

# St Stephen

**Lutheran Church, ELCA**



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

**April 09, 2017**

**Palm Sunday**

**10:15am**

Rev. Pedro Suarez, Pastor

# —WE GATHER—

## THE PROCESSION WITH PALMS

*The people may gather outside the church doors, weather permitting.*

P: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

**C: Hosanna in the highest**

A: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

### **PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL: ST. JOHN 12:12-16**

The next day the large crowd that <sup>12</sup> the next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup> So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord the King of Israel!" <sup>14</sup> Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: <sup>15</sup> "Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" <sup>16</sup> His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.

A: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

### **BLESSING OF THE PALMS**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

*The people raise their palm branches.*

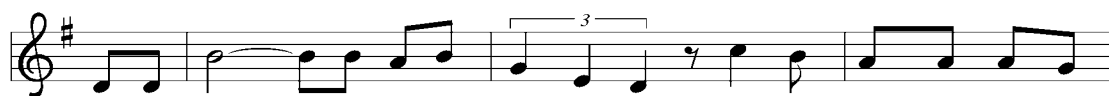
P: We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us forth in peace,

**C: In the name of the Lord.**

*The people follow the cross and ministers in procession into the church and remain standing. The Procession will walk in front of the church building and enter into the sanctuary. The entrance song is sung as the people process into the church. You may take your seat as the Procession moves down the center aisle.*



*Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -*  
 We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the



*nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',*  
 light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,



*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*  
 we are march - ing in the light of God.



*Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo*  
 We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*  
 we are march - ing in the light of God.



*Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo*  
 We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*  
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

*Additional stanzas ad lib.:*  
 We are dancing ...  
 We are praying ...  
 We are singing ...

Text: South African traditional; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984  
 Music: SIYAHAMBA. South African traditional  
 Tr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

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1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!  
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!  
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!  
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!  
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!  
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.  
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:  
 So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
 Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.  
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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## 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:** Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## Children's Message

## —WE HEAR GOD’S WORD—

### FIRST READING:

Isaiah 50:4-9a

4The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. 5The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. 6I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. 7The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; 8he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. 9aIt is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

L: This is the word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 31:9-16

9Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble;

my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

**10For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing;**

**my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**

11I am the scorn of my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to my acquaintances; when they see me in the street they avoid me.

**12Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind;**

**I am as useless as a broken pot.**

13For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around;

they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

**14But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord.**

**I have said, “You are my God.**

15My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

**16Let your face shine up- on your servant;**

**save me in your steadfast love.”**

### SECOND READING:

Philippians 2:5-11

5Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, 6who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, 7but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, 8he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death even death on a cross. 9Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, 10so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. **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 “Return to the Lord”

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.

P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew, the 27<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

**GOSPEL:**

**Matthew 27:11-54**

<sup>11</sup>Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You say so.” <sup>12</sup>But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. <sup>13</sup>Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?” <sup>14</sup>But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

<sup>15</sup>Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. <sup>16</sup>At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. <sup>17</sup>So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?” <sup>18</sup>For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. <sup>19</sup>While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.” <sup>20</sup>Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. <sup>21</sup>The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.” <sup>22</sup>Pilate said to them, “Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?” All of them said, “Let him be crucified!” <sup>23</sup>Then he asked, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified!”

<sup>24</sup>So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.” <sup>25</sup>Then the people as a whole answered, “His blood be on us and on our children!” <sup>26</sup>So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

<sup>27</sup>Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. <sup>28</sup>They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, <sup>29</sup>and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" <sup>30</sup>They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. <sup>31</sup>After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

<sup>32</sup>As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. <sup>33</sup>And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), <sup>34</sup>they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. <sup>35</sup>And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; <sup>36</sup>then they sat down there and kept watch over him. <sup>37</sup>Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."

