St Stephen

Evangelical Lutheran Church



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

March 25, 2016

Good Friday

7:00p.m.

Pastor Pedro Suarez

NOTES ON THE SERVICE:

Welcome to a celebration of this Great and Holy Week, where we share in the great things accomplished during these days through the powerful and dramatic celebration of Jesus Christ's passion, death and resurrection for us. In the dramatic liturgies this week, we identify with God's good news, committing ourselves again to Christ and intimately share anew in Christ's death and resurrection. We approach Christ's triumphal victory over death with him on Palm Sunday; now we intimately share his total giving to us on Maundy Thursday, die with him on Good Friday, and rise with him at the Resurrection of Our Lord.

Good Friday continues the celebration from Maundy Thursday. The altar is still bare of all its furnishings and linen, and our focus is now on the Lord and his cross. Good Friday now draws us to focus on Jesus and his cross: readings of the Passion of Our Lord, Bidding Prayer, and meditation on the cross, and leads us directly into the celebration of Easter.

A closer look at the Liturgy:

- During the reading of **the Gospel**, the congregation is seated until the pastor invites the congregation to stand at the appropriate time in the reading (Jesus' crucifixion).
- You may remain seated for the Bidding Prayer (it is a lengthy prayer); or you may stand or kneel (if you think you're knees can take it). The assisting minister begins each petition by telling us about the prayer or for whom we are praying. As silence is kept for contemplation and personal prayer. The presiding minister prays the petition, and then the congregation says "Amen." In other words, don't jump in too early.
- The Adoration at the conclusion of the liturgy is one of the most ancient traditions of the church. While this may take many forms, it is designed to impress upon us that apart from the mystery of the Holy Cross, there is no life for our shattered world. Please respect those who choose to remain in meditation at the conclusion of the liturgy by departing in silence.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray together:

C: Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. AMEN.

-WE HEAR GOD'S WORD-

FIRST READING:

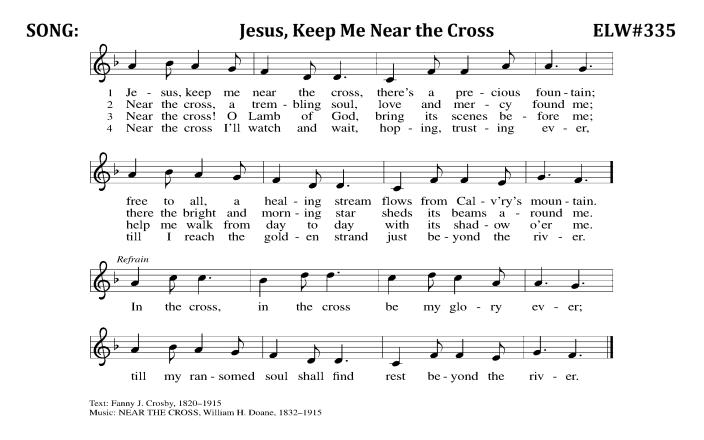
Hebrews 10:16-25

¹⁶ "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds," ¹⁷ he also adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more." ¹⁸ Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin. ¹⁹ Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

AMEN.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



You may be seated.

P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. John, the 18th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

THE PASSION STORY According to St. John

Evangelist: Jesus went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them,

Jesus: "Whom are you looking for?"

Soldier: "Jesus of Nazareth."

Jesus: "I am he."

Evangelist: Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they stepped back and fell to the ground.

Jesus: "Whom are you looking for?"

Soldier: "Jesus of Nazareth."

Jesus: "I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these men go."

Evangelist: This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken, "I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me." Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus.

Jesus: Peter, "Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?"

Evangelist: So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him. First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people. Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in.

Gate woman: "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?"

Peter: "I am not."

Evangelist: Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself. Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching.

Jesus: "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said."

Evangelist: When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face. **Guard:** "Is that how you answer the high priest?"

Jesus: "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?"

Evangelist: Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself.

Challenger: "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?"

Peter: "I am not."

Evangelist: One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, **Challenger:** "Did I not see you in the garden with him?"

Evangelist: Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed. Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the

headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. So Pilate went out to them and said,

Pilate: "What accusation do you bring against this man?"

Congregation: "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you."

Pilate: "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law."

Evangelist: The Jews replied,

Congregation: "We are not permitted to put anyone to death." (This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.) Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him,

Pilate: "Are you the King of the Jews?"

Jesus: "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?"

Pilate: "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?"

Jesus: "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." **Pilate:** "So you are a king?"

Jesus: "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

Pilate: "What is truth?"

Evangelist: After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them,

"I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?"

Congregation: "Not this man, but Barabbas!"

Evangelist: Now Barabbas was a bandit. Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, striking him on the face and saying.

Congregation: "Hail, King of the Jews!"

Pilate: "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him."

Evangelist: So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. **Pilate:** "Here is the man!"

