

# St Stephen

Evangelical Lutheran Church



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

July 24, 2016

**10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

9:00 & 10:15am

Rev. Pedro Suarez

# WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

—WE GATHER—

## INTRODUCTION

*Persistence in prayer evoked the admiration of Jesus and wins the attention of the Lord when Abraham intercedes for Sodom. The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus the Lord—is to be rooted in prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God's own. "When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me."*

## 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: Almighty God to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Most merciful God:

**C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**



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

**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:** Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**Children's Message**

—WE HEAR GOD'S WORD—

<sup>20</sup> Then the LORD said, “How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! <sup>21</sup> I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know.” <sup>22</sup> So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. <sup>23</sup> Then Abraham came near and said, “Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked?”

<sup>24</sup> Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? <sup>25</sup> Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?” <sup>26</sup> And the LORD said, “If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake.” <sup>27</sup> Abraham answered, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. <sup>28</sup> Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?” And he said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.” <sup>29</sup> Again he spoke to him, “Suppose forty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of forty I will not do it.” <sup>30</sup> Then he said, “Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.” <sup>31</sup> He said, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.” <sup>32</sup> Then he said, “Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.”

L: This is the word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 138

<sup>1</sup> I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I sing your praise;

<sup>2</sup> **I bow down toward your holy temple  
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness;  
for you have exalted your name and your word  
above everything.**

<sup>3</sup> On the day I called, you answered me,  
you increased my strength of soul.

<sup>4</sup> **All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O LORD,  
for they have heard the words of your mouth.**

<sup>5</sup> They shall sing of the ways of the LORD,  
for great is the glory of the LORD.

<sup>6</sup> **For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly;  
but the haughty he perceives from far away.**

<sup>7</sup> Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;  
you stretch out your hand,  
and your right hand delivers me.

<sup>8</sup> **The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me;  
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.  
Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

**SECOND READING:**

**Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]**

<sup>6</sup> As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him,  
<sup>7</sup> rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught,  
abounding in thanksgiving.

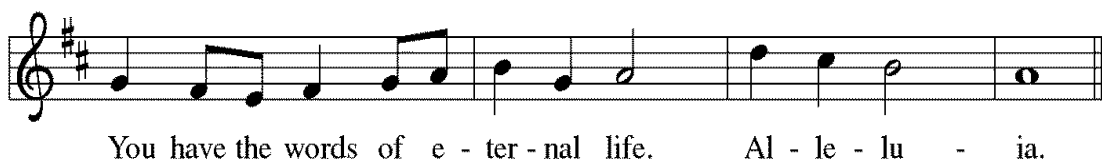
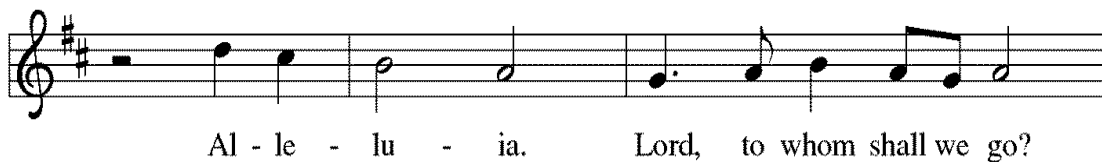
<sup>8</sup> See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. <sup>9</sup> For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, <sup>10</sup> and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. <sup>11</sup> In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; <sup>12</sup> when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. <sup>13</sup> And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, <sup>14</sup> erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup> He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it. <sup>16</sup> Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. <sup>17</sup> These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. <sup>18</sup> Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, <sup>19</sup> and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.

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 "Alleluia"



P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke, the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

### GOSPEL:

**Luke 11:1-13**

11 He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."<sup>2</sup> He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come.

<sup>3</sup> Give us each day our daily bread.

<sup>4</sup> And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial."

