

St Stephen

Lutheran Church, ELCA



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

March 5, 2017

First Sunday in Lent

9:00am & 10:15am

Rev. Pedro Suarez, Pastor

—WE GATHER—

INTRODUCTION

Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.

WELCOME

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: During the season of Lent we are called to return to the Lord with all our heart. Let us confess our sin and seek reconciliation with God and neighbor.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: You sent Jesus Christ to save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We fail in love, neglect justice, and ignore your truth. Have mercy on us and wash away our sin. Create in us clean hearts for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

P: Behold, now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation.

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

C: Amen.



1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,
 2 Bless so - journ - ers and pil - grims who share this wind - ing way;
 3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.



the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.
 your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus - tains the day.
 We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow,



The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun - tain round,
 We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;
 but wait - ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.



then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.
 to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.
 Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
 Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.
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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.

THE KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



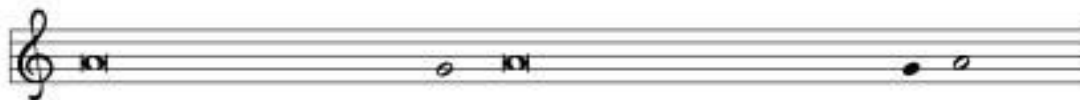
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray together:

C: Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, 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:

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. ¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; ¹⁷ but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die." ³ Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" ² The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, ³ but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'" ⁴ "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. ⁵ "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶ When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

L: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 32

¹ Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

**² Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count against them
and in whose spirit is no deceit.**

³ When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

**⁴ For day and night your hand was heavy on me;
my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.**

⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

**⁶ Therefore let all the faithful pray to you while you may be found;
surely the rising of the mighty waters will not reach them.**

⁷ You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble
and surround me with songs of deliverance.

8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;

I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

⁹ Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you.

¹⁰ Many are the woes of the wicked, but the LORD's unfailing love surrounds the one who trusts in him.

¹¹ Rejoice in the LORD and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!

SECOND READING:

Romans 5:12-19

¹² Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned— ¹³ To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone's account where there is no law.

¹⁴ Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come. ¹⁵ But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! ¹⁶ Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. ¹⁷ For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ! ¹⁸ Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. ¹⁹ For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous. **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 4th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

GOSPEL:

Matthew 4: 1-11

4 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 2 After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. 3 The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." 4 Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" 5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. 6 "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: "He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'" 7 Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" 8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. 9 "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." 10 Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" 11 Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

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:

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

ELW#325

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual

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

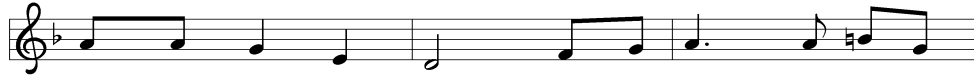
MUSICAL OFFERING:

Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery (verses 1,2,3, and Lent 1)

ELW #334



1 Tree of Life and awe - some mys - t'ry, in your
2 We re - mem - ber truth once spo - ken, love passed
3 Christ, you lead and we shall fol - low, stum - bling



death we are re - born; though you die in all of
on through act and word; ev - 'ry per - son lost and
though our steps may be; one with you in joy and



his - t'ry, still you rise with ev - 'ry morn, still you
bro - ken wears the bod - y of our Lord, wears the
sor - row, we the riv - er, you the sea, we the



rise with ev - 'ry morn.
bod - y of our Lord.
riv - er, you the sea.

One of the following may be sung as a final stanza at the appropriate time.

General

Light of life beyond conceiving,
mighty Spirit of our Lord;
give new strength to our believing,
give us faith to live your word

Lent 3

Living Water of salvation,
be the fountain of each soul;
springing up in new creation,
flow in us and make us whole.

Lent 1

From the dawning of creation
you have loved us as your own;
stay with us through all temptation,
make us turn to you alone.

Lent 4

Give us eyes to see you clearly;
make us children of your light.
Give us hearts to live more nearly
as your gospel shining bright.

Lent 2

In our call to be a blessing,
may we be a blessing true;
may we live and die confessing
Christ as Lord of all we do.

Lent 5

God of all our fear and sorrow,
God who lives beyond our death,
hold us close through each tomorrow,
love as near as every breath.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: Marty Haugen

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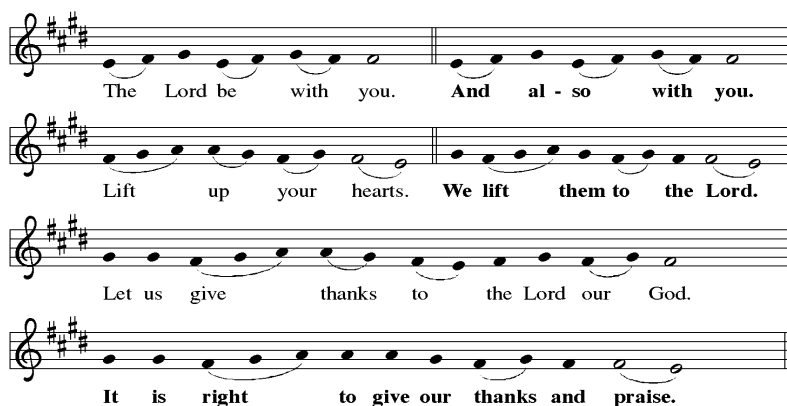
OFFERING PRAYER

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

C: Amen.

