

# St Stephen

Evangelical Lutheran Church



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

October 16, 2016

**22<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

9:00 & 10:15am

Rev. Pedro Suarez

## WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

### —WE GATHER—

#### INTRODUCTION

*Pray always. Do not lose heart. This is the encouragement of the Christ of the gospel today. Persistence in our every encounter with the divine will be blessed. Wrestle with the word. Remember your baptism again and again. Come regularly to Christ's table. Persistence in our every encounter with the divine will be blessed.*

#### 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.**

*Refrain*

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way;

for if you lead me, I can - not stray.

Lord, let me walk each day with thee.

Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

1 I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r  
 2 Help me tread in the paths of righ - teous - ness,  
 3 I am lost if you take your hand from me,

to help me o - ver my weak - est hour.  
 be my aid when Sa - tan and sin op - press.  
 I am blind with - out . . . thy light to see.

Help me through the dark - ness thy face to see.  
 I am put - ting all . . . my trust in thee.  
 Lord, just al - ways let me thy ser - vant be.

*Refrain*

Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Text: Doris Akers, 1922-1995  
 Music: Doris Akers  
 Text and music © 1953 Doris Akers, admin. Unichappell Music, Inc.

LEAD ME, GUIDE ME  
 Irregular

## 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: O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## Children's Message

### —WE HEAR GOD'S WORD—

#### FIRST READING:

Genesis 32:22-31

<sup>22</sup> The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. <sup>23</sup> He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. <sup>24</sup> Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. <sup>25</sup> When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. <sup>26</sup> Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." <sup>27</sup> So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." <sup>28</sup> Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel,<sup>[b]</sup> for you have striven with God and with humans,<sup>[c]</sup> and have prevailed." <sup>29</sup> Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. <sup>30</sup> So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." <sup>31</sup> The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

L: This is 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 will my help come?

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

<sup>3</sup> He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

<sup>4</sup> **He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.**

<sup>5</sup> The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

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

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

<sup>8</sup> **The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.**

## SECOND READING:

**2 Timothy 3:14—4:5**

<sup>14</sup> But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, <sup>15</sup> and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup> All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

**4** In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: <sup>2</sup> proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. <sup>3</sup> For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, <sup>4</sup> and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. <sup>5</sup> As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully. **Amen.**

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”

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

P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke, the 18<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

**GOSPEL:**

**Luke 18:1-8**

18 Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. 2 He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. 3 In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my opponent.’ 4 For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, “Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, 5 yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.” 6 And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. 7 And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? 8 I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

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.



1 Day by day, your mer - cies, Lord, at - tend me, bring - ing com - fort  
 2 Day by day, I know you will pro - vide me strength to serve and  
 3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my bur - dens



to my anx - ious soul. Day by day, the bless - ings, Lord, you send me  
 wis - dom to o - bey; I will seek your lov - ing will to guide me  
 grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will hear me



draw me near - er to my heav'n - ly goal. Love di - vine, be - yond all  
 o'er the paths I strug - gle day by day. I will fear no e - vil  
 when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer. Day by day, no mat - ter



mor - tal mea - sure, brings to naught the bur - dens of my quest; Sav - ior,  
 of the mor - row, I will trust in your en - dur - ing grace. Sav - ior,  
 what be - tide me, you will hold me ev - er in your hand. Sav - ior,



lead me to the home I trea - sure, where at last I'll find e - ter - nal rest.  
 help me bear life's pain and sor - row till in glo - ry I be - hold your face.  
 with your pres - ence here to guide me, I will reach at last the prom - ised land.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Robert Leaf, 1936–2005

Music: BLOTT EN DAG, Oskar Ahnfelt, 1813–1882

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## 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: Set free by the truth of God's gracious love, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's good creation.

*After each petition of the prayer is said:*

A: Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Into your hands, faithful God, we place ourselves and our prayers, spoken and unspoken, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

