

# 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.**

**March 8, 2020**

**Second Sunday in Lent**

**10:15am**

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

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# Holy Communion

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## INTRODUCTION to the Second Sunday in Lent

*The vestments of this season are purple—the color of penitence. “Alleluia” is removed from the liturgy has a penitential feel throughout. During Lent we journey with all those around the world who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil. In today’s gospel Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must be born of water and Spirit. At the font we are given a new birth as children of God. As God made a covenant with Abraham, in baptism God promises to raise us up with Christ to new life. From worship we are sent forth to proclaim God’s love for all the world.*



## Gathering

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

## CHOIR PRELUDE

## WELCOME

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*The assembly stands and turns to the font. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the Father, and of the ✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*The presiding minister leads the following prayer of preparation:*

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.

**Amen.**

Brothers and sisters, during these great forty days of Lent, let us prepare ourselves to receive Christ in word and sacrament by confessing our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

I confess

**to God Almighty,**

**before the whole company of heaven,**

**and to you, my brothers and sisters,**

**that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed**

**by my fault,**

**by my own fault,**

**by my own most grievous fault;**

**wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,**

**forgive me all my sins,**

**and bring me to everlasting life.**

**Amen.**

The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, ✚ forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.

**Amen.**

The assembly turns to the altar as the cross passes by.

## GATHERING SONG:

## Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me

ELW# 767



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me up - on life's way;  
2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear;  
3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en and night has come,



di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me from day to day.  
for you, the Rock of A - ges, are al - ways near.  
I know that you will strength - en my steps toward home,



With - out your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;  
Close by your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,  
then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend!



so take my hand, O Sav - ior, and lead the way.  
for when your hand is guid - ing, in peace I go.  
So, take my hand and lead me un - to the end.

Text: Julie von Hausmann, 1825–1901; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
Music: SO NIMM DENN MEINE HÄNDE, Friedrich Silcher, 1789–1860  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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## APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

## KYRIE



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:      Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.  
Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:



Ⓐ Chri - ste e - le - i - son:      Ⓞ Christ, have mer - cy.  
Christ, . . . . have mer - cy:



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:      Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.  
Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

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

P: O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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: Genesis 12:1-4a

A reading from Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” <sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 121

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>**My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD will not let your foot be moved

nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>**Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;**

<sup>5</sup>the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

<sup>6</sup>**the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

<sup>7</sup>The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

<sup>8</sup>**The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in,  
from this time forth forevermore.**

### SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

A reading from Romans.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

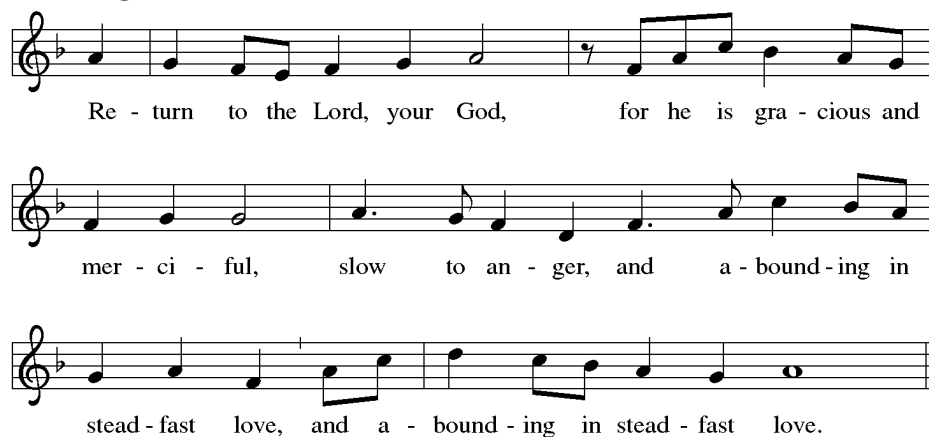
<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

P: † The Holy Gospel, according John.

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him

may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

*The assembly is seated.*

## Children and Youth Message

### SERMON

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

### HYMN OF THE DAY

### There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

ELW # 588



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;  
2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;  
3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;  
4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.  
there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.  
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.  
great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.  
There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;  
But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;  
Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.  
there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.  
and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.  
and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.  
Music: LORD, REVIVE US, North American, 19th cent.

