

# 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.**

**January 6, 2019**

**Epiphany of Our Lord**

**10:15am**

**The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer, Pastor**

# Festival Holy Communion

## Gathering

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

### 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.*

### CHOIR PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### GATHERING SONG:

#### As with Gladness Men of Old

ELW# 302



- 1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;
- 2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,
- 3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,
- 4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;
- 5 In the heav' - n - ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;  
there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav' - n and earth a - dore;  
so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,  
and when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last  
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;



so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.  
so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.  
all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav' - n - ly king.  
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.  
there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.

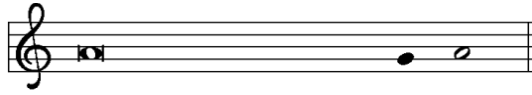
Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.  
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

# APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: May the grace and truth and light of Christ, born of Mary, worshipped by the magi, be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

## KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



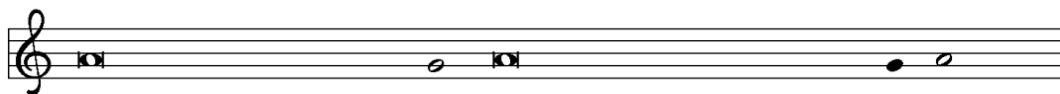
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



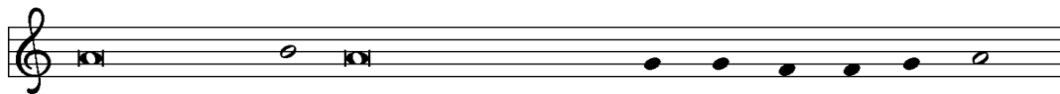
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - - men.



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
 What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

*Refrain*



Glo

ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864  
 Music: GLORIA, French carol

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

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

P: 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.

C: **Amen.**

*The assembly sits.*

## Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading and song.

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

<sup>2</sup>For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. <sup>3</sup>Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the

brightness of your dawn. <sup>4</sup>Lift 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. <sup>5</sup>Then 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. <sup>6</sup>A 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: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14**

<sup>1</sup>Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;

<sup>2</sup>**that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;**

<sup>3</sup>that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

<sup>4</sup>**Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**

<sup>5</sup>May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

<sup>6</sup>**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,  
like showers that water the earth.**

<sup>7</sup>In his time may the righteous flourish;

and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

<sup>10</sup>**May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute,  
and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.**

<sup>11</sup>May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.

<sup>12</sup>**For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress,  
the oppressed, and those who have no helper.**

<sup>13</sup>He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy.

<sup>14</sup>**From oppression and violence he redeems their lives,  
and precious is their blood in his sight.**

### **SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:1-12**

A reading from Ephesians.

<sup>1</sup>This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—<sup>2</sup>for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, <sup>3</sup>and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <sup>4</sup>a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup>In 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: <sup>6</sup>that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. <sup>7</sup>Of 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. <sup>8</sup>Although 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, <sup>9</sup>and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; <sup>10</sup>so 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. <sup>11</sup>This was in accordance with the eternal purpose

that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION AND PROCESSION We Three Kings

WOV #646

*(Verse 1 only)*



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing  
2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I  
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense  
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a  
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,  
bring to crown him a - gain; king for - ev - er,  
owns a de - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,  
life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,  
God and Sac - ri - fice; heav'n sings al - le -



moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.  
glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.  
bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.



Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891, alt.  
Music: THREE KINGS OF ORIENT, John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891

## GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>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.” <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and

scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup>'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.'"

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>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." <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>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.

*As the gospel procession returns the assembly sings* **We Three Kings, (Verse 5).**

*The assembly is seated.*

### Children and Youth Message

### SERMON

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

### HYMN OF THE DAY

### The First Noel

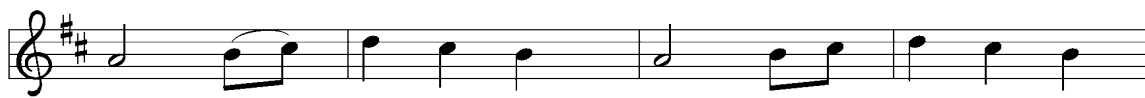
ELW # 300



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to  
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing  
 3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .  
 4 This star drew near to the . . . north - west, o'er . .  
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where  
 in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the  
 wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a  
 Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it  
 rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's  
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -  
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the  
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the  
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, . . . and

*Refrain*

night that was so deep.  
 tin-ued both day and night.  
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -  
 place where Je - sus lay.  
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.

el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Text: English traditional  
 Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional

## 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: Dwelling in the presence of God with us,  
let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all in any need.