**C: And also with you.**

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

## - WELCOME TO THE LORD'S TABLE -

### OFFERING

**MUSICAL OFFERING: 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

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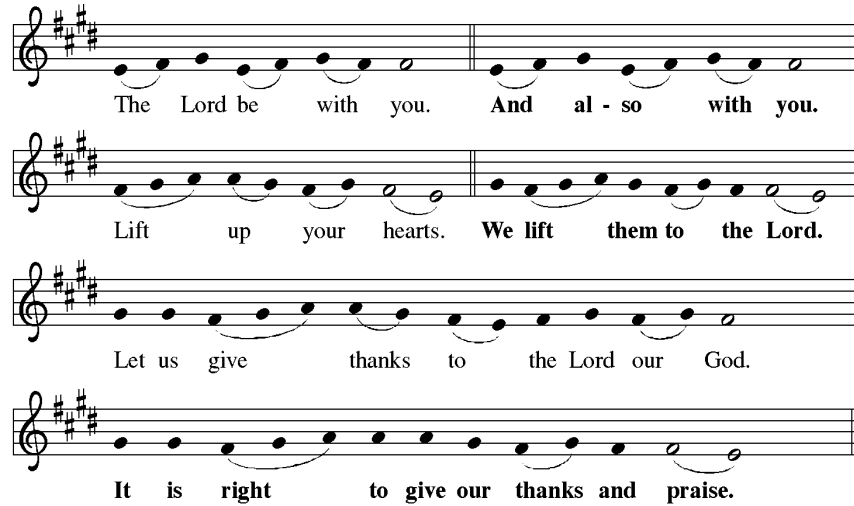


## OFFERING PRAYER

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.**

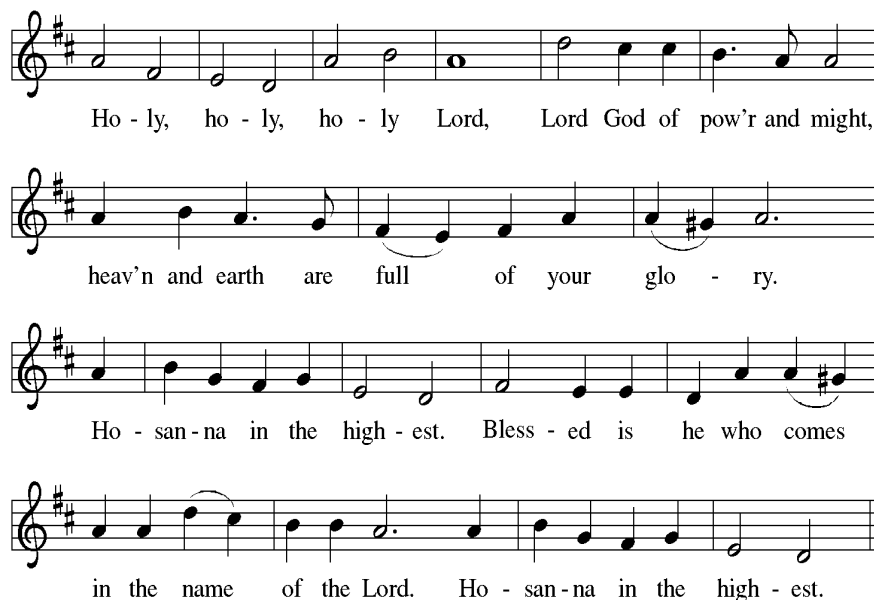
## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

### 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).*

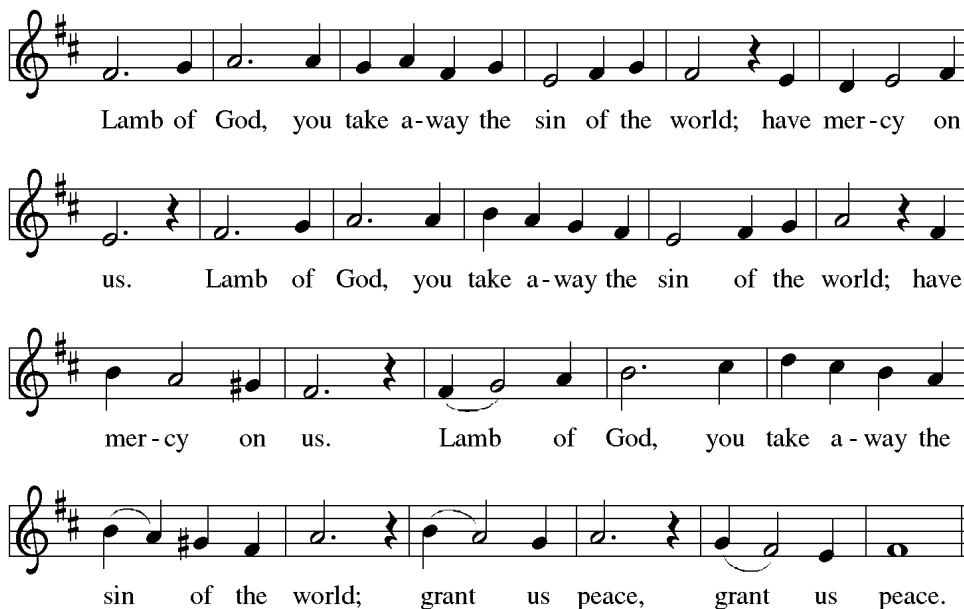
## Reception of Communion

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.