## **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:** Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world,  
and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

*After each petition:*

**A:** Hear us, O God.

**C:** **Your mercy is great.**

**P:** According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them  
to you; through Christ our Lord.

**C:** **Amen.**

## PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

After all exchange the Peace, the assembly is seated.



## MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

## OFFERING/Anthem

The assembly stands.

### OFFERING SONG:

### As the Grains of Wheat

ELW# 465

*Refrain*

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from  
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,  
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

*Refrain*

may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen

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## OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

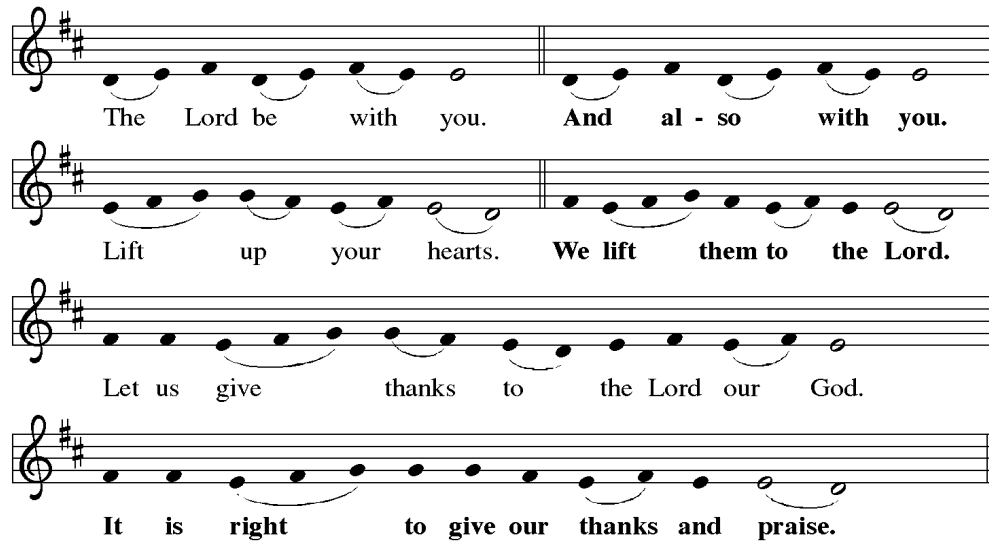
God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**



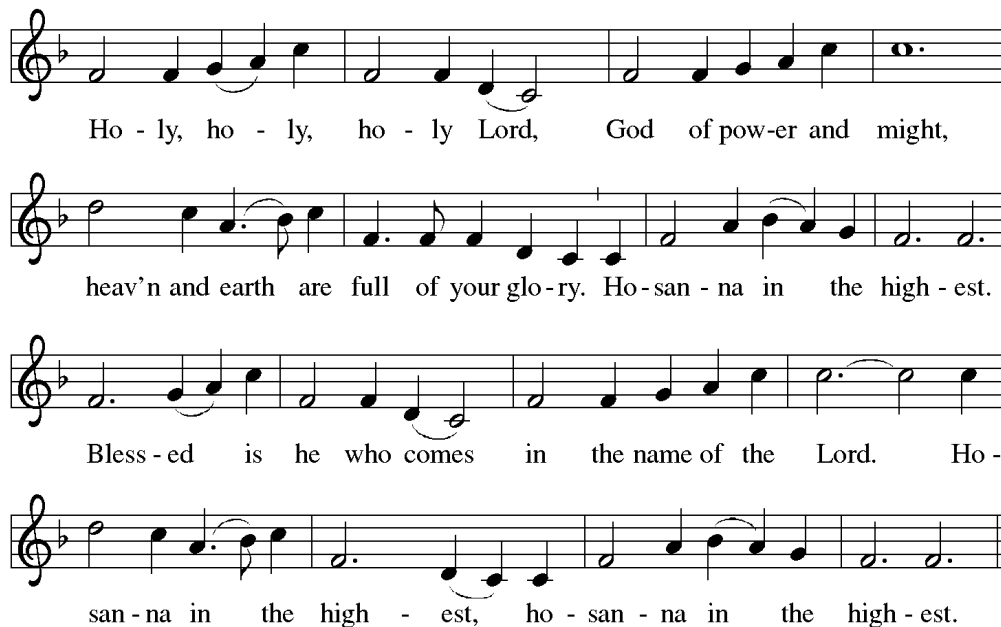
# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.*