*A brief silence.*

*After each petition:*

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

P: Trusting in the presence of God by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
we commend all for whom we pray, dwelling in the light and hope of Christ, our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

## PEACE

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

*The assembly is seated.*

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## OFFERING

*The assembly stands.*

### MUSICAL OFFERING:

### What Child Is This

ELW# 296



- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
- 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
- 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?  
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898  
Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

## OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

Holy God, your beauty shines forth from the manger and your love flows from the cross. As you gather us around these signs of your love come among us, warm us to extend your care among the hungry and all in need. We ask this through Christ the Lord.

C: 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:*

You are holy, O God of majesty, ...

...Great is the mystery of faith.

**Dying you destroyed our death,  
rising you restored our life.**

**Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

... all glory and honor are yours, almighty 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 to the table where Christ meets you. Eat, rejoice, and be glad!

*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: That means that you may **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.*

## Communion Song:

## Shine, Jesus, Shine

ELW# 671

*Refrain*

Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa-ther's glo - ry;  
 blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.  
 Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;  
 send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the  
 2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -

dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,  
play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,

set us free by the truth you now bring us.  
mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.

Shine on me, shine on me:  
Shine on me, shine on me:

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950  
Music: Graham Kendrick  
Text and music © 1987 Make Way Music, admin. Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE  
9 9 10 10 3 3 and refrain

*Additional Communion songs are sung as needed*

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray.

God of wonder,

in Jesus we behold the light of the world come near.

As you have come among us now,

send us out in joy, hastening to share  
the good news of your love.

We ask this in the name of Jesus,

through the Spirit dwelling among us now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### Sending

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

### BLESSING

P: May you be filled with the wonder of Mary,

the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels,

the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi,  
and the peace of the Christ child.

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

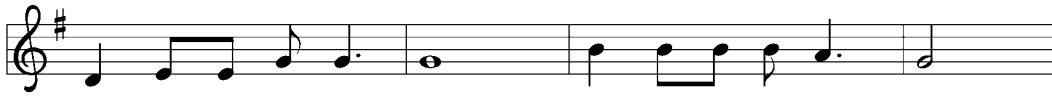
**Amen.**



1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
 2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
 3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,



let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual  
 Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual

## DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the joy of Christ.

**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: Marsha Kibler, Juliet Crawford, Jimmy Fennelli, Laurel Blake, Kathy Runk, Edith Reichenback, Audrey Shumway, Jim Loggins, Diane Adler, Roy and Barbara Kaptain, Bob & Jane Reinhold, and Shelley Amato.

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

✠ Celeste, Juliet, "Pop", Aurea, George, and Donna ✠ Carol, Daisy, and Debbie ✠ Erick, Tonny, Carolyn, Deborah, Cynthia, Craig, Nettie, Cheryl, Robert, Chandler, Becky, Aiden, Braemen, Mary, Jerry, Carol, Nettie, and Peggy.

## 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

## *Assisting at Our Worship in January*

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

10:15 AM	<u>January 6</u>	<u>January 13</u>	<u>January 20</u>	<u>January 27</u>
<b>ASSISTING MINISTER</b>	Pat Belanger	Carol Jacobson	Natalie Prego	Sera Butz
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Carol Jacobson	Katie Paff	Pat Belanger	Madison Kibler
<b>TORCH BEARERS</b>	Eric Castaneda Sera Butz			
<b>BOOK BEARER</b>	Katie Paff			
<b>LECTOR</b>	Judi Dooge	Rita Sharkey	Erika Flanigan	Tom Peterson
<b>USHERS –Need 4 to Serve</b>	Suzanne Loggins Jeanne Pettit Lisa Castaneda (w) Karen Breslin	Erika Flanigan R. Mottershead Lynda Smith Zachary Smith (w)	Rosie Fennelli Jimmy Fennelli Harry Ambrose Patricia Engle	Marsha Kibler (w) Drew Kibler Darin Kibler Catherine Zippay
<b>Head Usher</b>	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli
<b>GREETERS – Need 2 to Serve</b>	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones	Carol Jacobson Pat Belanger	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones
<b>SOUND</b>	Dennis Magarrell	Eric Castaneda	Eric Castaneda	Dennis Magarrell
<b>PROJECTION</b>	TBA	Larry Jones	Jake Vanzile	Larry Jones



*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.*

**Check our updated website at [www.ststephenlutheran.net](http://www.ststephenlutheran.net)**

Many thanks to Erika Flanigan and Jon VanZile for spending many hours assisting the pastor to update and freshen up our web presence. The work continues! Your ideas are welcome!

