

# 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.

August 9, 2020

10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

10:15am

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## Holy Communion

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### Introduction to the Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

*Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.*



### Gathering

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

### Prelude

### Welcome

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be God forever, Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Dear friends, Salvation is near for all who trust in God. Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Lord, we have forsaken your covenant and killed the prophets.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, you reach out your hand when we have little faith and many doubts.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, everyone who calls on your name will be saved.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness.*

Almighty God has had mercy upon us, forgives us all our sins, and brings us to eternal life.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG: **Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast**

**ELW# 516**



1 Al-might - y God, your word is cast like seed in - to the ground;  
2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe this ho - ly seed re - move,  
3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares the ris - ing plant de - stroy,  
4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, life - giv - ing grace be - stow,



now let the dew of heav'n de - scend and righ - teous fruits a - bound.  
but give it root in ev - 'ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.  
but let it yield a hun - dred - fold the fruits of peace and joy.  
that all whose souls the truth re - ceive its sav - ing pow'r may know.

Text: John Cawood, 1775-1852, alt.  
Music: ST. FLAVIAN, J. Day, *Psalter*, 1562

## 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



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and



peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you



for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high -



est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther,  
 we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you  
*Refrain*  
 for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high-  
 est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,  
 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
 world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat-ed at the  
 right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.  
*Refrain*  
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and  
 peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 For you a -  
 lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the  
 Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.  
 A - men. A - men. A - men.  
*Final refrain*  
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's  
 peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the high-  
 est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**



## Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading and song.

### FIRST READING: 1 Kings 19:9-18

A reading from First Kings.

<sup>9</sup>At [Horeb, the mount of God,][Elijah] came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” <sup>10</sup>He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.”

<sup>11</sup>He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.” Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; <sup>12</sup>and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. <sup>13</sup>When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” <sup>14</sup>He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.” <sup>15</sup>Then the LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. <sup>16</sup>Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. <sup>17</sup>Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. <sup>18</sup>Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 85:8-13

<sup>8</sup>I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;

for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

<sup>9</sup>**Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,  
that your glory may dwell in our land.**

<sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

<sup>11</sup>**Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,  
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

<sup>12</sup>The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.

<sup>13</sup>**Righteousness shall go before the LORD and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

## SECOND READING: Romans 10:5-15

A reading from Romans.

<sup>5</sup>Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” <sup>6</sup>But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) <sup>7</sup>“or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). <sup>8</sup>But what does it say? “The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup>because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. <sup>11</sup>The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” <sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

<sup>14</sup>But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? <sup>15</sup>And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

L: 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: Matthew 14:22-33

P: ✠ The Holy Gospel, according to Matthew.

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

<sup>22</sup>[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee], while he dismissed the crowds.<sup>23</sup>And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup>but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup>And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. <sup>26</sup>But when the disciples saw him

walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup>But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

<sup>28</sup>Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." <sup>29</sup>He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup>But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" <sup>31</sup>Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" <sup>32</sup>When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup>And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

*The assembly is seated.*

SERMON

The Rev. Robert Schaefer

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

Praise, Praise! You Are My Rock

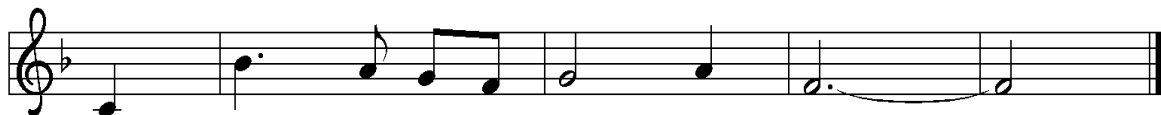
ELW# 862



1 Praise, praise! You are my rock. The wind, the waves are high. You hold me  
2 Praise, praise! You are my rock. My des - ert sand is dry. You break the  
3 Praise, praise! You are my rock. You calm the fear and pain. One word of  
4 Praise, praise! You are my rock. You host the ta - ble set. We break the



when the waves are strong. You hold me lest I die, I die.  
rock, a riv - er flows. You hear me when I cry, I cry.  
faith and I am well, I rise to praise and walk a - gain.  
bread, we drink the cup; we know whom we have met, have met.



Praise, praise! O God, you are my rock.