Evangelist: When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted,

Congregation: "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

Pilate: "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him."

Congregation: "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God."

Evangelist: Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus,

Pilate: "Where are you from?" "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?"

Jesus: "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin."

Evangelist: From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out,

Congregation: "If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor."

Evangelist: When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews.

Pilate: "Here is your King!"

Congregation: "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!"

Pilate: "Shall I crucify your King?"

Congregation: "We have no king but the emperor."

P: Please stand as you are able.

The crucifixion of Our Lord.

Evangelist: Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, **Congregation: "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" Pilate:** "What I have written I have written."

Evangelist: When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another,

Congregation: "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it."

Evangelist: This was to fulfill what the scripture says, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots." And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, **Jesus:** "Woman, here is your son."

Evangelist: Then he said to the disciple,

Jesus: "Here is your mother."

Evangelist: And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home. After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture),

Jesus: "I am thirsty."

Evangelist: A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said,

Jesus: "It is finished."

Evangelist: Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

(Silence in observation of Jesus' death)

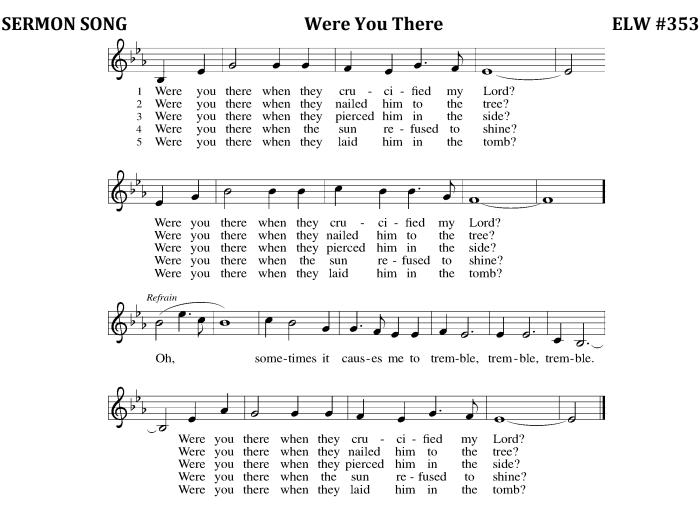
Evangelist: Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the Sabbath, especially because that Sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. (He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced." After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

-WE RESPOND-

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



Text: African American spiritual Music: WERE YOU THERE, African American spiritual

BIDDING PRAYER

The assembly kneels or sits. The assisting minister leads the invitations to prayer (the bids). Silence for prayer follows each bid. The presiding minister leads the prayers that conclude the silence.

Let us pray, brothers and sisters, for the holy church throughout the world.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ.

By your Holy Spirit guide the church and gather it throughout the world.

Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring the good news of salvation in Christ to all people.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for Elizabeth and Robert our bishops, for Pedro our pastor, and all servants of the church, and for all the people of God.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, your Spirit guides the church and makes it holy.

Strengthen and uphold our bishops, pastors, other ministers, and lay leaders.

Keep them in health and safety for the good of the church, and help each of us in our various vocations

to do faithfully the work to which you have called us. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those preparing for baptism.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, you continue to bless the church. Increase the faith and understanding of those preparing for baptism. Give them new birth as your children, and keep them in the faith and communion of your holy church. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for our sisters and brothers who share our faith in Jesus Christ.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, you give your church unity. Look with favor on all who follow Jesus your Son. Make all the baptized one in the fullness of faith, and keep us united in the fellowship of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for the Jewish people, the first to hear the word of God.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and your teaching to Moses.

Hear our prayers that the people you called and elected as your own may receive the fulfillment of the covenant's promises. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, gather into your embrace all those who call out to you under different names. Bring an end to inter-religious strife, and make us more faithful witnesses of the love made known to us in your Son. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those who do not believe in God.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, you created humanity so that all may long to know you and find peace in you. Grant that all may recognize the signs of your love and grace in the world and in the lives of Christians, and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for God's creation.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, you are the creator of a magnificent universe.

Hold all the worlds in the arms of your care and bring all things to fulfillment in you.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those who serve in public office.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, you are the champion of the poor and oppressed.

In your goodness, give wisdom to those in authority, so that all people may enjoy justice, peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those in need.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart.

Heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty,

and deliver your world from falsehood, hunger, and disease.

Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble, that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

P: Now we come before you in the words Our Lord has taught us.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father who art 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. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespasses against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Adoration of the Cross

P: Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world. **C: Oh, come, let us worship him.**

P: Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.

C: Oh, come, let us worship him.

P: Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.

C: Oh, come, let us worship him.

SOLEMN REPROACHES:

P: My people, my church, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me! Because I lead you away from the land of Egypt, you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

C: Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy and immortal! Have mercy on us.