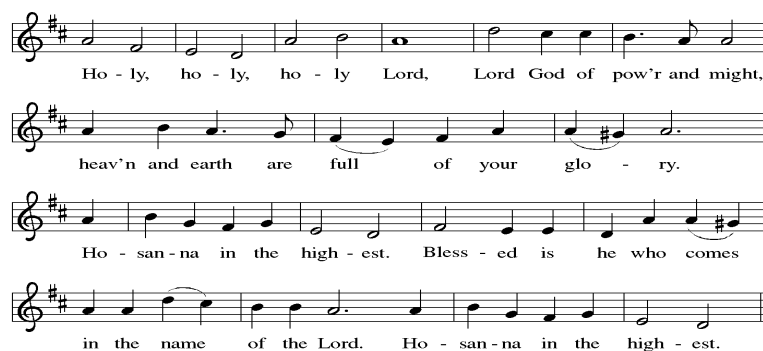
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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 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. There will be another communion station below for those that prefer not to come to the Altar rail. 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.

Refrain



Just a clos-er walk with thee, grant it, Je-sus, is my plea;



dai - ly walk-ing close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.



1 I am weak but thou art strong: Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;
 2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?
 3 When my fee - ble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;

Refrain



I'll be sat - is - fied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.
 Who with me my bur - den shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.
 guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er to thy king - dom shore, to thy shore.

Text: North American traditional
 Music: CLOSER WALK, North American traditional

Instrumental Music

Cesar Vidaud

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



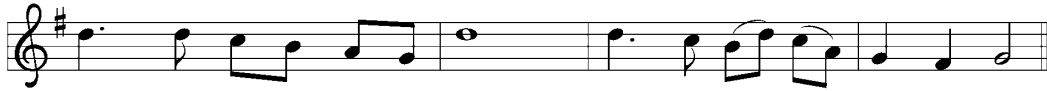
1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
 wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
 shield me with your might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.
 I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Text: William Williams, 1717–1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722–1796, alt.
 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

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, Diane Adler, Ingrid Koslowski, Jean Rogers, Katie, Christopher Belanger, Janet Isner, Paul Hanzlik, Roy Kaptain, Bob & Jane Reinhold, Larry and Beverly Sheehan, Chico E., and C.C.

Prayers for Friends of the Church: Dennis Vancour, Myrka Alverist's family, Maggie Alverist, Helen and Faith Dawson, Barbara Taylor, 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, Dorotka Rodriguez and family., Barbara Creighton's family and Sherry Zimmermann and family.

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

Flowers this week sponsored by: Kristin Rubino in celebration of Janay and Joe's Alvarez 21st birthdays.

Announcements

LENTEN SERVICES: We will have two opportunities for Lenten services; you can either come Wednesdays at 12:15pm (followed by a Bible study at 12:45pm) or on Thursdays at 7pm.

NEW MEMBERS ORIENTATION: On Friday, March 17 at 7 pm or Saturday, March 18 from 9 am - 12 pm we will have an orientation for those wishing to be official members or associate members of St. Stephen. We will talk about the vision we have as we do God's mission in this place and time. If you would like more information or to register for this, please contact Pastor Pedro or the church office.

CONTACT UPDATES: We are updating our contact list, names, phone numbers, and email addresses, please let us know how you prefer to be contacted or to receive the newsletter. Also if you have a family member or friend name that you wish to add in our prayer list please call us at 954.942.4473 or email us at: sslcpompano@gmail.com

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Every Sunday at 11:15 am we have our Sunday school. Children leave right after Holy Communion. Call the church office to register a child or for more information.

VOLUNTEERS FOR ALTAR CARE: We need volunteers for Altar Care to set up and take down communion on Sundays. Note: If training needed contact Pat Belanger.

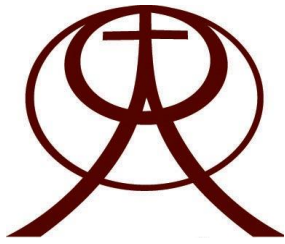
CHILI COOK OFF: 1ST Annual Florida-Bahamas Synod Chili Cook-off will be host by Zion Lutheran on April 1, 2017 at 4:00p.m. Each participating Church may enter up three 3 entries.

Service Assistants for March

10:15 AM	<u>March 5</u>	<u>March 12</u>	<u>March 19</u>	<u>March 26</u>
ASSISTING MINISTER	Pat Belanger	Sera Butz	Natalie Prego	Carol Jacobson
ACOLYTE	Carol Jacobson	Katie Paff	Sera Butz	Madison Kibler
LECTOR	Judi Dooge	Natalie Prego	Aura Suarez	Rick Dunton
USHERS –Need 4 to Serve	Suzanne Loggins Linda Hanzlik Terry Shumway Floyd MacDonald	Lynda Smith Zachary Smith Lisa Castaneda Jeanne Pettit	Harry Ambrose Patricia Engle Catherine Zippay Floyd MacDonald	Marsha Kibler Drew Kibler Darin Kibler Sherry Fox
Head Usher	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli
GREETERS – Need 2 to Serve	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones	Caroline Smith Barbara Kaptain	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones
SOUND	Dennis Magarrell	Eric Castaneda	Dennis Magarrell	Sera Butz
PROJECTION	Sera Butz	Larry Jones	Web Antill	Chris Castaneda



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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:

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Dennis Magarrell

Christian Hecker

Natalie Prego - Secretary

Harry Ambrose

Eric Castaneda- Treasurer

Lynda Smith

Patricia Engle

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

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