

St Stephen

Evangelical Lutheran Church



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

October 2, 2016

20th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 & 10:15am

Rev. Pedro Suarez

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

—WE GATHER—

INTRODUCTION

A little faith goes a long way is our Lord's point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in water and the word (holy baptism), bread and wine (holy communion), the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

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 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais-ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a-round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
 Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, flow-'ry mead-ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922
 Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

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: Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children’s Message

—WE HEAR GOD’S WORD—

FIRST READING:

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

1:¹ The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

² O LORD, how long shall I cry for help and you will not listen? Or cry to you “Violence!”

And you will not save? ³ Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble?

Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise.

⁴ So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails.

The wicked surround the righteous therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

2:¹ I will stand at my watch post, and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint.

² Then the LORD answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. ³ For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay.

⁴ Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith.

L: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 37:1-9

¹ Do not fret because of the wicked;

do not be envious of wrongdoers,

² **for they will soon fade like the grass,
and wither like the green herb.**

³ Trust in the LORD, and do good;

so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.

⁴ **Take delight in the LORD,**

and he will give you the desires of your heart.

⁵ Commit your way to the LORD;

trust in him, and he will act.

⁶ **He will make your vindication shine like the light,**

and the justice of your cause like the noonday.

⁷ Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him;

do not fret over those who prosper in their way,

over those who carry out evil devices.

⁸ **Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath.**

Do not fret—it leads only to evil.

⁹ For the wicked shall be cut off,

but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.

SECOND READING:**2 Timothy 1:1-14**

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, ²To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. ³I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day.⁴ Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; ⁷for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline. ⁸Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, ⁹who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, ¹²and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. ¹³Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us. **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 17th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

GOSPEL:**Luke 17:5-10**

⁵The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" ⁶The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. ⁷"Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? ⁸Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? ⁹Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

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:**How Firm a Foundation****ELW#796**

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.
 Music: FOUNDATION, Early American

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: Rejoicing in the Spirit's work among us, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

After each petition of the prayer is said:

A: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. **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, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

ELW #512

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a common time signature. It consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word." "Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood." "When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way." "Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil."

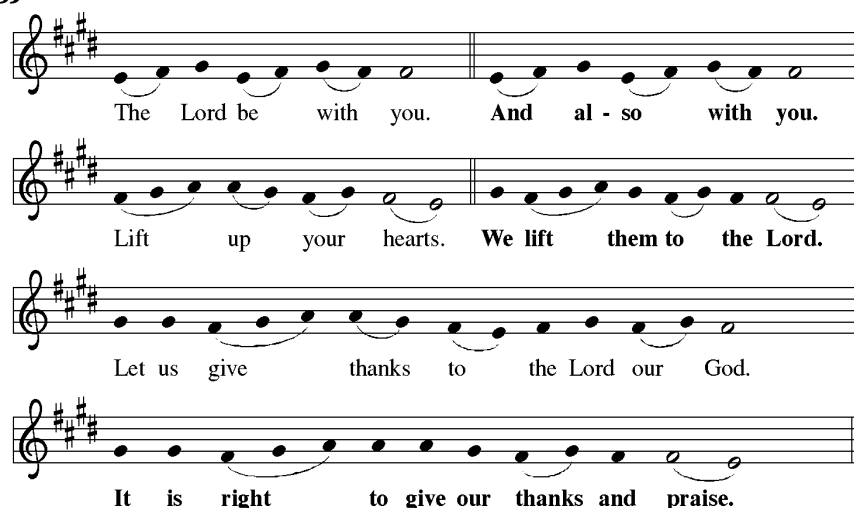
Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950
Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson
Text and music © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc., admin. Augsburg Fortress.
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OFFERING PRAYER

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.**

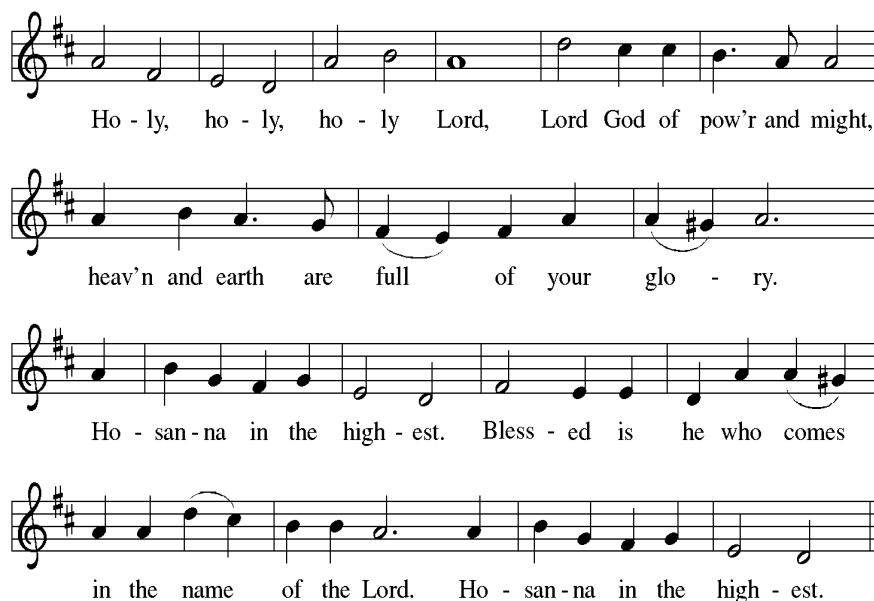
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 today is at the Altar rail and received by intinction. Please come forward by the center aisle at the direction of an usher, and kneel or stand (as you are able) at the Altar rail. Receive the bread in your hands and dip it in the wine. The wine is alcohol free. There is no group dismissal. Please return to your seats by the center aisle. 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 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
 2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.
 3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still
 4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.
 I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear.
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
 that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.