5 Praise, praise! You are my rock. The Easter grave is sealed; you roll the stone—you, God, alone— then sin and death are healed, are healed. Praise, praise! O God, you are my rock.	6 Praise, praise! You are my rock. You stood high on a hill. A holy cloud: you are on high. Be still, my heart, be still, be still. Praise, praise! O God, you are my rock.
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Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926  
Music: ZACHARY WOODS ROCK, Rusty Edwards, b. 1955  
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## **APOSTLES CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

A: Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*After each petition of the prayer is said:*

Lord, you are good to all:

**hear our cry and save us.**

P: In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**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.*

## **SETTING THE TABLE**



- 1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
- 2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
- 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.  
 What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.  
 Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, b. 1957  
 Music: BARBARA ALLEN, English folk tune  
 Text © 1990 Augsburg Fortress

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*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. **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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.



*The presiding minister continues to give thanks:*

Lord, you are holy indeed, ...

...Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

...all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

**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. Friends of Jesus, come to the table. Receive nourishment for your journey.

*The assembly is seated.*

## Lamb of God

Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;  
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros.  
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.

Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;  
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros.  
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.

Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;  
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

da - nos tu paz, da - nos tu paz.  
grant us your peace, grant us your peace.



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,  
 2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,  
 3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.  
 when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,  
 and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,

Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.  
 hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.  
 at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.

Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899–1993  
 Music: George N. Allen, 1812–1877, adapt. Thomas A. Dorsey  
 Text and music © 1938, 1966 Unichappell Music Inc., admin. Hal Leonard Corp.

PRECIOUS LORD  
 irregular

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

Let us pray.

God of the welcome table, when storms come, in this meal we feast on your goodness and are united by your presence among us. Empower us to go forth sustained by these sacramental gifts so that we may share your love and peace with all, through the giver of abundant life. Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**



## Sending

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

## Announcements

### BLESSING

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

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit bless you, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG:**

**My Life Flows On in Endless Song**

**ELW# 763**



1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,  
2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.  
3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.  
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.  
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?  
What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.  
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

*Refrain*



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth,how can I keep from sing-ing?

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899

Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, Robert Lowry, alt.

**DISMISSAL**

**A:** Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**C:** Thanks be to God.



***RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION TODAY OUTSIDE!***

The Eucharist is the Real Presence of Jesus and central to nourishing and sustaining our faith—especially during this pandemic. While we can't safely gather in large groups in the church yet, you are encouraged to come with your loved ones to receive the Lord's Supper in a safe way outside the church. The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be given today by Pastor Bob in the church parking lot, in front of the main entrance from

12:00pm—12:30pm. It will be drive through. Please follow the ushers' directions on arrival and maintain social distancing. Please wear a mask except when receiving the sacrament.

## IN OUR PRAYERS...

In our prayers today are these members of our homebound and others of our parish family in need of healing: Randy Mottesheard, Susanne Loggins, Pastor Bob, Marti Stroberg, Dolores Lauterberg, Jake Waldecki, Sera Butz, George Arce, Laurel Blake, Dorothy Johnson, James Loggins, Don Schutt, Normagene Richardson, Mildred Grady, Carol Chmelynski, Rosie & Jimmy Fennelli, Roy and Barbara Kaptain, Katie Paff, Bob Reinhold, and Shelley Amato, The Castaneda family, Pat Engle and family of Harry's Ambrose.

## Prayers for Friends of the Parish

✠ Carol, Missy, Jason, Melissa, Greg, Valerie, Lisa Russell, and Jane ✠ Belinda Barfield, Marjorie, Nicole Doherty, Roy Branham, Gene, Chris, Amanda, Annette, Madison, Mason, Betty, Joanna, Susan, Betty, Chuck, Pat, Bruce.

## In a facility or homebound:

Barbara Kaptain – The Atrium Assistant Living at Boca Raton.  
1080 NW 15TH Room 215 Boca Raton, Fl. 33486  
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  
Bud Danker - 3020 N. Ridge Road Apartment W-316 Ellicott City, MD 21043.



*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.*

**The Reopening Team** recommends that we do not invite people to in person worship until the first Sunday in September, September 6, conditions permitting. The daily new corona case numbers still remain too high to issue a formal invitation to return to in person worship yet.



With unemployment at near record highs, more people are food insecure than ever. To help make a difference we are supporting FEEDING SOUTH FLORIDA. Feeding South Florida is the largest, most efficient food bank serving Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe Counties. More than 98% of all donations are put back into the community.

Through innovative direct-service programs and a network of nonprofit partner agencies, Feeding South Florida distributed nearly 62 million pounds (51.5 million meals) of food last fiscal year to over 706,000 individuals – 236,000 of whom are children and 100,000 are older adults.

**Send your loose change to Church and let's fill up the Change for Change Tower. You may give on line by following the link on our homepage at: [www.ststephenlutheran.net](http://www.ststephenlutheran.net)**

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