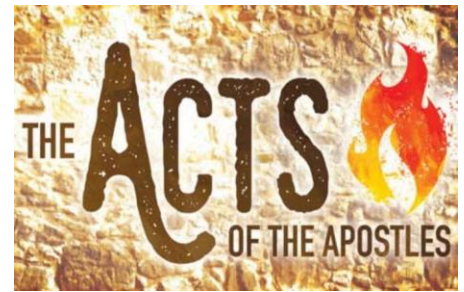
## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ***Welcome to worship! Happy New Year!***

We are thankful you are here! We especially welcome our guests and first time visitors 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!

### ***Bible Study Resumes this Tuesday: The Book of Acts***

Beginning Tuesday, January 8 we start a new weekly study of the Book of the Acts of the Apostles. We will gather for this conversation in the Luther Room every Tuesday from 7—8pm. The class will be repeated Sunday mornings at 9:15am in the sanctuary, starting next Sunday. Acts tells the story of the early church. It traces the growth of the church from a small group of Jewish believers in Jerusalem to a worldwide movement that included both Jews and Gentiles. This book still both gives the church its marching orders and shows how the Holy Spirit will guide us in mission. Bring a bible and a friend and join us Tuesday evenings!

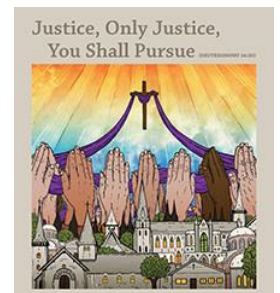


### ***Congregation Council Meeting— Wednesday, January 9***

Our first meeting of the year! council members please check your calendar and pick up your packets on January 6. Important matters are to be addressed.

### ***Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: Save the date—January 17<sup>th</sup>!***

Every year from January 18 (Feast of St. Paul) —25 (Feast of St. Peter), Christians around the world pray for the unity of the Church that Christ desired. Join us this year at St. Nicholas Episcopal Church on **Thursday, January 17, at 7:00pm** for a special prayer service for Christian unity. Pr. Bob and other community clergy will participate. A light reception in the parish hall will follow. St. Nicholas is located at 1111 E. Sample Road in Pompano Beach.



### ***Name Tags: A Ministry of Welcome. Pick yours up today!!!***

As we grow into our future together at St. Stephen, it is important that we all know each other's names as well as those of first time and returning guests. We have made new magnetic name tags for regular worshippers at St. Stephen. Please pick yours up. If you cannot find a name tag for yourself, there is a sheet on the table for you to print your name the way you want it to appear. Please start wearing your name tag every Sunday and at church functions. They are free. If you would like to make a donation toward the expense, they cost us \$5 each. Any gift is welcome but optional!

### ***Change for Change Tower: Last Sunday for St. Lawrence Homeless Shelter***

This is the final Sunday for the mission emphasis we started in November. Our Change for Change Tower collection will continue to go to the St. Lawrence Homeless Shelter in Pompano Beach (1698 Blount Road—next to Broward Outreach Center). This ministry which is sponsored by our full-communion partners in the Episcopal Church provides an array of services for clients who are homeless and hungry. Their mission is to provide breakfast, lunch, showers, clothing, medical care, chapel services, overnight accommodations and more. Please give generously to this local ministry!





### Sunday Schedule

9:15 a.m. Adult Forum  
10:15 a.m. Worship  
Holy Communion is celebrated weekly  
11:45 a.m. Confirmation Ministry

### 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

### 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

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## Activity Calendar

**Sunday 6**  
9:15am Adult Forum  
10:15am Sunday Worship  
11:45 - 12:45pm Confirmation Ministry

**Monday 7**  
9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

**Tuesday 8**  
9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

**Wednesday 9**  
9:30am-12:30pm Office Open  
7:00pm Congregation Council Meeting

**Thursday 10**  
9:30am-12:30pm Office Open  
7:30pm Choir Rehearsal

**Friday 11**  
9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

**Saturday 12**  
Happy and Blessed Saturday!

**Sunday 13**  
9:15am Adult Forum  
10:15am Sunday Worship  
11:45 - 12:45pm Confirmation Ministry



"I made a New Year's resolution to eat broccoli.  
If I can't stand it, I'll give it up for Lent."

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