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, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The presiding minister continues to give thanks:*

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.... With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life... Bless this feast to be the body and blood of Christ. Grace our table with your presence.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.... Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

... we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, 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: Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Christ has prepared the feast. Come to the table where all are welcomed home.

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

*All baptized Christians are invited to participate in the celebration of holy communion. If you desire baptism, the pastor would love to speak with you! 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.*

## Lamb of God



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.



1 By grace we have been saved through faith and  
 2 For all have sinned and fall - en short. God's  
 3 God gave to earth a per - fect love through  
 4 We know the wage of sin is death; thank  
 5 Set free, we now have peace with God. Sal -



not by keep - ing law. God's saints be - lieved by  
 plan, not one o - beyed. Christ has for all ful -  
 Je - sus on the cross. While we were foes, Christ  
 God, we shall re - vive. For just as Je - sus  
 va - tion is se - cured. How beau - ti - ful the



what they heard and not by what they saw.  
 filled the law. Be - lieve, con - fess, be saved.  
 died for us. We gained by God's own loss.  
 rose a - gain, we too are made a - live.  
 feet of those who share this gos - pel word.

*Refrain*



Oh, how I love Je - sus! Oh, how I love Je - sus!



Oh, how I love Je - sus, be - cause he first loved me!

Text: Rusty Edwards, stanzas; Frederick Whitfield, refrain  
 Music: OH, HOW I LOVE JESUS. North American traditional

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## ***Additional Communion songs are sung as needed***

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Let us pray. We thank you, living God, for the body and blood of your Son, which sustains us in the wilderness and the garden alike. As Christ has loved us in this feast, so send us to love Christ in our neighbors. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Lord.

**Amen.**



### **Sending**

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

### **Announcements** *(The assembly is seated)*

### **SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE AND BLESSING**

*The assembly stands as the presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.*

P: Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice forever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

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

C: Amen.

**SENDING SONG:**

**In the Cross of Christ I Glory**

**ELW# 324**



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing  
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -  
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and  
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of  
ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the  
love up - on my way, from the cross the  
cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.  
cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.  
ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.  
knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872

Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815–1867

**DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

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: Jake Waldecki, Sera Butz, Harry Ambrose, George Arce, Laurel Blake, Dorothy Johnson, James Loggins, Don Schutt, Normagene Richardson, Mildred Grady, Carol Chmelynski, Jimmy Fennelli, Roy and Barbara Kaptain, Kathy Paff, Bob Reinhold, and Shelley Amato.

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

✠ Laurel, Phil, C.C., Susan, Joseph, Daphne, Kathryn, Joni ✠ Michael, Linda, Gene, Chris, Amanda, Madison, Annette, Mason, Joanna, John, Bettie, Chuck, Susan, Carol S., Joni, Dorothy, Stephanie, Alexandra, Laurel, Valerie, Greg, Melissa, Jason, Ann ✠ Tom, Kingston, Joe, Natalie, Aliya, Lem, Aiden, Becky, Chandler, Braemen, Cheryl, Robert, Craig, Jerry, Nettie, Amber, Mike, Leigh, Ann, Janet, Carol, Bill, Bud, Gary, Serena, Robin, Sadie, Melissa, Jim, Carlos, Elizabeth.

