



St Stephen

a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer, Pastor



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

June 20, 2021

The Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

10:15am

Holy Eucharist

Introduction

Now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation! Now we are in the storm, the boat almost swamped; but Jesus is here now, and when we call him, he will calm the storm. Even the wind and waves listen to him as they would to their creator. We also listen to him and are called to believe in the power of God's word in him, a power greater than all that we fear.



Gathering

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

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.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

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.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

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.

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.

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.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG: Eternal Father, Strong to Save

ELW# 756

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The presiding minister and assembly greet each other.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE: Glory to God

ELW, page 185-186

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

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

O God of creation, eternal majesty, you preside over land and sea, sunshine and storm. By your strength pilot us, by your power preserve us, by your wisdom instruct us, and by your hand protect us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly sits.



Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading and song.

FIRST READING: Job 38: 1-11

A Reading from Job.

¹The LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind:

²“Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

³Gird up your loins like a man,

I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

⁴“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

⁵Who determined its measurements—surely you know!
Or who stretched the line upon it?
⁶On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone
⁷when the morning stars sang together
and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?
⁸“Or who shut in the sea with doors
when it burst out from the womb?—
⁹when I made the clouds its garment,
and thick darkness its swaddling band,
¹⁰and prescribed bounds for it, and set bars and doors,
¹¹and said, “Thus far shall you come, and no farther,
and here shall your proud waves be stopped?”

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 107:1-3, 23-32

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good,
for God’s mercy endures forever.
²**Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim
that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,**
³gathering them in from the lands;
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.
²³**Some went down to the sea in ships,
plying their trade in deep waters.**
²⁴They beheld the works of the LORD,
God’s wonderful works in the deep.
²⁵**Then God spoke, and a stormy wind arose,
which tossed high the waves of the sea.**
²⁶They mounted up to the heavens and descended to the depths;
their souls melted away in their peril.
²⁷They staggered and reeled like drunkards,
and all their skill was of no avail.
²⁸Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD,
and you delivered them from their distress.
²⁹**You stilled the storm to a whisper
and silenced the waves of the sea.**
³⁰Then were they glad when it grew calm,
when you guided them to the harbor they desired.
³¹**Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love
and your wonderful works for all people.**
³²Let them exalt you in the assembly of the people;
in the council of the elders, let them sing hallelujah!

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 6: 1-13

A reading from Second Corinthians.

¹As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything. ¹¹We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. ¹²There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. ¹³In return—I speak as to children—open wide your hearts also.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

GOSPEL: Mark 4: 35-41

P: ✝ The Holy Gospel, according to Mark.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁵When evening had come, [Jesus said to the disciples,] “Let us go across to the other side.” ³⁶And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. ³⁷A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the

boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. ³⁸But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" ³⁹He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. ⁴⁰He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" ⁴¹And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me

ELW #767

THE APOSTLE'S 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

After each petition of the prayer is said:

A: ...Lord in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

P: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace. through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

The assembly sits.



MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING—*The Offering Plates will remain at the door until we have enough ushers, or give online at www.ststephenlutheran.net*

OFFERING SONG: Praise and Thanksgiving

ELW# 689

The assembly stands.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

The Lord be with you.

And also 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:

SANCTUS

ELW, page 207

The presiding minister continues to give thanks:

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:....

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

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup...
to share with us the great and promised feast.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,...
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.
Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

...all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father,
now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.:

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

The bread is broken for the communion.

P: This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come to the banquet!

The assembly is seated.

Lamb of God

ELW, page 182-183

Communion Song:

Precious Lord, Take My Hands

ELW# 773

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The assembly stands and the assisting minister leads the prayer after communion.

Let us pray. O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



Sending

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

Announcements

FATHER'S DAY BLESSING

All may make the sign of the cross as they receive God's blessing.

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit bless you, now and forever.
Amen.

The assembly turns toward the cross as it passes by.

SENDING SONG:

My Life Flows on In Endless Song

ELW# 763

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



WELCOME! In response to the amazing love, mercy and grace of God, St. Stephen Lutheran Church is a community that openly welcomes all who are seeking God's divine love and grace. All are welcome in this place regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation or gender identity, economic situation or life situation, marital or relationship status, or your doubts about faith and church. Our unity is in Christ. Your family, children, friends, spouses and partners are welcome. Your diversity and uniqueness enriches and expands our community. We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

IN OUR PRAYERS...

In our prayers today are these members of our homebound and others of our parish family in need of healing: Carol Zurick, Madeline Lombardi, Scott Possiel, Carol Jacobson, Katie Paff, Roger Hinkley, Constance Brown, Natalie Prego, Dolores Lauterberg, Laurel Blake, Dorothy Johnson, Don Schutt, Mildred Grady, Jimmy Fennelli.

Prayers for Friends of the Parish

✠Erik, Carol, Errol, Jason, Melissa, Jon, Carolyne, Camille, Jim, Maria, Shirley, Greg, Jane, Dave, Aiden, Chandler, Becky, Cheryl, Robert, Craig, Braeman, Taylor, Nettie, Janice, Barbara, Rae, Jerry, Carol ✠✠ Peggy, Ruth, Alan, ✠✠✠Ruth, Ian, Carol, Jill, Peggy, Larry

In a facility or homebound:

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

Change for Change: Faith Farms

During June and July, we will use our change for change tower to once again support Faith Farm Ministries. This local program offers a faith based recovery program that includes residential drug and alcohol addiction transformation along the road to recovery. With 440 beds across three campuses in South Florida, they offer the time and tools it takes to choose to live a productive life in recovery. Faith Farm began in 1951 as an overnight rescue mission in Ft. Lauderdale. Today, each campus has a church, thrift store, and live-on staff of pastors, teachers, and counselors. All faiths, races, and socio-economic classes are welcome. Faith Farm offers all recovery services free of charge. *"Faith Farm is a Christian Ministry Whose Purpose Is To Restore And Transform Lives Through The Gospel Of Jesus Christ."* Campuses are located in Fort Lauderdale, Boynton Beach, and Okeechobee. To learn more go to: www.faithfarm.org

We need ushers and greeters!

As life begins to look a little more normal around here, we need volunteers to be ushers and greeters on Sunday morning. During the pandemic we have operated on a skeleton crew, but now that we can resume things like taking an offering and giving a small gift to our Sunday guests, we are in desperate need of more helpers. You can speak directly with Rosie Fennelli or respond directly to this email if you are willing to help.

Seeking an Assisting Minister...

An ordained minister of word and sacrament presides at the Liturgy of Holy Communion, but the liturgy is the work of all the people. Among ministries of worship are ushers, greeters, lectors, altar servers, singers and assisting ministers. An assisting minister fills the liturgical role of a deacon at worship by leading The Prayers of Intercession, setting the table, assisting at the distribution of communion and dismissing the assembly at the end of the liturgy. Currently we have three active assisting ministers. It would be very helpful to have one more. If you are interested in being trained for this important ministry, please speak to me directly or respond directly to this email.

Holy Grill and Holy Provisions

We continue to welcome your donations of clean or new casual clothing, socks, and men's underwear any time. They can be brought on Sunday or left in the office during office hours. In addition, we are collecting any non-perishable food items for Holy Provisions, the food pantry on the campus of St. Nicholas Church on Sample Road.