<sup>5</sup> And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; <sup>6</sup> for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.'<sup>7</sup> And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.'<sup>8</sup> I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

<sup>9</sup> "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. <sup>10</sup> For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>11</sup> Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? <sup>12</sup> Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? <sup>13</sup> If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

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:

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

ELW #742



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?  
3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!  
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged—take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge—take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need - less pain we bear—  
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - row share?  
Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!  
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820–1886

Music: CONVERSE, Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918

## 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: Let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*After each petition of the prayer is said:*

A: Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting your promise to hear us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

**C: And also with you.**

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



# ~WE COME TO THE LORD'S TABLE~

## OFFERING

**MUSICAL OFFERING:** Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

ELW #752



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943  
Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema  
Text and music © 1973 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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## OFFERING PRAYER

A: God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and 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.

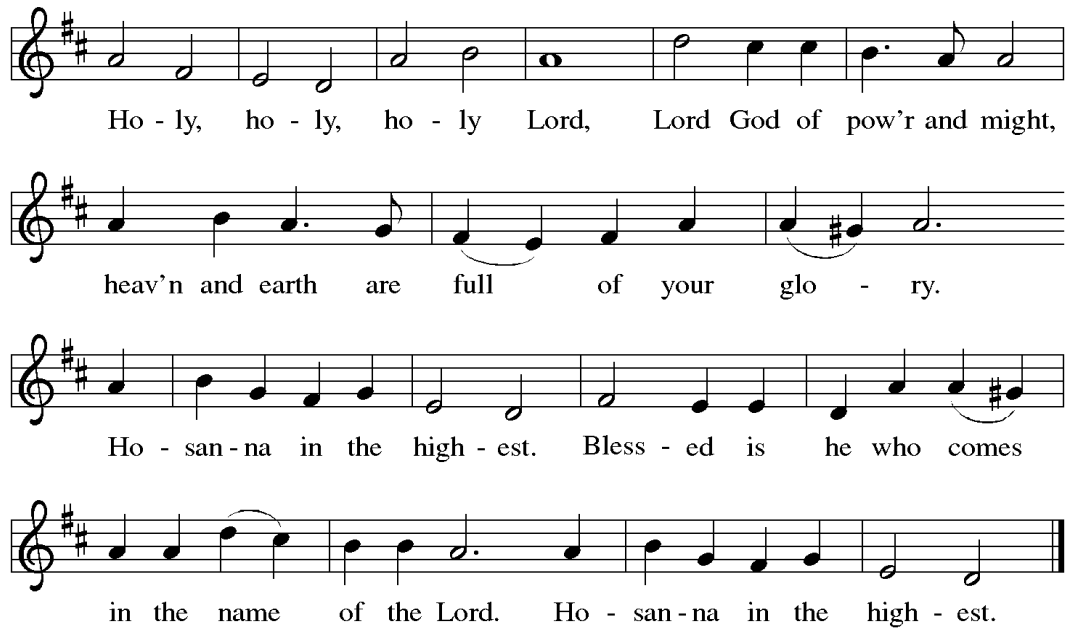


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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 God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **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.