<sup>38</sup>Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>39</sup>Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads <sup>40</sup>and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." <sup>41</sup>In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, <sup>42</sup>"He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. <sup>43</sup>He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son.'" <sup>44</sup>The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

<sup>45</sup>From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. <sup>46</sup>And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" <sup>47</sup>When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." <sup>48</sup>At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. <sup>49</sup>But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." <sup>50</sup>Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. <sup>51</sup>At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. <sup>52</sup>The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. <sup>53</sup>After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. <sup>54</sup>Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

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:

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

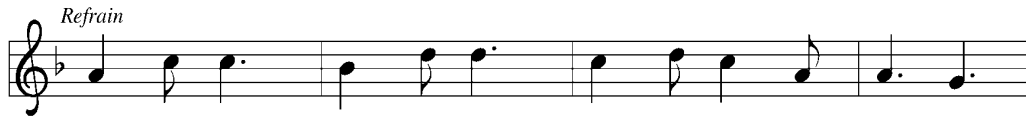
EWL #335



1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;  
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;  
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;  
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.  
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.  
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.  
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915  
Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

**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: Lifting our voices and turning toward God, let us pray for the church, the earth, and all who are in need.

*After each petition of the prayer is said:*

A: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Into your hands, merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast love; through Christ our Lord. C: 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 -

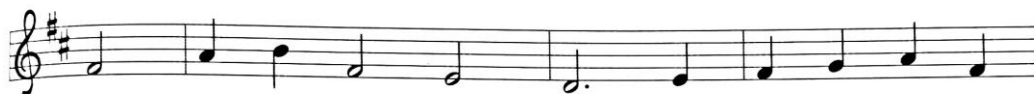
## OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING:

My song is Love Unknown

ELW #343

(Verses 1, 3, and 6)



1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to  
2 He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be -  
3 Some - times we strew his way and his sweet prais - es  
4 We cry out, we will have our dear Lord made a -



me, love to the love - less shown that they might  
stow; the world that was his own would not its  
sing; re - sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas  
way, a mur - der - er to save, the prince of



love - ly be. Oh, who am I that  
Sav - ior know. But, oh, my friend, my  
to our king. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is  
life to slay. Yet cheer - ful he to



for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?  
friend in - deed, who at my need his life did spend!  
all our breath, and for his death we thirst and cry.  
suf - f'ring goes that he his foes from thence might free.

6 Here might I stay and sing no story so divine!  
Never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine.  
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend!

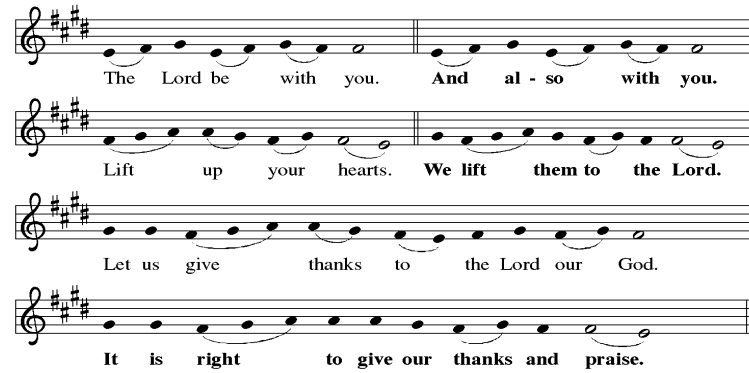
## OFFERING PRAYER

A: Merciful God, receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

### Dialogue (Sung)

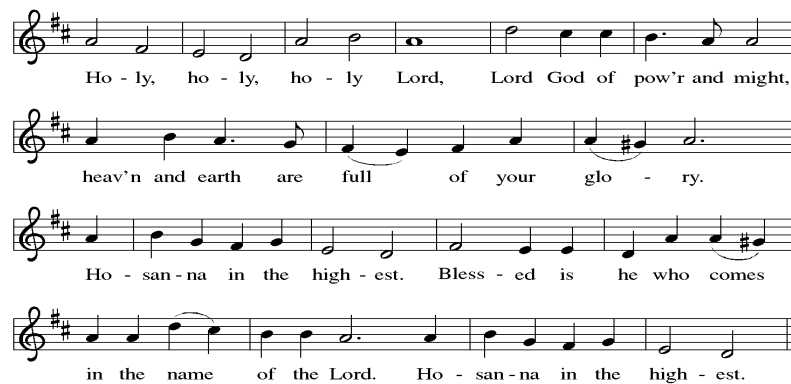


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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, whose suffering and death gave salvation to all.

