St Stephen

Evangelical Lutheran Church



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

July 12th, 2015

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am

Pastor Pedro Suarez

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

—WE GATHER—

INTRODUCTION

When Amos told what he saw when God held up the plumb line of justice next to Israel—that the poor were being trampled—he was a threat to the power of priests and king. John the Baptist also spoke truth to power, and Herod had him beheaded. In Herod's fear that Jesus is John returned from the dead, we may hear hope for the oppressed: that all the prophets killed through the ages are alive in Jesus. We are called to witness to justice in company with them.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

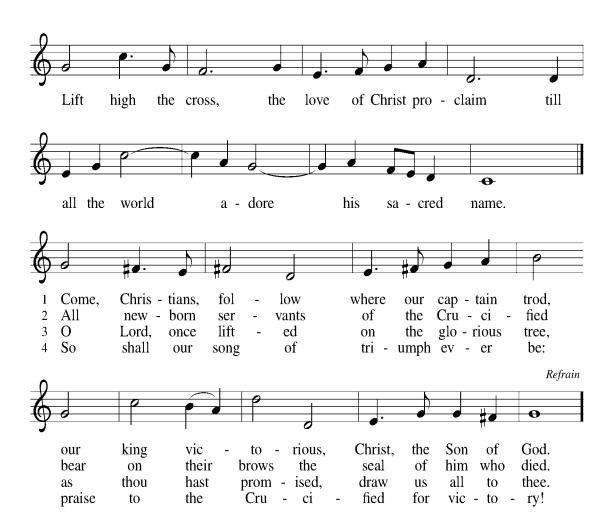


P: God and Father of all,

C: we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have thought better of ourselves than others. We have told lies, said hurtful things, acted in ways we wish we could take back, and looked the other way when action was needed. In your mercy, O God, forgive us, cleanse us, and heal us, for the sake of Jesus, our Savior.

P: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; everything has become new! In Christ, + you are a new creation: your sins are taken away and you are made new. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

C: Amen.



Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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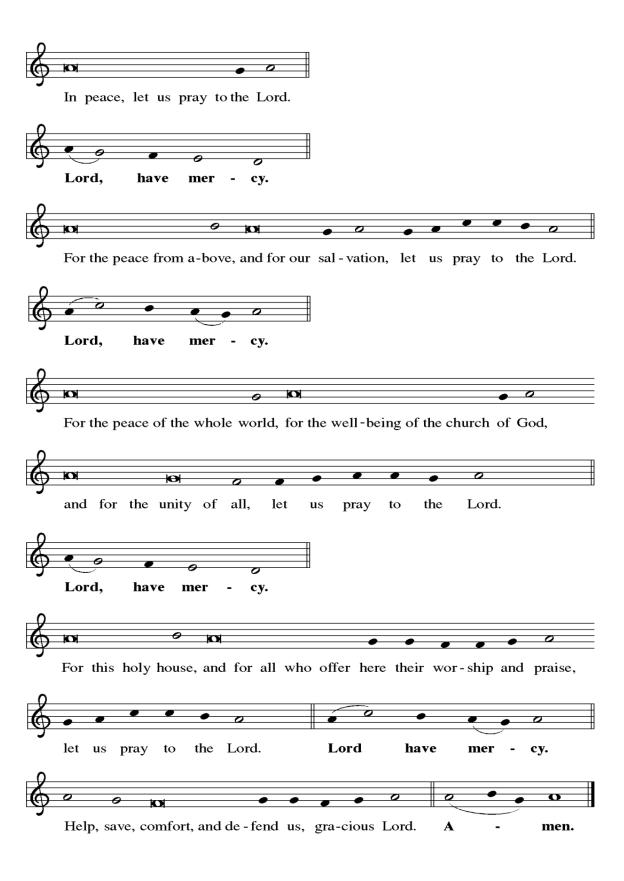
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THE GREETING

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)





PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray together:

C: O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. AMEN

Children's Message

-WE HEAR GOD'S WORD-

FIRST READING: Amos 7:7-15

Amos was not the kind of prophet attached to temples or royal courts. Rather, he was an ordinary farmer from Judah (the southern kingdom) called by God to speak to Israel (the northern kingdom). God's word of judgment through Amos conflicted with the king's court prophet Amaziah, whom Amos encountered at Bethel.

⁷This is what he showed me: the LORD was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. ⁸And the LORD said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the LORD said, "See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass them by; ⁹the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

¹⁰Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. ¹¹For thus Amos has said, 'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.'"

¹²And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; ¹³but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom."

¹⁴Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, ¹⁵and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM (ELW) 85:8-13

I will listen to what the LORD God is saying. (Ps. 85:8)

⁸I 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.

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

¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.

¹³Righteousness shall go before the LORD and shall prepare for God a pathway.

