

# St Stephen

a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



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

**August 11, 2019**

**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

**10:15am**

**The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer, Pastor**

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# Holy Communion

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## **INTRODUCTION to the 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

*Jesus says, "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." It is God's promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the "little flock" of which we are a part today in assembly. Faith, God's baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.*

<h2><b>Gathering</b></h2>
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<p>The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.</p>
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## **Prelude**

## **Welcome and Announcements**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*The assembly stands and faces the baptismal font. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

My brothers and sisters, today we hear Jesus say, "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." To prepare ourselves to meet the risen Christ in word and sacrament, let us call to mind our sins.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Lord, you were sent by the Father to bring good news to the poor, Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, you summon us to be dressed for action and have our lamps lit, Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, you call us to be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour, Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness.*

May almighty God have mercy on us and lead us, with our sins forgiven, into eternal life.

**Amen.**

*The assembly continues standing to sing, turning to the cross as it passes by.*



1 Through the night of doubt and sor - row, on - ward  
 2 One the light of God's own pres - ence on the  
 3 One the strain that lips of thou - sands lift as  
 4 On - ward, there - fore, sis - ters, broth - ers; on - ward,



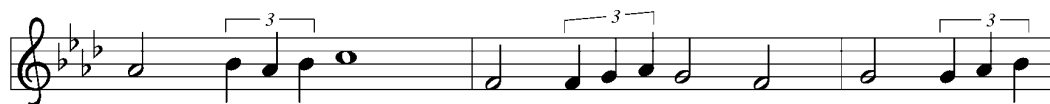
goes the pil - grim band, sing - ing songs of ex - pec -  
 ran - somed peo - ple shed, chas - ing far the gloom and  
 from the heart of one; one the con - flict, one the  
 with the cross our aid. Bear its shame, and fight its



ta - tion, march - ing to the prom - ised land. Clear be -  
 ter - ror, bright - 'ning all the path we tread. One the  
 per - il, one the march in God be - gun. One the  
 bat - tle till we rest be - neath its shade. Soon shall



fore us through the dark - ness gleams and burns the  
 ob - ject of our jour - ney, one the faith which  
 glad - ness of re - joic - ing on the far e -  
 come the great a - wak - 'ning; soon the rend - ing



guid - ing light; pil - grim clasps the hand of  
 nev - er tires, one the ear - nest look - ing  
 ter - nal shore, where the one al - might - y  
 of the tomb! Then the scat - t'ring of all



pil - grim step - ping fear - less through the night.  
 for - ward, one the hope our God in - spires.  
 Fa - ther reigns in love for - ev - er - more.  
 shad - ows, and the end of toil and gloom.

Text: Bernhardt S. Ingemann, 1789–1862; tr. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924, alt.  
 Music: EBENEZER, Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944

## APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE

# Glory to God

*Refrain*  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and  
peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther,  
we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you  
*Refrain*  
for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high-  
est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat-ed at the  
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

*Refrain*  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and  
peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 For you a -  
lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the  
Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.  
A - men. A - men. A - men.

*Final refrain*  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's  
peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the high-  
est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept, then the presiding minister leads the prayer.*

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*The assembly sits.*

## Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

### FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-6

A reading from Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." <sup>4</sup>But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." <sup>5</sup>He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." <sup>6</sup>And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 33:12-22

<sup>12</sup>Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD! Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!  
<sup>13</sup>**The LORD looks down from heaven, and sees all humankind.**  
<sup>14</sup>God sits firmly enthroned and watches all who dwell on the earth.  
<sup>15</sup>**God fashions all their hearts and observes all their deeds.**  
<sup>16</sup>A king is not saved by the size of the army, nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.  
<sup>17</sup>**The horse gives vain hope for victory; despite its great strength it cannot save.**  
<sup>18</sup>Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O LORD,  
upon those who wait for your steadfast love,  
<sup>19</sup>**to deliver their lives from death, and to keep them alive in time of famine.**  
<sup>20</sup>Our innermost being waits for you, O LORD, our helper and our shield.  
<sup>21</sup>**Surely, our heart rejoices in you, for in your holy name we put our trust.**  
<sup>22</sup>Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us, even as we place our hope in you.

### SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

A reading from Hebrews.

<sup>1</sup>Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup>Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. <sup>3</sup>By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

<sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup>By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup>Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.” <sup>13</sup>All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, <sup>14</sup>for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup>If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup>But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

*After a brief silence, the assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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.

### GOSPEL: Luke 12:32-40

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Luke.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>32</sup>“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. <sup>35</sup>“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; <sup>36</sup>be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup>Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup>If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. <sup>39</sup>“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup>You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

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

*The assembly is seated.*

# Children and Youth Message

## SERMON

The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer

Silence for reflection follows the sermon. The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

## HYMN OF THE DAY

### Blessed Assurance

ELW #638



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di - vine!
- 2 Per - fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per - fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal - va - tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.  
an - gels de-scend-ing bring from a - bove ech - oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.  
watch-ing and wait-ing, look - ing a - bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

*Refrain*



This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav - ior all the day long:



this is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915  
Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

## 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.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

A: Treasuring your promise to hear us when we call, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of your creation.

*After each petition of the prayer is said:*

A: Lord, in your mercy.

**C: Hear our prayer.**

P: All these things and more we ask in the name of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ, by the power of your Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*After all have greeted each other the assembly is seated.*

**MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**OFFERING**

*The assembly stands.*

**OFFERING SONG:**

**All Are Welcome**  
(verses 3 and 4 only)

**ELW# 641**

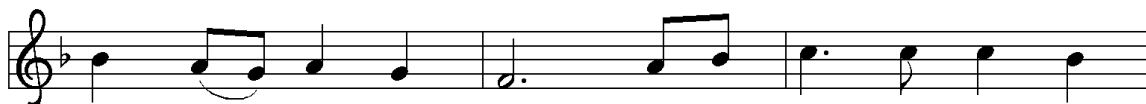


1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly  
2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and  
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and  
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and  
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how  
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to  
wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where  
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and  
heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as





hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as  
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through  
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the  
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of  
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we  
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in  
 strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an  
 laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
 claim the faith of Je - sus:  
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,  
 end to fear and dan - ger:  
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
 Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen  
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## OFFERING PRAYER

*After the table is set, the assisting minister leads this prayer.*

Let us pray.

Merciful God, as the grains of wheat once scattered in the fields and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside are now united on this table in bread and wine, may we who celebrate this Holy Communion be gathered into one in you. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

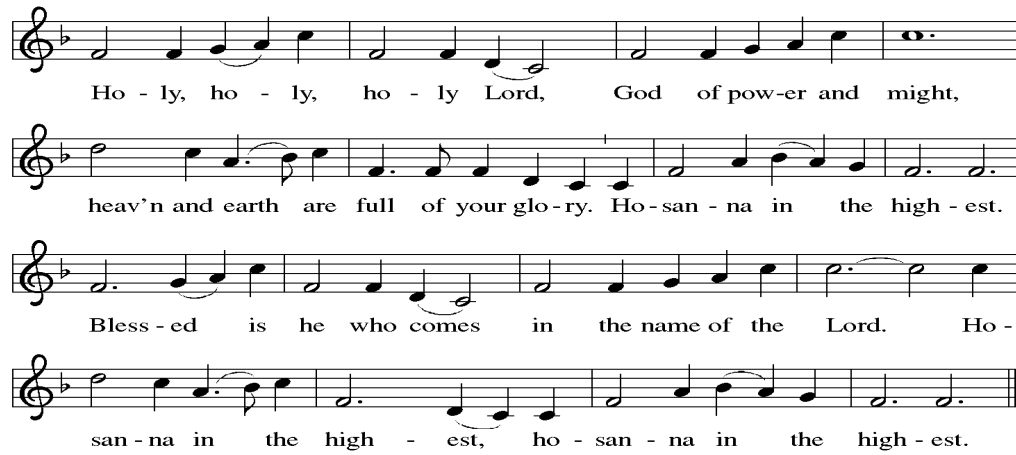
Lift up your hearts.

