



St Stephen

Lutheran Church, ELCA



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

October 15, 2017

19th Sunday after Pentecost

10:15am

Rev. Pedro Suarez, Pastor

—WE GATHER—

INTRODUCTION

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God that surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

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: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God:

C: Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: AMEN.

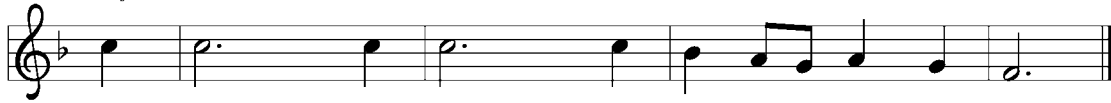


1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing;
 2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,
 3 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints on earth
 4 Still lift your stan - dard high, still march in firm ar - ray,



your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.
 send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.
 pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
 as pil - grims through the dark - ness wend till dawns the gol - den day.

Refrain



Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!

5 At last the march shall end;
 the wearied ones shall rest;
 the pilgrims find their home at last,
 Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*

6 Praise God who reigns on high,
 the Lord whom we adore:
 the Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
 one God forevermore. *Refrain*

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821–1891, alt.
 Music: MARION, Arthur H. Messiter, 1834–1916

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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)


Refrain




Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.




Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

Refrain



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

HYMN OF PRAISE "This is the feast"

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

Refrain



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of



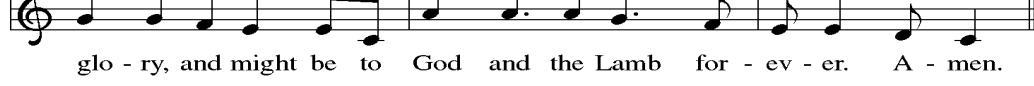
vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be -gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray together:

C: Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. AMEN

Children's message

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 25:1-9

¹O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

²For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt. ³Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. ⁴For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, ⁵the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled.

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

⁷And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; ⁸he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

⁹It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

L: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM (ELW): PSALM 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:1-9

¹My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. ²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. ⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

L: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: Please Rise for the Gospel Acclamation.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "Alleluia"

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.

P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:1-14

¹Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ²"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' ⁵But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' ¹⁰Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹²and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

Rev. Pedro Suarez

—WE RESPOND—

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

SERMON SONG:

The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing

ELW #531



1 The trum - pets sound, the an - gels sing, the feast is
2 Ta - bles are la - den with good things; oh, taste the
3 The hun - gry heart he sat - is - fies, of - fers the



read - y to be - gin. The gates of heav'n are o - pen wide,
peace and joy he brings. He'll fill you up with love di - vine;
poor his par - a - dise. Now hear all heav'n and earth ap - plaud



and Je - sus wel - comes you in - side.
he'll turn your wa - ter in - to wine.
the a - maz - ing good - ness of the Lord.



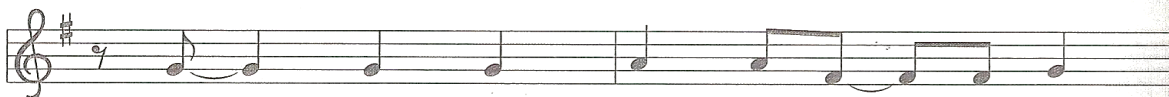
Sing with thank - ful - ness songs of pure de - light.



Come and rev - el in heav - en's love and light.



Take your place at the ta - ble of the King.



The feast is read - y to be - gin;



the feast is read - y to be - gin.

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950
Music: Graham Kendrick
Text and music © 1989 Make Way Music, admin. Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

THE FEAST IS READY
LM and refrain

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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

A: Open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

After each petition of the prayer is said:

A: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting the power of Christ and the gifts of the Spirit.

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:

Let Us Go Now to the Banquet

ELW #523

Refrain / Estribillo

Va - mos to - dos al ban - que - te, a la
 Let us go now to the ban - quet, to the

me - sa de la crea - ción; ca - da cual con su ta - bu -
 feast of the u - ni - verse. The ta - ble's set and a place is

re - te tie - ne un pues - to y u - na mi - sión.
 wait - ing; come, ev - 'ry - one, with your gifts to share.

1 Hoy me le - van - to muy tem - pra - no; ya me es -
 1 I will rise in the ear - ly morn - ing; the com -
 2 God in - vites all the poor and hun - gry to the
 3 May we build such a place a - mong us where all

pe - ra la co - mu - ni - dad; voy su - bien - do a - le - gre la
 mu - ni - ty's wait - ing for me. With a spring in my step I'm
 ban - quet of jus - tice and good where the har - vest will not be
 peo - ple are e - qual in love. God has called us to work to -

Refrain / Estribillo

cues - ta, voy en bus - ca de tu a - mis - tad.
 walk - ing with my friends and my fam - i - ly.
 hoard - ed so that no one will lack for food.
 geth - er and to share ev - 'ry - thing we have.