In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

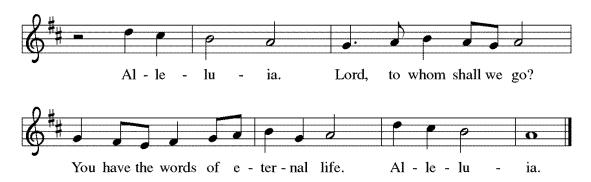
³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

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. Mark, the 6th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

GOSPEL: Mark 6:14–29

As Jesus and his disciples begin to attract attention, Mark recalls the story of John the Baptist's martyrdom. Like John, Jesus and his disciples will also suffer at the hands of those opposed to the gospel of salvation.

¹⁴King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." ¹⁵But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

¹⁷For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. ¹⁸For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, ²⁰ for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. ²¹But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. ²²When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." ²³And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." ²⁴She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." ²⁵Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." ²⁶The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. ²⁷Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

You may be seated.

SERMON

—WE RESPOND—

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



Holy God, We Praise Your Name

ELW #414



Text: source unknown; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900 Music: GROSSER GOTT, Katholisches Gesangbuch, Vienna, 1774

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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

After each petition of the prayer is said:

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Trusting your love and healing, O God, we commend to you all for whom we pray, knowing you will hear and answer, through Christ our Lord. **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.



~WE COME TO THE LORD'S TABLE~

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING Take My Life, That I May Be (verses 1 & 6)

ELW #685



Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt. Music: Ратмоs, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

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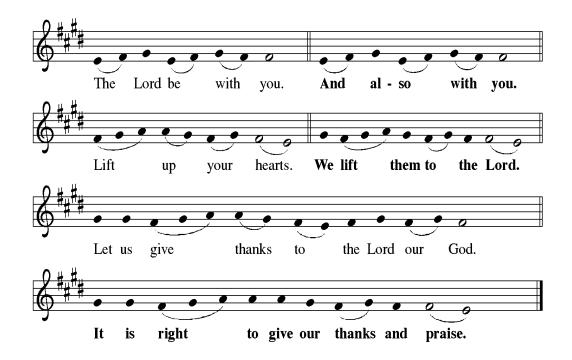
OFFERING PRAYER

A: 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.

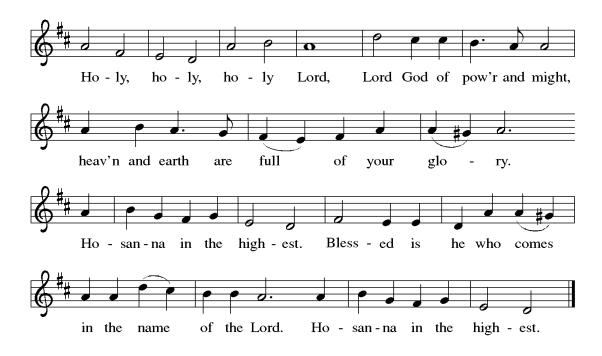
Amen.

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, for the glorious resurrection of our savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, 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

Jesus said, "I am the true vine. Abide in me as I abide in you."

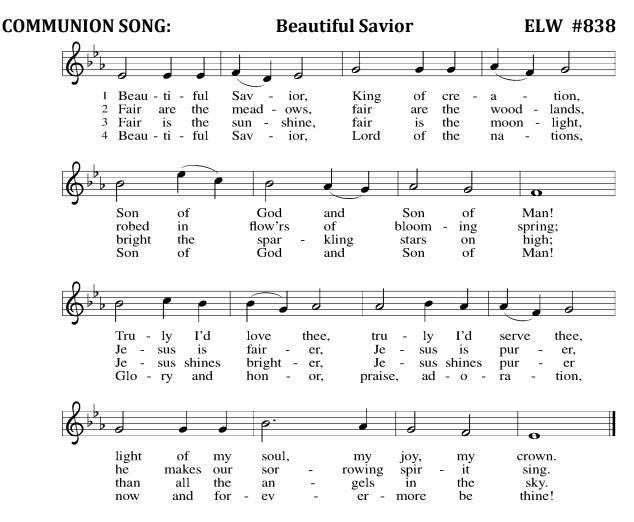
P: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

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 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.



Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

Instrumental Music

Cesar Vidaud

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

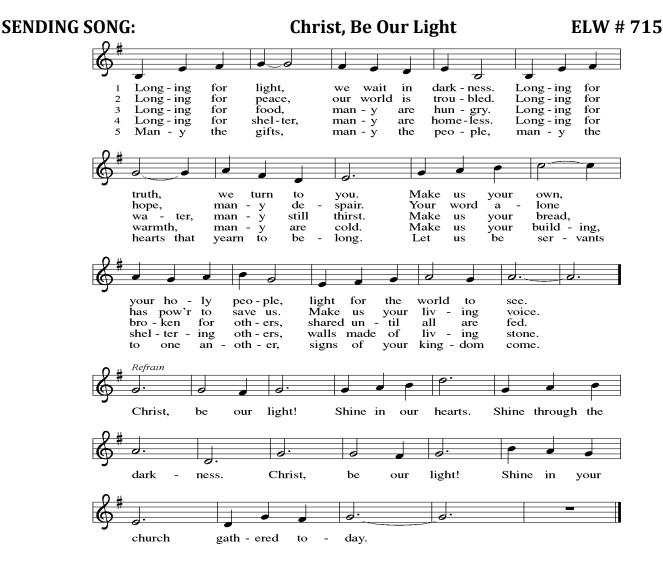
A: Wise and generous God, we thank you that at this holy table you have fed us again with the food of everlasting life.