**In a facility or homebound:**

Barbara Kaptain – The Atrium Assistant Living at Boca Raton.  
 1080 NW 15TH Room 215 Boca Raton, Fl. 33486  
 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

***Assisting at Worship in March***

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

10:15 AM	<u>March 8</u>	<u>March 15</u>	<u>March 22</u>	<u>March 29</u>
<b>ASSISTING MINISTER</b>	Natalie Prego	Carol Jacobson	Sera Butz	Natalie Prego
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Pat Belanger	Sera Butz	Carol Jacobson	Sera Butz
<b>LECTOR</b>	Tom Peterson	Erika Flanigan	Laurie Matarazzo	Catherine Zippay
<b>USHERS –Need 4 to Serve</b>	Karin Breslin Lynda Smith R. Mottesheard Zachary Smith (w)	Pat Engle Lisa Castaneda Rita Filbert Lynda Smith (w)	Suzanne Loggins Karin Breslin Jeanne Pettit Rosie Fennelli (w)	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	Caroline Smith L. Adelsberger	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle	Rose Jones Kelly Jacobson
<b>SOUND</b>	Dennis Magarrell	Dennis Magarrell	Dennis Magarrell	Larry Jones
<b>PROJECTION</b>	Jake VanZile	Chris Belanger	Jake VanZile	Jake Waldecki

***March Holy Grill Serving Volunteers:***

**9am**

3/11 Laurie Matarazzo – Juliet Crawford  
 3/18 Carol/Kelly Jacobson – Karen Breslin  
 3/25 Joan Possiel – Suzanne Loggins

**5pm**

Jake Waldecki  
 Joe Leone  
 Jake Waldecki

***STEWARDSHIP CORNER:***

**Last Sunday Attendance: 120**

**Last Sunday Income (all sources): \$ 5,936**

**WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY.  
 THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!!!**

**PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***Welcome to worship! Welcome 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!

***Please wear your name tag to church every Sunday***

We really do want St. Stephen to be a place where everybody knows your name! Regular worshippers: if you don't have one, stop by the welcome desk and we will order you one.

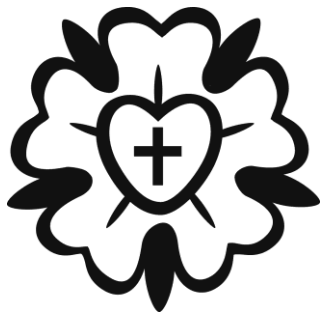


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***Join us each Thursday in Lent as part of your Lenten Discipline:***

***Holy Communion 12:15pm & 7:00pm***

***Teaching Series—Living Lutheran: The Small Catechism***



Lent is the time to get back to basics. Each Thursday in Lent we are considering one of the 5 chief parts of Luther's Small Catechism:

*(March 5 was— The Ten Commandments)*

**March 12— The Apostles Creed**

**March 19— The Lord's Prayer**

**Mach 26— The Sacrament of Holy Baptism & Confession**

**April 2— The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

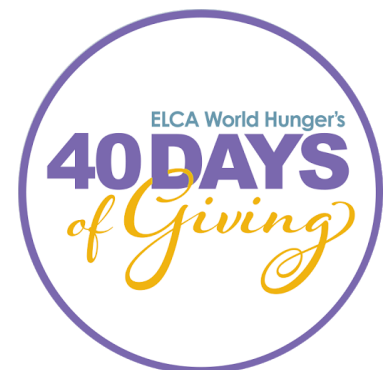
In the early church, and in many places again today, this is a time to prepare new Christians for Holy Baptism at Easter. One of the baptismal tools the church has used since 400AD is a "catechism." This comes from a Greek word that means to echo or repeat back. Following the Reformation, Martin Luther simply followed this ancient tradition, adapted now for his new situation. Countless Lutherans have studied this catechism prior to confirmation since the 1500's. It is still relevant today as a basic summary of the central beliefs of the Christian faith.

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***Change for Change:***

***40 Days of Giving Supporting ELCA World Hunger***

This Lent you're invited once more to join together to give during ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving. The **Change for Change** tower will be dedicated to raising St. Stephen's goal of **\$500** during Lent to address hunger and poverty here and around the world. ELCA World Hunger is our church's ministry to end poverty and hunger with partners in the US and in more than 60 other countries.



***Precautions during the Coronavirus outbreak***

While there is no need for panic in any way, it is good to take some precautions during this time. During the exchange of Peace during the liturgy some people may choose not to shake hands. Just turning to your neighbor and saying, "Peace be with you" is sufficient in these circumstances. Others might choose a gesture such as an elbow touch, a fist bump, or a simple bow.