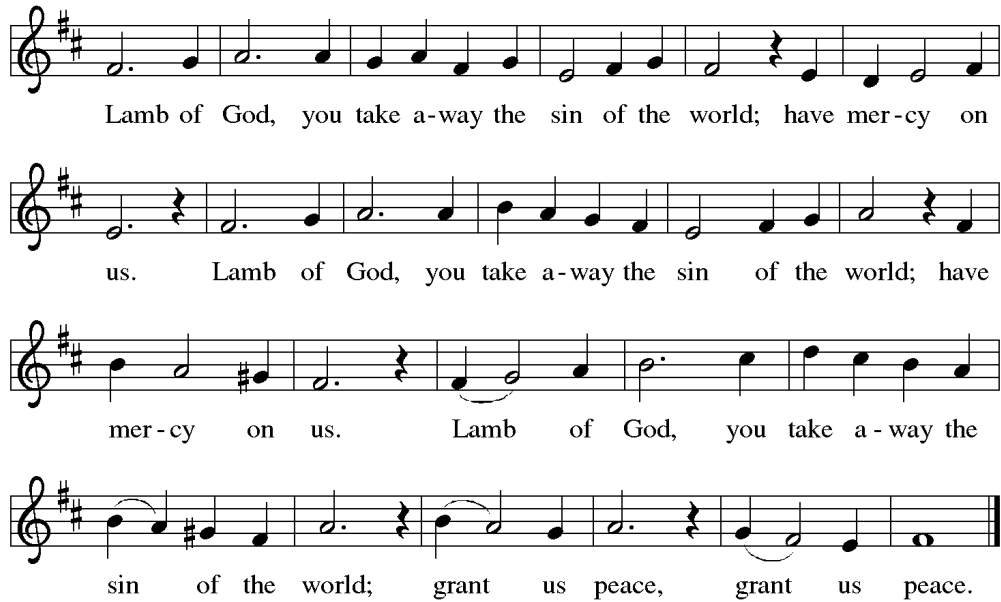
*We believe Jesus Christ is present in the bread and wine by his Word of Promise. All baptized Christians are invited to participate in the celebration of God's forgiving love, strengthening faith, and grace-filled hope. Those who are not baptized and children not yet communing may come forward for a 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"

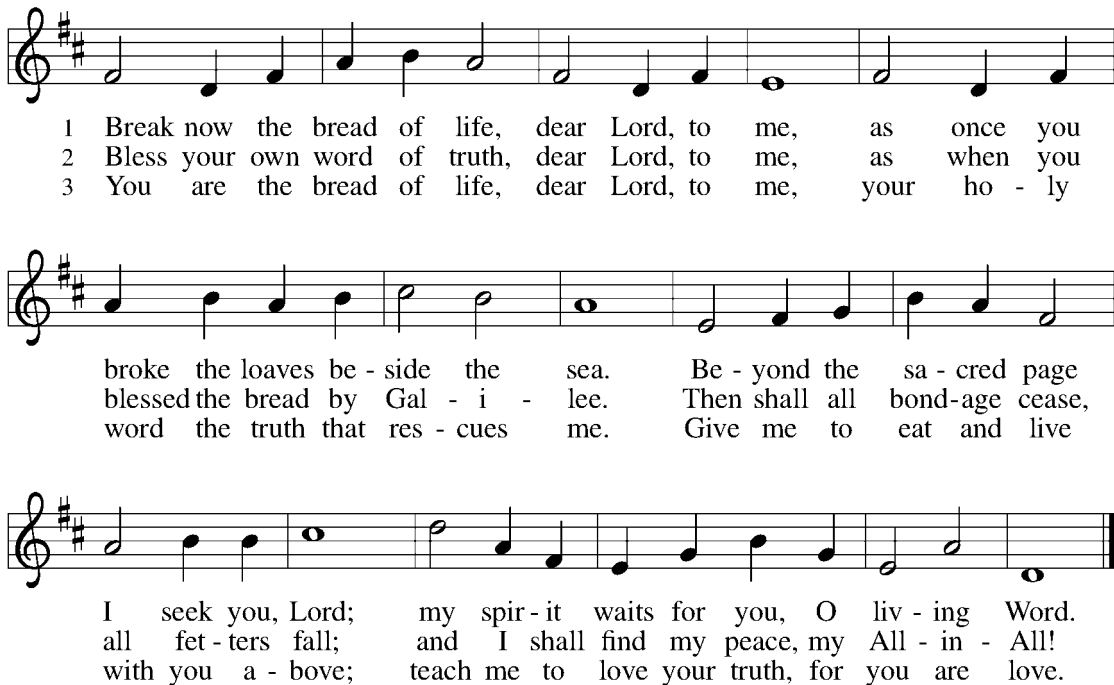


Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## Communion Song:

## Break Now the Bread of Life

ELW #515



1 Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as once you  
2 Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you  
3 You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, your ho - ly  
broke the loaves be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page  
blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond-age cease,  
word the truth that res - cues me. Give me to eat and live  
I seek you, Lord; my spir - it waits for you, O liv - ing Word.  
all fet - ters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All - in - All!  
with you a - bove; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841-1913, alt.  
Music: BREAD OF LIFE, William F. Sherwin, 1826-1888

*Instrumental Music*

*Jean McCormick*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: O God, as a mother comforts her child, so you comfort your people, carrying us in your arms and satisfying us with this food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Send us now as your disciples, announcing peace and proclaiming that the reign of God has come near; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### ~WE ARE SENT FORTH~

#### Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's faces shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

#### SENDING SONG:

#### My Faith Looks Up to Thee

ELW #759



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,  
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day, wipe sor-row's  
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -



guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!  
love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire!  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.  
trust re-move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–1887  
Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

#### DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the good news.

**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: Cynthia Langbauer. We also need to pray for, Kathy Runk, Marie Koach, Roy Kaptain, Bob & Jane Reinhold, Larry and Beverly Sheehan, Chico E., Paul Hanzlik, and C.C.

**Prayers for Friends of the Church:** Eli, Julian, Teo, Elia, Joyce Brelsford, Dennis VanCour, Lucille Capece, Marty Shram, 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, Tim Tyler, Richard H., Laurie Engelhardt, and Lemmuel Knowles Sr.

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

**Flowers this week sponsored by:** Carol and Kelly Jacobson in memory of dear friend Kay Laney.

# Announcements

**BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT:** On Saturday, August 13 from 2:00am. to 4:00pm. at the Fellowship Hall with blessing of the backpacks, games, food, ice cream, music and more! This is a great chance for parents to come with their children and have family fun. School supplies donations needed to fill the backpacks.

**FAMILY & FRIENDS NIGHT:** This is a chance for faith formation on THURSDAYS at 5:30 p.m.! We have light food & fellowship, followed by different faith learning opportunities for all ages. This is followed by a time of singing and prayer, all in the Fellowship Hall. Join us!

**JOIN THE "SUMMER CHOIR!"** A small group will be forming a "summer choir" to sing once a month--the first Sunday of each month: now July 3 and August 7. There will be a rehearsal at 7:30 p.m. on the Thursday evening before each of these dates. Do you like to sing? Come join us. Got questions? See our Music Director, Cesar Vidaud.

**9:00 A.M. LITURGICAL WORSHIP:** Our 9:00 am service during summer is also a regular liturgical service, since our Faith Formation is on Thursdays. **The 10:15 a.m. worship remains the same.**

## Service Assistants for July

10:15 AM	<u>July 24</u>	<u>July 31</u>
<b>ASSISTING MINISTER</b>	Pat Belanger	Aura Suarez
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Sera Butz	Pat Belanger
<b>LECTOR</b>	Aura Suarez	Sera Butz
<b>USHERS –Need 4 to Serve</b>	Floyd MacDonald Sherry Fox Natalie Prego	Floyd MacDonald Harry Ambrose Patricia Engle Sherry Fox
<b>Head Usher</b>	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli
<b>GREETERS – Need 2 to Serve</b>	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones	Ruth Wagle Caroline Smith
<b>SOUND</b>	Larry Jones	Dennis Magarrell
<b>PROJECTION</b>	Aura Suarez	Eric Castaneda



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# St. Stephen

## Evangelical Lutheran Church

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](mailto:ststephenpastor@gmail.com)

**Cesar Vidaud** – Director of Music

**Clarence (Teddy) Rowe** – Sexton

**Aidee Koach** – Administrative Assistant

[sslcpompano@gmail.com](mailto:sslcpompano@gmail.com)

### Congregation Council

**Larry Jones**, President:

[councilpresident@ststephenlutheran.net](mailto:councilpresident@ststephenlutheran.net)

Web Antill

Christian Hecker

Natalie Prego - Secretary

Eric Castaneda

Lynda Smith

Kathy Runk - Vice Pres.

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

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