian Hecker – Vice-president

Eric Castaneda - Treasurer

Natalie Prego – Secretary

Lynda Smith

Patricia Engle

Harry Ambrose

Dennis Magarrell

Erika Flanigan

St. Stephen Lutheran Church, ELCA

2500 NE 14th Street Causeway,

Pompano Beach, Florida, 33062

Tele: 954.942.4473 • Fax: 954.942.4474

www.ststephenlutheran.net

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Weekly Calendar

Sunday 22—Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:15am Worship

11:30am 2020 Congregation Council Meeting

Monday 23—Advent Weekday

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Tuesday 24—Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Eve

9:30am-12:30pm Office Closed

5:30pm Family Christ Mass with candlelight & Children's
Message

7:30pm Festival Sung Christ Mass with Candlelight

7:00pm Women's AA (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday 25—Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Day

No Quilting

No Holy Grill

9:30am-12:30pm Office Closed

Thursday 26—ST. STEPHEN, DEACON AND MARTYR

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday 27—ST. JOHN, APOSTLE

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Saturday 28—THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS



Online Giving

We offer you the opportunity to give online through our website and also to set up automatic offerings so you don't wish to fill an envelope each week, if you choose. Electronic gifts are fast and secure. Go to www.ststephenlutheran.net and click on "GIVE"

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