P: Because I lead you during forty years in the desert, and fed you with manna, and guide you into a land of abundance, you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

C: Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy and immortal! Have mercy on us.

P: What more should I have done than what I did? I planted you most beautiful my vineyard; and you only gave me bitter fruit; because when I was thirsty, you gave me vinegar, and with a spear you pierced your Savior's chest.

C: Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy and immortal! Have mercy on us.

For you I whipped the people of Egypt, killing their first born: and you whipped me before condemning me to die. I took you away from Egypt and I drowned Pharaoh in the Red Sea; and you sold me to the princes of the priests.

C: Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy and immortal! Have mercy on us.

P: I separated the waters before you and you with a spear opened my chest. I guided you with a column of smoke; and you turned me into Pilate's judgment. **C: Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy and immortal! Have mercy on us.**

P: I fed you with manna at the desert; and you slapped me and whipped me. I gave you water from rock; and you gave me bitterness and vinegar to drink.

C: Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy and immortal! Have mercy on us.

P: For you I I struck the kings of Cana, and you struck my head with and cane. I gave you a royal scepter; and you gave me a crown of thorns to my head.

C: Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy and immortal! Have mercy on us.

P: I grafted you into Israel's tree, my chosen people; you attacked them with persecution and massive murder. I made you inheritor with them, of my covenants, but you made them the scapegoats of your own guilt.

C: Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy and immortal! Have mercy on us. P: I gave you my peace, one that the world cannot give you, and as a servant I washed your feet, but you exposed you sword in my name and looked for high positions in my kingdom.

C: Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy and immortal! Have mercy on us.

P: I came to you with the least of my brothers, I was hungry and you did not feed me, thirsty but did not give me water to drink, I was a stranger but you did not make me feel welcome; I was naked but did not clothed me; I was sick and in prison and you did not visited me. **C: Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy and immortal! Have mercy on us.**

P: I uphold you with great virtues and you hung me from the highest of the cross. **C: Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy and immortal! Have mercy on us.** (*Brief silence, covering of cross, etc...*)

P: We worship you, O Christ and we bless you.C: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Silence is kept for meditation on the mystery of the crucified Savior, the mystery of redemption.

THERE IS NO DISMISSAL.

EVERYONE LEAVES THE SANCTUARY IN SILENCE.

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, Carmen Crespo, Roy Kaptain, Jimmy Fennelli, Bob & Jane Rinehold, Larry and Beverly Sheehan, Chico E., Paul Hanzlik, C.C., Marsha Kibler and Maria Kelly as they mourn the loss of their mother Nancy Reaver and for Kathy Runk and her beloved uncle George.

Prayers for Friends of the Church: Dennis VanCour, 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, Cynthia McCormick, Lemmuel Knowles Sr., John Palamar and Belanger and Papagno families at the death of 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.



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

3/27 EASTER. Worship at 9:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY: On Wednesdays during Lent Pastors Pedro Suarez and Tom Peterson are leading a Bible study at 12:15p.m in the choir room. If you would like to receive material for this Bible study online please email Pastor Suarez at ststephenpastor@gmail.com

APPLAUDING IN WORSHIP: Although it might be flattering for the choir to receive an applause and we know some of you do it because you have felt moved by the singing, the choir members would appreciate much more a comment after worship. After all, they are not performing; they are leading us in worshiping Christ. Thanks for understanding and abstaining from applauding them during worship!

TOWER OF CHANGE: Reminder that the Tower of Change will be counted after Easter, with the money going to "Food for the Poor".

10:15 AM	<u>March 25</u> <u>Good Friday</u>	<u>March 27</u> <u>Easter</u>
ASSISTING MINISTER	Aura Suarez	Carol Jacobson
ACOLYTE	Sera Butz	Pat Belanger
LECTOR	Natalie Prego	Rosie Fennelli
CRUCIFER		Sera Butz
TORCH & BOOK		Katie Paff & Christian
BEARES		Castaneda
READERS	Natalie Prego Rosie Fennelli Helga Johnson Lynn Antill	
USHERS – Need 4 to Serve	Lisa & Christian Castaneda	Marsha & Maddison Kibler Lynda & Zac Smith
		Head Usher – Rosie Fennelli
Head Usher – Rosie Fennelli	Head Usher – Rosie Fennelli	
GREETERS – Need 2 to serve	Marsha & Maddie Kibler	Caroline Smith, Sherry Fox, Rose Jones
SOUND		ТВА
PROJECTION		Larry Jones

Service Assistants for the Holy Week



Make sure you like our Facebook page! This will help others find our congregation and help us to promote our mission. Go to www.facebook.com/sslcpompano

St. Stephen Evangelical Lutheran Church 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. Holy Communion is celebrated weekly

Church Staff

Rev. Pedro Suarez – Pastor pastor@ststephenlutheran.net Cesar Vidaud – Director of Music Clarence (Teddy) Rowe – Sexton 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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