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

*Instrumental Music*

*Cesar Vidaud*

## 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:

## What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

ELW #774



1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -  
2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -  
3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -



last - ing arms; what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine,  
last - ing arms; oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,  
last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near,



lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.  
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.  
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

*Refrain*



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839–1929

Music: SHOWALTER, Anthony J. Showalter, 1858–1924

## 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: We also need to pray for, Terry Shumway, Christopher Belanger, Janet Isner, Paul Hanzlik, Rosie Fennelli, Marie Koach, Roy Kaptain, Bob & Jane Reinhold, Larry and Beverly Sheehan, Chico E., and C.C.

**Prayers for Friends of the Church:** Martha Hamze, Alessandra, Rhea, Lucille, Doris, Cheryl, Nick Caldwell Sr., George and Millie Santiago, Matthew Belanger, Julian, 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, Lemmuel Knowles Sr., Duarte family, the family of Josephine Lebron Olivo, who mourn her death, Barbara O'Brien, Dorotka Rodriguez and family, and the Marinello family at the death of Donna Marinello.

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

# Announcements

**BRAIN POWER:** Every Tuesdays and Fridays from 9am - 12pm. at the Fellowship Hall we will emphasize diets, exercises, sleep, and new ideas to promote "Brain Power". This program will target men and women over 55 and offers a variety of exercises, games, puzzles, discussions, presentations all designed for brain stimulation and development. Will it be as wonderful as we imagine? Come and try something new with lots of productive fun! Please spread the word. Have questions? Call Barb Taylor 954-616-7006

**IF YOU NEED PASTORAL CARE:** Perhaps you get ill and have missed worship, then please let someone contact our church office so that we know. We would be more than happy to visit you if you wish. Either the pastor or someone would go as soon as possible. Holy Communion is available for those special circumstances. With so many snowbirds in our congregation it is easy to lose track. Perhaps you would like to be part of a caring team, if so let us know as well!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** On September 11 we started our Sunday school at 11:15 am. There will be a sign-up sheet at the Narthex or you can also call the office to register your child. Please if you know a friend who needs to participate, let them know and spread the word around. If you need more information, please speak with Aura Suarez, Brook Tierney, Sera Butz or Pastor Pedro.

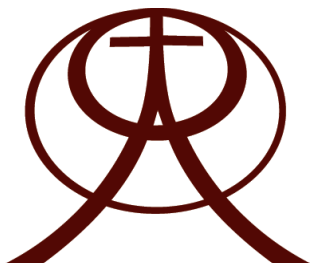
**WINE AND CHEESE:** Mark your calendar! Coming up on November 5<sup>TH</sup> we will have our annual event "*Wine and Cheese*". Enjoy the music while sharing a great time with our church friends. Tickets and more info will be available within the next weeks.

## *Service Assistants for October*

10:15 AM	<u>October 16</u>	<u>October 23</u>	<u>October 30</u>
ASSISTING MINISTER	Sera Butz	Carol Jacobson	Natalie Prego
ACOLYTE	Katie Paff	Pat Belanger	Madison Kibler
LECTOR	Rita Sharkey	Lynn Antill	Sera Butz
USHERS –Need 4 to Serve	Harry Ambrose Patricia Engle Sherry Fox Lisa Castaneda	Floyd MacDonald Marsha Kibler Drew Kibler Darin Kibler	Harry Ambrose Patricia Engle Linda Hanzlik Terry Shumway
Head Usher	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli
GREETERS – Need 2 to Serve	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones	Ruth Wagle Caroline Smith
SOUND	Dennis Magarrell	Sera Butz	Dennis Magarrell
PROJECTION	Eric Castaneda	TBA	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

St. Stephen Evangelical Lutheran Church

2500 NE 14th Street Causeway, Pompano Beach, Florida, 33062

Tele: 954.942.4473 • Fax: 954.942.4474 •

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