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: Almighty and merciful God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you this day and forevermore. **Amen.**



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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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. Also, prayers for: Jan Danker, Mary S. Bailey, Roy Kaptain, Wayne Lauterberg, Jimmy Fennelli, Edith Reichenbach, Bob & Jane Reinhold and Larry and Beverly Sheehan, friends of family, Barbara W., Peggy S. and Chico E., Denise I., George F.

Prayers for Friends of the Church: Adam Rubino, Berna, Braemen Weiner, Chandler Weiner, Debbie Fiore, Debbie Seckel, Elaine Brustad, Elizabeth Kraus, Harry Danforth, Hazel Quire, Juan Tavarez, Lee Rassis, Kenneth Smith, Mary Taylor, Norma Duckworth, Cynthia, Jimmy Bright, Tim Tyler & Linda Mendelson.

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

Announcements

ALTAR FLOWERS We need more people to donate in order to have enough flowers each Sunday at the altar for our worship. Please check with Rosie Fennelli, or Pastor Suarez.

CHANGE FOR CHANGE You will notice as you exit that there is a large box with the words Change for *Change*. This is an effort to collect funds for our local benevolence. Please give freely.

MID-WEEK RECHARGE WITH PRAISE AND PRAYER On Thursday, June 11 we will begin at 7:00 p.m. a time for mid-week recharge, a time for Praise and Prayer, then every Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. We have the same praise and prayer in Spanish on Wednesdays at 7pm. Please invite your Spanish speaking friends.

CANDELABRA This is to let the congregation know that the candelabras have been removed from the sanctuary because there is a problem with them not staying lit and they have to be filled at least every two weeks. There are only two people who know how to fill them, plus there aren't enough people who do Altar Care able to fill them. We will be using them on special occasions such as Christmas, Easter, Lent, Holy Days, and for Weddings, Funerals, and Baptisms. We hope you will be willing to accept this change and be able to enjoy the candles on these special times in the Church year. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS FIGURINES We ask you, our community, to please adopt one of the Christmas figurines we used to decorate the church on Christmas time. The figurines (4 feet approx.) colors within the time have faded, they need repaint. If you would like to help please let us know. Your generosity will make a real difference for St. Stephen Church this year. Thank you!

NEW MEMBERS ORIENTATION If you would like to know more about the Lutheran Church and St. Stephen, please contact Pastor Pedro as he prepares a new member orientation event. Mark in your calendar Saturday, August 1st from 9:30am to 1:00pm. Come if you are curious or if you would like to be a member of St. Stephen Lutheran Church.

Service Assistants for July

			<u> </u>
Time Change	<u>July 12</u>	<u>July 19</u>	<u>July 26</u>
9:30 AM			
ASSISTING MINISTER	Aura Suarez	Pat Belanger	Carol Jacobson
ACOLYTE	Madison Kibler	Sera Butz	Pat Belanger
LECTOR	Tom Peterson	Aura Suarez	Catherine Zippay
USHERS –Need 4 to	Linda & Zac	Juliet Crawford	Rick & Joanne
Serve	Smith	Linda Hanzlik	Brustad
	John, & Maria	Lisa Castaneda	Carol Jacobson
	Kelly	ТВА	ТВА
Head Usher –	Head Usher –	Head Usher –	Head Usher –
Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli
GREETERS – Need 2	Marsha, & Drew	Caroline Smith	Rose Jones
to serve	Kibler	Barbara Kaptain	Eduardo Arango
SOUND	Sera Butz	ТВА	Sera Butz
PROJECTION	Larry Jones	Eric Castaneda	Larry Jones



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

Sunday Worship Schedule

Traditional Blend Worship Service at 9:30 a.m. Holy Communion is celebrated weekly

Church Staff

Rev. Pedro Suarez – Pastor pastor@ststephenlutheran.net Cesar Vidaud - Church Musician Aidee Koach – Administrative Assistant sslcpompano@gmail.com

Congregation Council

Rob Lewis, President: councilpresident@ststephenlutheran.net

Web Antill Christian Hecker Natalie Prego - Secretary Sera Butz Larry Jones Kathy Runk - Vice Pres. Eric Castaneda Barbara Nilles

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

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