St Stephen

Evangelical Lutheran Church



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

February 14, 2016

First Sunday in Lent

10:15 am

Pastor Pedro Suarez

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

-WE GATHER-

INTRODUCTION

These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues; to receive the gifts of God's grace; to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus; and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.

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: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Before God and in the company of our sisters and brothers, let us confess our sin.

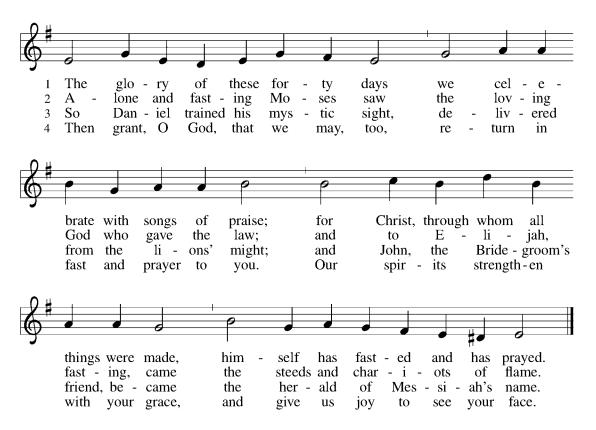
Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell, 1862–1947, alt. Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

Outside USA: Text from The English Hymnal, © Oxford University Press 1906, All rights reserved.

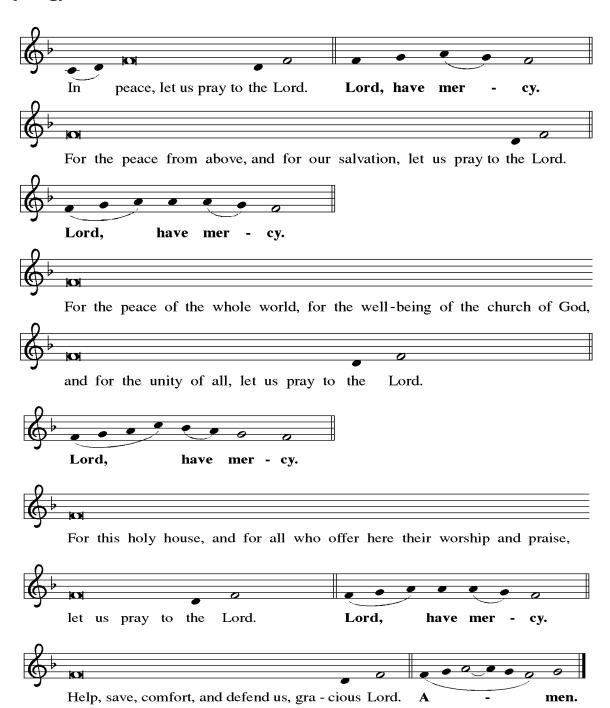
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THE GREETING

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.

KYRIE (Sung)



HYMN OF PRAISE "Glory to God..."



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray together:

C: O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through 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

¹ When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ² you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³ You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." ⁴ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, ⁵ you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. 6 When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷ we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. 8 The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders: ⁹ and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰ So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. 11 Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks, be to God.

PSALM: 91:1-2, 9-16

- ¹ You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
- ² will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust."
- ⁹ Because you have made the LORD your refuge, the Most High your dwelling place,
- no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent.
- ¹¹ For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.
- ¹² On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.
- ¹³ You will tread on the lion and the adder, the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.
- ¹⁴ Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name.
- When they call to me, I will answer them;I will be with them in trouble,I will rescue them and honor them.
- ¹⁶ With long life I will satisfy them, and show them my salvation.

SECOND READING: Romans 10:8b- 13

⁸ 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); ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹ The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." ¹² 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. ¹³ For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." **AMEN.**

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: Please Rise for the Gospel Acclamation.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "Alleluia"



P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke, the 4th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

GOSPEL: Luke 4:1-13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³ The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." ⁴ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

⁵ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" ⁹ Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' ¹¹ and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.""

¹² Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ¹³ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

You may be seated.

-WE RESPOND-

P: Please stand as you are able for the Sermon Song.