**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...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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

*The presiding minister continues to give thanks:*

Praise be to you, Lord of heaven and earth...

...Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

...all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.:

**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.**

## **Communion**

*The bread is broken for the communion. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. God invites you to this table of bounty. Come, the banquet is ready.

*The assembly is seated.*

*All baptized Christians are invited to participate in the celebration of holy communion. If you desire baptism, the pastor would love to speak with you! 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. At St. Stephen we receive Holy Communion by receiving the bread and then either **drinking directly from the cup or by intinction** (That means that you may receive the bread in your hand and then dip bread in the cup.)*

**Gluten free bread is available on the right side. (please ask)**

**Alcohol free wine is available on the right side. (please ask)**

The body of Christ, given for you. *Response:* **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you. *Response:* **Amen.**

# Lamb of God

Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;  
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros.  
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.

Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;  
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros.  
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.

Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;  
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

da - nos tu paz, da - nos tu paz.  
grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

## Communion Song:

## Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

ELW# 448

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that  
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and

now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807  
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

**Additional Communion songs are sung as needed**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*An assisting minister leads the prayer.*

Let us pray.

Eternal God, comfort of the afflicted and healer of the broken, you have fed us at the table of life and hope with the very body and blood of Christ: teach us the ways of gentleness and peace, that all the world may acknowledge the kingdom of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## BLESSING OF STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

### Sending

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

### BLESSING

*All may make the sign of the cross as they receive God's blessing.*

Live your lives in Christ, rooted and built up in him, and abound in thanksgiving; and the blessing of Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

*The assembly turns toward the cross as it passes by.*

### SENDING SONG:

### God of Grace and God of Glory

ELW# 705



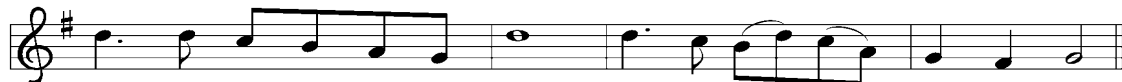
1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple  
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -  
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to  
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;  
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us  
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,  
we de - plored; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.  
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969  
Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

### DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the good news. C: Thanks be to God.



*In response to the amazing love, mercy and grace of God, St. Stephen Lutheran Church is a community that openly welcomes all who are seeking God's divine love and grace. All are welcome in this place regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation or gender identity, economic situation or life situation, marital or relationship status, or your doubts about faith and church. Our unity is in Christ. Your family, children, friends, spouses and partners are welcome. Your diversity and uniqueness enriches and expands our community. We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation.*

**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, Dorothy Johnson, Kathy Runk, Carol Chmelynski, Jimmy Fennelli, Edith Reichenback, Audrey Shumway, Jim Loggins, Katie Paff, Roy and Barbara Kaptain, Bob & Jane Reinhold, and Shelley Amato.

**Prayers for Friends of the Church: (Please renew your request every 3 weeks)**

✠ Harrison, Tom, Mary Anne, C.W., Dawn, Joanna, Betty, Peterson family, Pat Jean, Pat Ruth, Glen, Alex, John, Jack, Alma, Jo-Jo. ✠ Mary De Sapio family, Gene, Chris, Amanda, Chuck, Annette, Madison, Mason, Robert, and Rosie's Fennelli family at the death of her beloved brother Alex. ✠ Alex Jr., Cheryl, Robert, Aiden, Craig, Nettie, Chandler, Becky, Braemen, Craig, Nettie, Jerry.