You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into 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.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness

to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

P: With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C: Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

**C: 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: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

*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:

## Were You There

ELW #353

- 1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
- 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
- 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
- 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
- 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

- Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

*Refrain*

Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.

- Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Text: African American spiritual  
 Music: WERE YOU THERE, African American spiritual

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

## -WE ARE SENT FORTH-

### Benediction

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

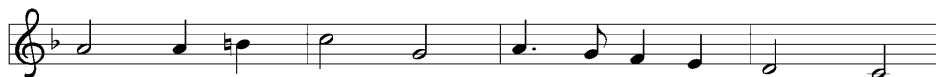
### SENDING SONG:

### There in God's Garden

ELW #342



1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,  
2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"  
3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;  
4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;



whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:  
There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f'ring;  
our greed has starved it, our de - spite has choked it.  
hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!



Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -  
see there the ten - drils of our hu - man -  
Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -  
Give me your sick - ness, give me all your



pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.  
self - hood feed on its life - blood.  
stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.  
sor - row, I will give bless - ing."

5 This is my ending  
this my resurrection;  
into your hands, Lord,  
I commit my spirit.  
This have I searched for;  
now I can possess it.  
This ground is holy.

6 All heav'n is singing,  
"Thanks to Christ whose passion  
offers in mercy  
healing, strength, and pardon.  
Peoples and nations,  
take it, take it freely!"  
Amen! My Master!

Text: Király Imre von Pécselyi, c. 1590–c. 1641; tr. Erik Routley, 1917–1982  
Music: SHADES MOUNTAIN, K. Lee Scott, b. 1950  
Text © 1976 Hinshaw Music, Inc.  
Music © 1987 Birmamwood Publications, a div. of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc.

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## DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the joy of God's love.

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: We also need to pray for Barb Taylor, Jan Danker, Diane Adler, Jean Rogers, Katie, Christopher Belanger, Janet Isner, Paul Hanzlik, Roy Kaptain, Bob & Jane Reinhold, Chico E., and C.C.

**Prayers for Friends of the Church:** Marie Trykoski, Kenneth McGrath, Dennis Vancour, Myrka Alverist's family, Maggie Alverist, Helen and Faith Dawson, Ann Farrell, JoAnn Medalie, Normagene Richardson, Aiden Chase, Brenna Taylor, Rita Stevenson, Mike, Barbara Greco, Dr. Willis Allen, Eleanor Knauf, Vera Debolt, Martha Hamze, Alessandra, Cheryl, Nick Caldwell Sr., Lucille Capece, Lexie Sachlis, George F., David Spall, Joan Coletti, Isolina Quintana, Adam Rubino, Berna, Braemen Weiner, Chandler Weiner, Debbie Seckel, Elizabeth Kraus, Hazel Quire, Juan Tavarez, Kenneth Smith, Mary Taylor, Norma Duckworth, Cynthia, Richard H., Laurie Engelhardt, Jennifer and Courtney May, and The John May family at the death of Elaine May.

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

# Announcements

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

**Sunday, April 9 - Palm Sunday:** We will begin with a procession around the church building carrying palms, representing the palm branches the crowd scattered in front of Jesus as he rode into Jerusalem.

**Thursday, April 13 - Maundy Thursday:** Maundy Thursday initiates the Easter Triduum, the period which commemorates the passion, death, and resurrection of Christ. Come worship with us at 7pm with Holy Communion and the Ritual of Washing of the Feet.

