# St Stephen

**Evangelical Lutheran Church** 



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

January 24, 2016

Third Sunday after Epiphany

10:15 am

Pastor Pedro Suarez

#### **WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **—WE GATHER—**

#### INTRODUCTION

The glory of the Lord is revealed in the reading of scripture. People stand at attention. People weep. People prostrate themselves in prayer. The unity of the church is another reflection of the glory of God. Most gloriously, the promises of God are fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Gather round. Listen up. Glimpse the glory of God.

#### **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.

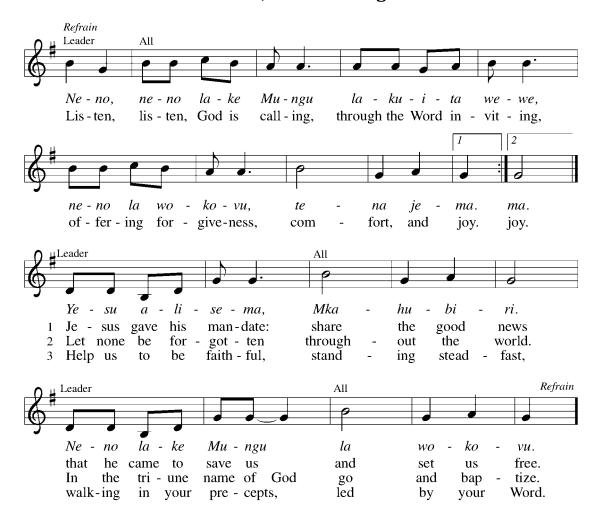
Silence is kept for reflection.

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  $\oplus$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



Text: Tanzanian traditional; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922

Music: NENO LAKE MUNGU, Tanzanian tune

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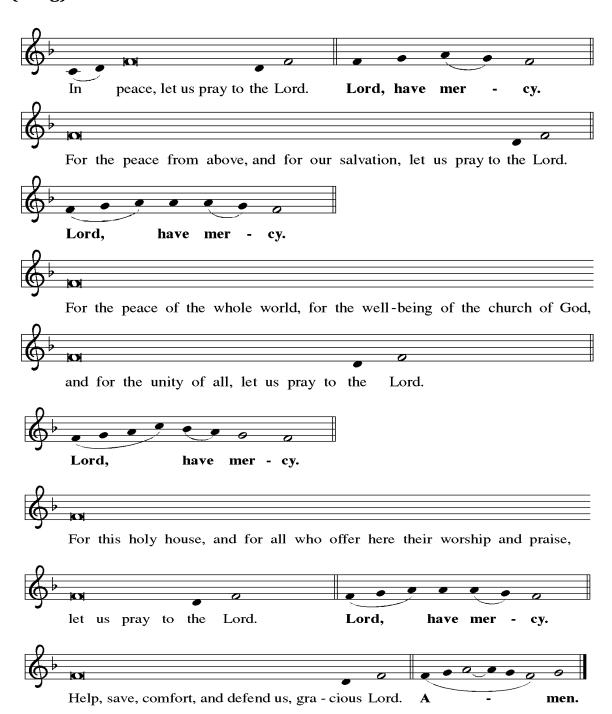
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#### THE GREETING

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: Blessed Lord God, you have caused the Holy Scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN

# Children's Message

—WE HEAR GOD'S WORD—

FIRST READING: Neheamiah 8:1-10

<sup>1</sup> all the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. <sup>2</sup> Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. <sup>3</sup> He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law.

- <sup>5</sup> And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. <sup>6</sup> Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.
- <sup>8</sup> So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.
- <sup>9</sup> And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. <sup>10</sup> Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."
- L: The word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks, be to God.

#### **PSALM: 19**

- <sup>1</sup> The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
- <sup>2</sup> Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.
- <sup>3</sup> There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;
- <sup>4</sup> yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

#### In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,

- <sup>5</sup> which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy.
- <sup>6</sup> Its rising is from the end of the heavens,

and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat.

- <sup>7</sup> The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;
- <sup>8</sup> the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;

#### the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;

- <sup>9</sup> the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- <sup>10</sup> More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.
- Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.
- <sup>12</sup> But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.
- <sup>13</sup> Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me.

Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

<sup>14</sup> Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

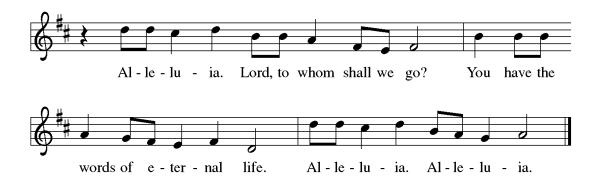
<sup>12</sup> For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks. slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. 14 Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. 15 If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup> And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup> If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup> But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup> If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup> As it is, there are many members, yet one body. <sup>21</sup> The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." <sup>22</sup> On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup> and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; <sup>24</sup> whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, <sup>25</sup> that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup> If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.<sup>27</sup> Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup> And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, and various kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup> Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? 30 Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31</sup> But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way. 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. John, the 2nd chapter.

# C: Glory to you, O Lord!

**GOSPEL:** Luke 4:14-21

<sup>14</sup> Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. <sup>15</sup> He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

<sup>16</sup> When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup> and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

<sup>18</sup> "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, <sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

 $^{20}$  And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.  $^{21}$  Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

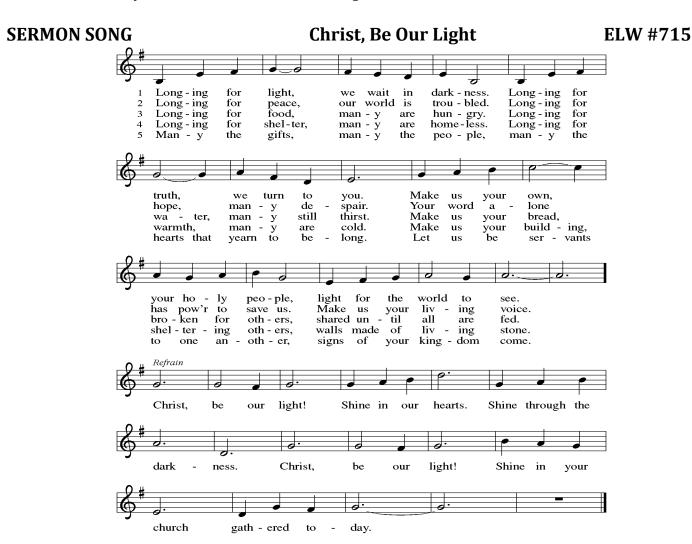
C: Praise to you, O Christ!

You may be seated.

#### **SERMON**

#### **—WE RESPOND—**

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



Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957 Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell.Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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#### 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.

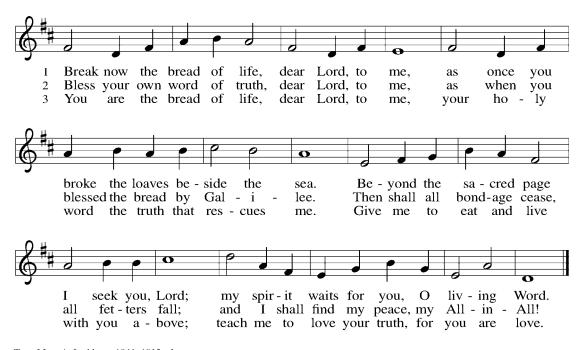


#### **OFFERING**

#### **OFFERTORY**

#### **Break Now the Bread of Life**

**ELW #515** 



Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841–1913, alt. Music: BREAD OF LIFE, William F. Sherwin, 1826–1888

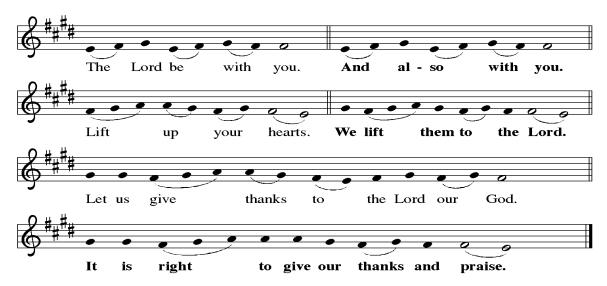
#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

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.** 

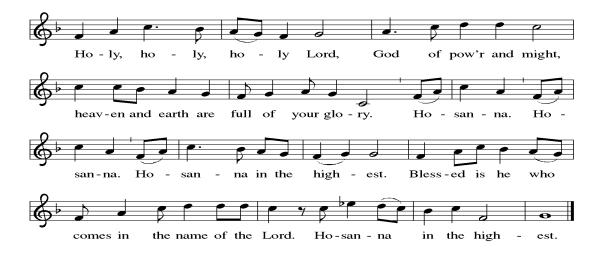
#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