Text: African American spiritual

Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

A: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

C: Amen.

After each petition of the prayer is said:

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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~

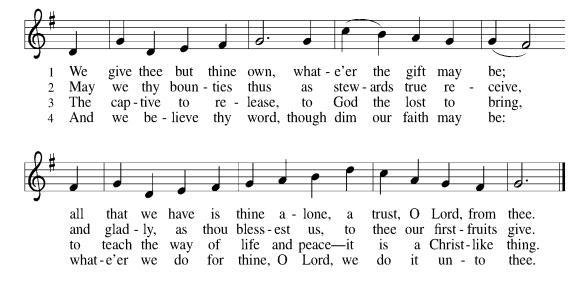
OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

OFFERTORY

We Give Thee but Thine Own

ELW #686



Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt.

Music: HEATH, L. Mason and G. Webb, Cantica Lauda, 1850

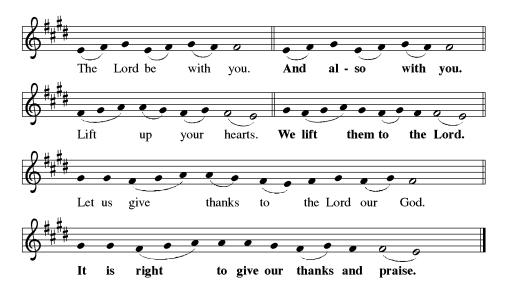
OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray,

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. **Amen.**

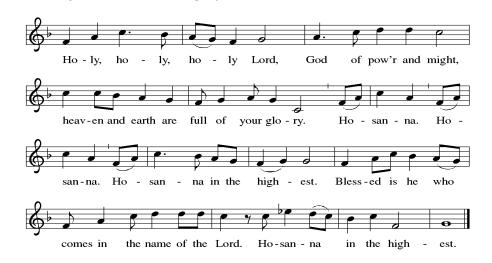
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Dialogue (Sung)



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.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. 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:



Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

With this bread and cup we remember your

Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

P: And now, we come to You in prayer, as our Savior Jesus has taught us:

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation of Communion

P: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

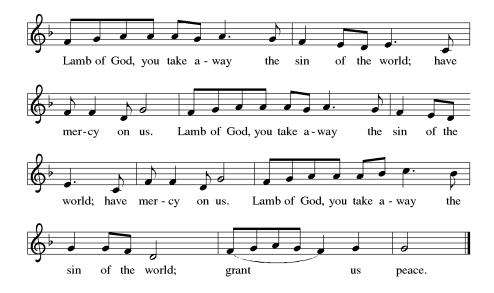
We believe Jesus Christ is present in the bread and wine by his Word of Promise. All baptized Christians are invited to participate in the celebration of God's forgiving love, strengthening faith, and grace-filled hope. Those who are not baptized and children not yet communing may come forward for a 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"





Instrumental Music

Cesar Vidaud

P: Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray,

Wise and generous God, we thank you that at this holy table you have fed us again with the food of everlasting life. Send us with your blessing to seek the good of our neighbor and call others to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

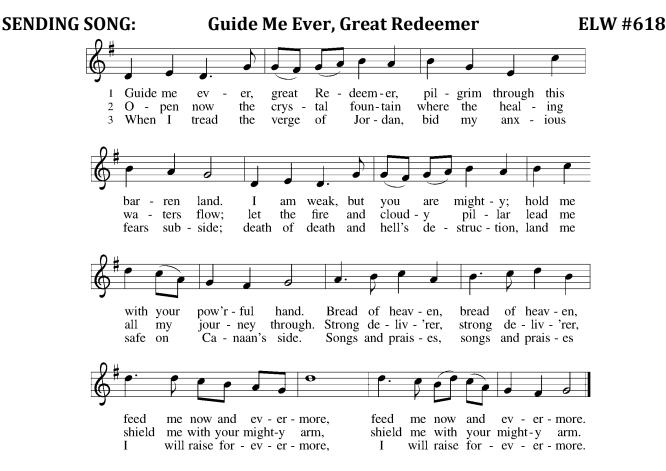
~WE ARE SENT FORTH~

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's faces shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and \pm give you peace. **Amen.**



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 good news.