2 Dios invita a todos los pobres a esta mesa común por la fe,
 donde no hay acaparadores y a nadie le falta el conque. Estribillo

3 Dios nos manda a hacer de este mundo una mesa donde haya igualdad,
 trabajando y luchando juntos, compartiendo la propiedad. Estribillo

Text: Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955, *Misa popular salvadoreña*; tr. Bret Hesla, b. 1957, and William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956
 Music: VAMOS TODOS AL BANQUETE, Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955
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OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

A: God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Dialogue

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, 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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy God, our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,
you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.
You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,
and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.
You sent your Son to eat with sinners and to become food for the world.
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 life given for us and his rising from the grave,
we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.

By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:

strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,
and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church,
both 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: These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

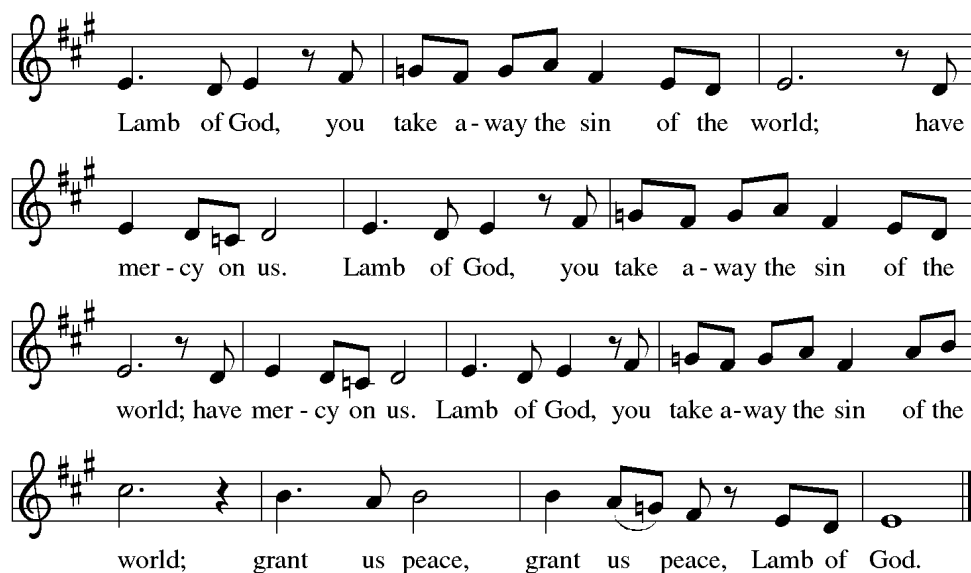
Reception of Communion

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 indicate if you need gluten-free and alcohol-free elements.

"LAMB OF GOD"



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Leader or All

1 "The bread that I am the Bread of life. You who
 2 "Un - less . . . you . . . will give is my
 3 "I am the res - ur - rec - tion, . . . of the
 4 Yes, Lord, . . . I be - lieve that . . .

come to me shall not hun - ger, and who be -
 flesh for the life of the world, . . . and if you
 flesh of the Son of Man . . . and . . .
 I . . . am the life. . . . If you be -
 you . . . are the Christ, . . . the . . .

lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
 eat . . . of this bread, and you shall . . . live for -
 drink . . . of his blood, and drink . . . of his
 lieve . . . in . . . me, e - ven . . . though you
 Son . . . of . . . God, who . . . have . . .

me un - less the Fa - ther beck - ons."
 ev - er, . . . you shall live for - ev - er."
 blood, . . . you shall not have life with - in you."
 die, . . . you shall live for - ev - er."
 come in - to . . . the . . . world. . . .

Refrain
 All

"And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,
 and I will raise you up on the last day."

Text: Suzanne Toolan, RSM, b. 1927, based on John 6
 Music: I AM THE BREAD, Suzanne Toolan, RSM
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Instrumental Music

Cesar Vidaud

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray.
 A: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

~WE ARE SENT FORTH~

Benediction

P: Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Announcements

SENDING SONG:

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

ELW #547

1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,
the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—
The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed
our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,
the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.
The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now
reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.
Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing
to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.
give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.
Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune
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DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the joy of God's love.

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: Laurel Blake, Jim Loggins, Barb Taylor, Diane Adler, Jean Rogers, Katie, Janet Isner, Roy and Barbara Kaptain, Lisa Allen, Bob & Jane Reinhold, C.C., Trudy DiCarlo and Marie Koach.