**Friday, April 14 - Good Friday:** Join us at 12:15 pm for our spiritual journey of the Stations of the Cross. Also at 7pm we will have the Tenebrae Service observing Jesus' death.

**Sunday, April 16 - Easter Sunday:** *The Resurrection of Our Lord* (Only one Worship Service at 10:15 a.m.)

Come celebrate with us the glorious Resurrection.

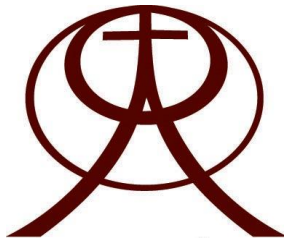
**VENEZUELA AID:** Venezuela remains in crisis and our church has committed to help by sending food and other items like toiletries. Our receiving person in Venezuela is Pastor Gerardo Hans from the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Valencia. He will make sure the shipment will get to Casa Hogar which is an orphanage managed by the church where the need is greater. We are aiming for our first shipment to be sent mid-April. Since the food is scarce, we will buy it here wholesale and send it door to door. We ask that you put your donations in the money tower. We are also asking for volunteers, men and women because food will be purchased by the sack, therefore we will need men to help us carry them. All your help is appreciated!

**10:15A.M. ONE WORSHIP ONLY:** Beginning April 9 we will have only one worship service at 10:15am.

## *Service Assistants for April*

10:15 AM	<u>April 9</u>	<u>April 16</u>	<u>April 23</u>	<u>April 30</u>
	<b><i>Palm Sunday</i></b>	<b><i>Easter</i></b>		
<b>ASSISTING MINISTER</b>	Pat Belanger	Natalie Prego	Carol Jacobson	Pat Belanger
<b>CRUCIFER</b>	Eric Castaneda			
<b>ACOLYTE/TORCH BEARERS</b>	Carol Jacobson Sera Butz	Sera Butz	Katie Paff	Madison Kibler
<b>BOOK BEARER</b>	Madison Kibler			
<b>LECTOR</b>	Sera Butz	Helga Johnson	Catherine Zippay	Tom Peterson
<b>USHERS –Need 4 to Serve</b>	Floyd MacDonald Web Antill Jeanne Pettit Sherry Fox	Harry Ambrose Patricia Engle Terry Shumway Sherry Fox	Floyd MacDonald Catherine Zippay Lynda Smith Zachary Smith	Darin Kibler Marsha Kibler Drew Kibler Linda Hanzlik
<b>Head Usher</b>	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli
<b>GREETERS – Need 2 to Serve</b>	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle
<b>SOUND</b>	Chris Castaneda	Dennis Magarrell	Sera Butz	Dennis Magarrell
<b>PROJECTION</b>	Chris Castaneda	Web Antill	Larry Jones	Katie Paff

	<u>April 13</u>	<u>April 14</u>	
	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	<b>Good Friday</b>	
	7 p.m.	12:15 p.m.	7 p.m.
<b>ASSISTING MINISTER</b>	Sera Butz	Pat Belanger	Aura Suarez
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Katie Paff		Katie Paff
<b>USHERS</b>	Catherine Zippay	Terry Shumway	Sherry Fox
<b>SOUND</b>	Dennis Magarrell		Sera Butz



# St Stephen

**Lutheran Church, ELCA**

**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

**Cesar Vidaud** – Director of Music

**Clarence (Teddy) Rowe** – Sexton

**Aidee Koach** – Administrative Assistant

sslcpompano@gmail.com

## **Congregation Council**

**Larry Jones** - President

councilpresident@ststephenlutheran.net

Christian Hecker – Vice-president

Natalie Prego - Secretary

Patricia Engle

Dennis Magarrell

Eric Castaneda - Treasurer

Lynda Smith

Harry Ambrose

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

St. Stephen Lutheran Church, ELCA

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