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: Cynthia Langbauer. We also need to pray for: Marie Koach, Barbara Nilles, Carmen Crespo, Henry Rosua, Frank Odiema, Roy Kaptain, Jimmy Fennelli, Bob & Jane Reinhold, Larry and Beverly Sheehan, Dee Lauterberg, Chico E., Paul Hanzlik, C.C., Catherine Zippay, and for Adam and Krystynan and the Polkowski family.

Prayers for Friends of the Church: Joe Mullahey, Lucille Capece, Marty Shram, Lexie Sachlis, George F., David Spall, Joan Coletti, Giacomo Dresseno, Jeannie Rogers, Adam Rubino, Berna, Braemen Weiner, Chandler Weiner, Debbie Fiore, Debbie Seckel, Elaine Brustad, Elizabeth Kraus, Hazel Quire, Juan Tavarez, Kenneth Smith, Mary Taylor, Norma Duckworth, Cynthia, Tim Tyler, Richard H., Antonio C., Mireya D., Laurie Engelhardt, Emma Holmes and her family, Joe Papagno and for the Miller, and DeBolt families at the death of Zac Miller., for the Silato Family who lost their father, Tony last Monday, Also, Cynthia McCormick and Lemmuel Knowles Sr.

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

Announcements

BREAKFAST BRUNCH: Saturday, February 13 Debra Georgia is our guest speaker. Everyone is welcome. Please join us.

BISHOP'S VISIT: Every year Bishop Robert Schaefer visits different parts of our Florida Bahamas Synod, to renew the vows of those in ministry for the church and to bless the oils used in our sacramental rites. On Saturday, February 20, Bishop Schaefer will visit our church, St. Stephen, and we will worship together in the morning at 9:45. All are welcome to come!

QUILT SUNDAY: Sunday, February 21 at all services "Thread of Love" quilt group will be displaying their projects to the congregation.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY: Beginning Wednesday, February 17th Pastors Pedro Suarez and Tom Peterson will be leading a Bible study at 12:15p.m. If you would like to receive material for this Bible study online please email Pastor Suarez at ststephenpastor@gmail.com

CONTRIBUTION REPORTS: Please, don't forget to pick up your 2015 contribution statement envelope in the Narthex. Thank you!

Service Assistants for February

10:15 AM	February 14	February 21	February 28
ASSISTING MINISTER	Sera Butz	Pat Belanger	Carol Jacobson
ACOLYTE	Pat Belanger	Maddie Kibler	Sera Butz
LECTOR	Juliet Crawford	Marti Stroburg	Joanne Brustad
USHERS – Need 4 to Serve	Carol & Kelly Jacobson Jeanne Pettit	Marsha Kibler Lynda & Zac Smith Web Antill	Rick Brustad Susanne Loggins Scott Kelley Lisa Castaneda
Head Usher – Rosie Fennelli	Head Usher – Rosie Fennelli	Head Usher – Rosie Fennelli	Head Usher – Rosie Fennelli
GREETERS – Need 2 to serve	Web Antill Eduardo Arango	Judi Dooge Marie Koach	Lynda Smith Zac Smith
SOUND	ТВА	Sera Butz	ТВА
ROJECTION	Larry Jones	ТВА	Larry Jones



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

Sunday Worship Schedule

Praise and Faith formation 9:00 a.m.
Traditional Blend Worship Service at 10:15 a.m.
Latino Worship Service at 12:30 p.m.
Holy Communion is celebrated weekly

Church Staff

Rev. Pedro Suarez – Pastor pastor@ststephenlutheran.net Cesar Vidaud – Director of Music Aidee Koach – Administrative Assistant sslcpompano@gmail.com

Congregation Council

Larry Jones, President: councilpresident@ststephenlutheran.net

Web Antill Christian Hecker Natalie Prego - Secretary

Eric Castaneda Lynda Smith Kathy Runk - Vice Pres.

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

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