Still others will still choose to shake hands or embrace. There is no legislation on this, please choose a sign for now with which you are comfortable. It may be advisable just to greet those immediately around you and not leave your pew to travel around the nave.



### ***Memorial Liturgy for Edith Reichenbach—Next Saturday***

Jeanne and Dwight Pettit invite the congregation to a memorial Eucharist for Jeanne's mother Edith, who died on January 31, just short of her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, next Saturday, March 14 at 11:00am. A reception in the fellowship hall will follow.

### ***Jane Reinhold:***

Jane died in Christ on March 1. She was a long time member and choir member at St. Stephen. Jane was married to Bob Reinhold. She is being cremated and will be buried at Florida National Cemetery in a military ceremony. *Rest eternal, grant her O Lord and let light perpetual shine upon her.* There will be a memorial liturgy here at St. Stephen at a later date. Watch for the announcement.

### ***Don't miss our Catered Thank-you Brunch—Saturday, March 28***

Please join us on Saturday, March 28 at 10:00a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for a time of fellowship, fun, and enjoyment of a catered lunch as we say thank you to all who volunteer their time at St. Stephen in any way. The whole congregation is invited. Please sign-up on Sunday mornings so we can prepare!



### ***Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!!!***

On Superbowl Sunday we once more participated in the "Souper-Bowl of Caring" to fight world hunger. Due to the generosity of the St. Stephen community we were able to send \$317 to the ELCA World Hunger appeal. God bless your generosity.



### ***Greetings and update from Don Schutt:***

Our long time member and choir member Don Schutt has moved to be closer to his son for health reasons. He sends the following:

"Thanks for your prayers! I'm doing fine, living with son Jeff & family in Lithia. His wife is nurse so I'm getting good care. Here is my new address: 15525 Gannetglade Ln - Lithia, FL 33547-3897. Best wishes to

all..... Don

Don would love to hear from you! Why not send a note or a card!

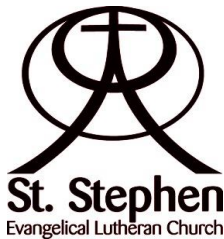
### ***Holy Grill Feeding Ministry:***

Breakfast is served Wednesday at 9am and dinner at 5pm in our east lot right in front of the sanctuary. Clothing is available each week in the Narthex. Please check the box on the attendance card if interested becoming a volunteer. **We need some more 5pm volunteers!!!** Be sure to include your email. Pr. Bob will contact you. We continue to collect for these urgent clothing needs:

**Men's/women's underwear, socks, T-shirts, shorts, towels.**







### Sunday Schedule

10:15 a.m.  
Liturgy of Holy Communion

### Lent Thursday Schedule

12:15 & 7:00pm  
Liturgy of Holy Communion

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

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

### 2020 Congregation Council

Erika Flanigan - President  
[councilpresident@ststephenlutheran.net](mailto:councilpresident@ststephenlutheran.net)

Lynda Smith- Vice-president

Natalie Prego – Secretary

Eric Castaneda - Treasurer

Patricia Engle

Harry Ambrose

Jake Waldecki

Karen Breslin

Randy Mottesheard

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## Weekly Calendar

### Sunday 8—Second Sunday in Lent

10:15am Holy Communion

### Monday 9—Lent Weekday

9:30am-12:30pm Office **Closed**

### Tuesday 10—Harriet Tubman, 1913; Sojourner Truth, 1883

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

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

### Wednesday 11—Lent Weekday

9:00-10:00am Holy Grill Feeding Ministry

9:00-12pm Threads of Love

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

5:00-6:00pm Holy Grill Feeding Ministry

### Thursday 12—St. Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, 604AD

12:15pm Lent Holy Communion

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

7:00pm Lent Holy Communion

8:00pm Choir Rehearsal

### Friday 13—Lent Weekday

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

### Saturday 14—Lent Weekday

11:00am Memorial Eucharist – Edith Reichenbach

### Sunday 15—Third Sunday in Lent

10:15am Holy Communion



## 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](http://www.ststephenlutheran.net) and click on "GIVE"