# 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.

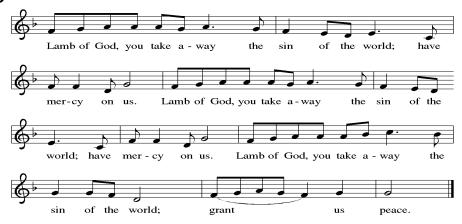
We believe Jesus Christ is present in the bread and wine by his Word of Promise. All baptized Christians are invited to participate in the celebration of God's forgiving love, strengthening faith, and grace-filled hope. Those who are not baptized and children not yet communing may come forward for a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

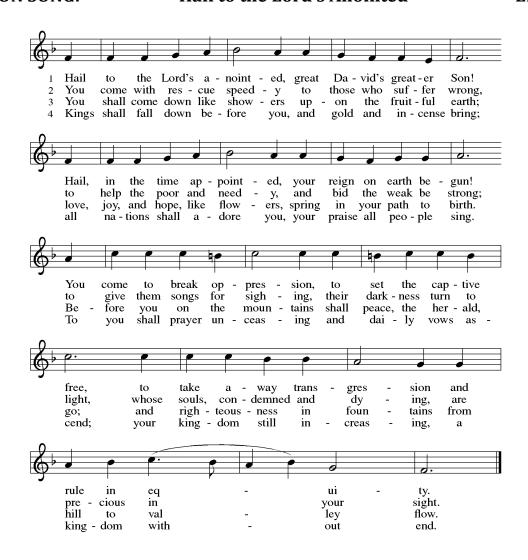
#### "LAMB OF GOD"



#### **COMMUNION SONG:**

# Hail to the Lord's Anointed

#### **ELW #311**



Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt. Music: FREUT EÜCH, İHR LIEBEN, Leonhart Schröter, 1540–1602

#### **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.

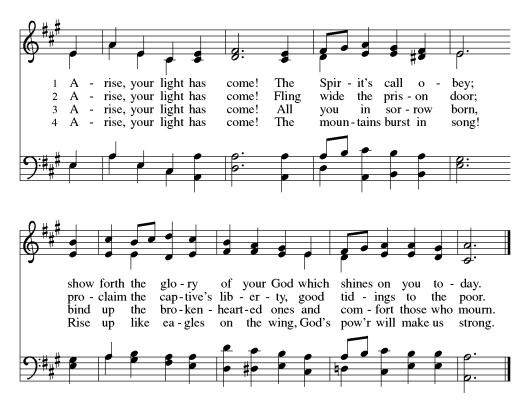
The Lord's faces shine on you with grace and mercy.

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

#### **SENDING SONG:**

# Arise, Your Light Has Come

**ELW #314** 



Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947
Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893
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#### **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: Kathy Runk, 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, Rosie Fennelli, C.C., Catherine Zippay, and for Adam and Krystynan and the Polkowski family, Monica and her family at the death of her stepbrother Martin Polkowski.

**Prayers for Friends of the Church**: 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, Zac Miller and Joe Papagno.

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

# Announcements

**ANNUAL MEETING:** Our congregation annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 31, 2016 right after the 10:15 worship service. All members are encouraged to attend.

**ASH WEDNESDAY:** On February 10th. Service times at 12:15p.m. and 7:00p.m.

# Service Assistants for January

10:15 AM	January 24	<u>January 31</u>
ASSISTING MINISTER	Sera Butz	Carol Jacobson
ACOLYTE	Pat Belanger	ТВА
LECTOR	Helga Johnson	Rita Sharkey
USHERS – Need 4 to Serve	Web Antill Kim Hanzlik Linda Hanzlik	Suzanne Loggins Lynda & Zac Smith Larry Sheehan
Head Usher – Rosie Fennelli	Head Usher – Rosie Fennelli	Head Usher – Rosie Fennelli
GREETERS – Need 2 to serve	Judi Dooge Marie Koach	Rose Jones Kelly Jacobson
SOUND	ТВА	Sera Butz
ROJECTION	Larry Jones	ТВА



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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**

**Rob Lewis,** President: councilpresident@ststephenlutheran.net

Web Antill Christian Hecker Natalie Prego - Secretary

Eric Castaneda Larry Jones Kathy Runk - Vice Pres.

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

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