I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
 My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
 Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
 And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
 but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.
 now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.
 oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

Text: John E. Bode, 1816–1874, alt.

Music: MUNICH, *Neuermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

Instrumental Music

Cesar Vignaud

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:

On Our Way Rejoicing

ELW #537



1 On our way re - joic - ing glad - ly let us go.
2 Un - to God the Fa - ther joy - ful songs we sing;



Christ our Lord has con - quered; van - quished is the foe.
un - to God the Sav - ior thank - ful hearts we bring;



Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;
un - to God the Spir - it bow we and a - dore,



who, if we be faith - ful, can our hope de - stroy?
on our way re - joic - ing now and ev - er - more.

Refrain



On our way re - joic - ing; as we for - ward move,



hear - ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.
Music: HERMAS, Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879

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, Christopher Belanger, Donna Marinello, 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, Juliet Crawford's family at the death of her loving mom Cynthia Langbauer and the Soule family at the death of Lucille Soule.

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

Flowers sponsored this week by: Dee Lauterberg and family in memory of Wayne Lauterberg.

Announcements

BRAIN POWER: On October 4th we start something new! Many things will happen simultaneous in the Fellowship Hall, every Tuesdays and Fridays from 9am - 12pm, we will emphasize diets, exercises, sleep, and new ideas to promote "Brain Power". The 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

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS: On Saturday, October 8th, from 10am-1pm we will be celebrating the Blessing of the Animals. This will be a fun time for the entire family. Come and enjoy a petting zoo, games, booths related to animals, and hot dogs, chips and drinks will be available for \$2.00. Pastor Pedro will be blessing the animals, so bring your pet on a leash or in a crate to receive its blessing, a tag, and a certificate with your pet's name.

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!

9:00 A.M. LITURGICAL WORSHIP: Our 9:00 am service is now a regular liturgical service. **The 10:15 a.m. worship remains the same.**

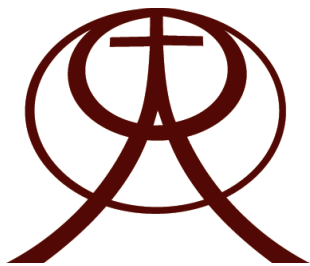
SUNDAY SCHOOL: On September 11 we started our Sunday school at 11:15 am. There will be a sign-up sheet at the Narthex or you can also call the office to register your child. Please if you know a friend who needs to participate, let them know and spread the word around. If you need more information, please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

Service Assistants for October

10:15 AM	<u>October 2</u>	<u>October 9</u>	<u>October 16</u>	<u>October 23</u>	<u>October 30</u>
ASSISTING MINISTER	Pat Belanger	Carol Jacobson	Sera Butz	Carol Jacobson	Natalie Prego
ACOLYTE	Carol Jacobson	Sera Butz	Katie Paff	Madison Kibler	Pat Belanger
LECTOR	Catherine Zippay	Judy Dooge	Rita Sharkey	Lynn Antill	Sera Butz
USHERS –Need 4 to Serve	Suzanne Loggins Catherine Zippay Sherry Fox Jimmy Fennelli	Carissa Esposito Lynda Smith Zachary Smith Terry Shumway	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	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli
GREETERS – Need 2 to Serve	Caroline Smith Barbara Kaptain	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones	Ruth Wagle Caroline Smith
SOUND	Dennis Magarrell	Sera Butz	Dennis Magarrell	Sera Butz	Dennis Magarrell
PROJECTION	Larry Jones	Katie Paff	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

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Cesar Vidaud – Director of Music

Clarence (Teddy) Rowe – Sexton

Aidee Koach – Administrative Assistant

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Natalie Prego - Secretary

Eric Castaneda

Lynda Smith

Kathy Runk - Vice Pres.

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