Prayers for Friends of the Church: Monique Rogers and her mom Betty, Marie Trykoski, Myrka Alverist's family, Maggie Alverist, Ann Farrell, Normagene Richardson, Aiden Chase, Brenna Taylor, Rita Stevenson, Mike, Barbara Greco, Dr. Willis Allen, Eleanor Knauf, Alessandra, Cheryl, Nick Caldwell Sr., Lucille Capece, Lexie Sachlis, George F., David Spall, Joan Coletti, Adam Rubino, Berna, Braemen Weiner, Chandler Weiner, Debbie Seckel, Elizabeth Kraus, Kenneth Smith, Mary Taylor, Cynthia, Richard H., and Laurie Engelhardt.

Flowers sponsored this week by: Rita Sharkey in memory of her mom Dolly.

Announcements

LET'S TALK REFORMATION: As part of our commemoration of the 500 years we have enjoyed Rev. Tom Peterson's great articles in The Messenger. Now he will be leading 3 dialogues on *Reformation Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow* on Sundays Oct. 8, 15, and 22 at 9:15 a.m. Please sign up or let us know you will be coming to arrange a space.

BARBARA KAPTAIN'S UPDATE: We are glad to inform you that she is at her new home, The Atrium [1080 NW 15th St](#) in Boca Raton. PH: [888-337-1033](tel:888-337-1033). Special thank you to Pat Belanger, Rita Sharkey and Catherine Zippay who have been supporting and helping Barbara settle in her new home.

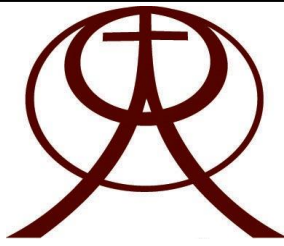
HURRICANE RELIEF: If you would like to donate to the victims of hurricanes Harvey, Irma and/or Maria, the best way now is to do so financially. Here is how:

1. You can check our Florida-Bahamas Synod's website www.fbsynod.com for more information on sending funds through them to either hurricane victims. There is a donate button to give with credit card.
2. You can also check our ELCA synod in Houston www.gulfcoastsynod.org They have a donate button to give with credit card.
3. Any Sunday if you wish to donate through St. Stephen you can add another offering envelope or check to St. Stephen with memo: Hurricane Harvey, Hurricane Irma or hurricane Maria, and we will send it to Houston or to our synod, or stop by the church office.
4. Outside our church, 2 organizations that are of trust are the American Red Cross or Salvation Army.

THE LUTHER ROOM: Most of us know it as the Choir Room, other know it as the Music Room, it is the room west of the Narthex. Through the years it has become also a storage room. Unfortunately, it has also been neglected, and since it is being used for more than choir practices, it doesn't feel inviting or part of the growing church that we are now. We would like to renovate this room. We hope to dedicate this "Martin Luther Room" as part of our commemoration of the 500 years of the Reformation on October 29, 2017. Would you like to be part of this effort? Please make your donation in an envelope specifying, "Luther Room by _____ in honor of _____." You may also contact the church office or Pr. Pedro.

Service Assistants for October

10:15 AM	<u>October 15</u>	<u>October 22</u>	<u>October 29</u>
ASSISTING MINISTER	Sera Butz	Pat Belanger	Sera Butz
ACOLYTE	Aiyana Cartwright	Sera Butz	Madison Kibler
LECTOR	Erika Flanigan	Tom Peterson	Rick Dunton
USHERS – Need 4 to Serve	Harry Ambrose Patricia Engle Terry Shumway Lisa Castaneda	Floyd MacDonald Lisa Castaneda Lynda Smith Zachary Smith	Darin Kibler Marsha Kibler Drew Kibler Linda Hanzlik
Head Usher	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli
GREETERS – Need 2 to Serve	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle
SOUND	Katie Paff	Eric Castaneda	Katie Paff
PROJECTION	Eric Castaneda	Larry Jones	Dennis Magarrell



St Stephen

Lutheran Church, ELCA

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

Sunday Schedule

10:15 a.m. Worship

Holy Communion is celebrated weekly

Church Staff

Rev. Pedro Suarez – Pastor

ststephenpastor@gmail.com

Cesar Vidaud – Director of Music

Clarence (Teddy) Rowe – Sexton

Aidee Koach – Administrative Assistant

sslcpompano@gmail.com

Congregation Council

Larry Jones - President

councilpresident@ststephenlutheran.net

Christian Hecker – Vice-president

Natalie Prego - Secretary

Patricia Engle

Dennis Magarrell

Eric Castaneda - Treasurer

Lynda Smith

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