**In a facility or homebound:**

- Barbara Kaptain – The Atrium Assistant Living at Boca Raton.  
1080 NW 15TH Room 215 Boca Raton, Fl. 33486
- Jane Reinhold – Platinum Loving Group, P. O. Box 410572, Melbourne, FL 32941
- Evelyn Braun – 6152 Verde Trail Room 106 Boca Raton, Fl. 33433
- Jim Loggins - John Knox Village - Woodlands  
700 SW 4th St, Pompano Beach, FL 33060
- Bud Danker - 3020 N. Ridge Road Apartment W-316  
Ellicott City, MD 21043

**Flowers this week sponsored by:** Rick Lauterberg in memory of Wayne Lauterberg.

***Assisting at Worship in August***

(w) will give wine at communion. Thank you all for serving.

10:15 AM	<u>August 11</u>	<u>August 18</u>	<u>August 25</u>
<b>ASSISTING MINISTER</b>	Natalie Prego	Carol Jacobson	Sera Butz
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Carol Jacobson	Sera Butz	Pat Belanger
<b>LECTOR</b>	Erika Flanigan	Kevin Otterson	Natalie Prego
<b>USHERS –Need 4 to Serve</b>	Lynda Smith Zachary Smith (w) Patricia Engle R. Mottesheard	Jimmy Fennelli Rose Fennelli (w) Suzanne Loggins Lisa Castaneda	Marsha Kibler (w) Drew Kibler Darin Kibler Erika Flanigan
<b>Head Usher</b>	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli
<b>GREETERS – Need 2 to Serve</b>	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle	Rose Jones Kelly Jacobson	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle
<b>SOUND</b>	Jake VanZile	Dennis Magarrell	Jake VanZile
<b>PROJECTION</b>	Eric Castaneda	Larry Jones	Eric Castaneda

# PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Welcome to worship!** We are thankful you are here! We especially welcome our guests and our first time guests today. Stop at the desk to pick up a **name tag** if you don't have one. Please take a moment to fill out the attendance cards in the worship folder with your name, number and email—especially if you are visiting so that we can welcome you. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Pr. Schaefer. Please join us for refreshments and conversation in the gathering area at the back of the church (Narthex) following the liturgy this morning. St. Stephen members: don't forget to put a little something in the jar on the table to help support this ministry! We thank **Linda Hanzlik** for her generous stewardship of this ministry of hospitality!

## **Guest musician today**

We welcome Jonathan Soler once again as our guest musician while Cesar is away. Thank you, Jonathan!



## **Change for Change: Faith Farms**


During August and September, we will use our change for change tower to support Faith Farm Ministries. This local program offers a faith based recovery program that includes residential drug and alcohol addiction transformation along the road to recovery. With 440 beds across three campuses in South Florida, they offer the time and tools it takes to choose to live a productive life in recovery. Faith Farm began in 1951 as an overnight rescue mission in Ft. Lauderdale. Today, each campus has a church, thrift store, and live-on staff of pastors, teachers, and counselors. All faiths, races, and socio-economic classes are welcome. Faith Farm offers all recovery services free of charge. *"Faith Farm is a Christian Ministry Whose Purpose Is To Restore And Transform Lives Through The Gospel Of Jesus Christ."* Campuses are located in Fort Lauderdale, Boynton Beach, and Okeechobee. To learn more go to: [www.faithfarm.org](http://www.faithfarm.org)

## **Confirmation Ministry Returns!**

Calling all students: our confirmation ministry program will start again next Sunday, August 18 from 11:45am—12:45pm in the Luther Room. Affirmation of Baptism/Rite of Confirmation will be celebrated by Bishop Suarez here at St. Stephen on October 28, Reformation Sunday.



## **Fall Bible Study Coming October 1!**

 We have finished our study of the Book of the Acts of the Apostles and are getting ready this fall to begin a new adult study every Tuesday evening at 7:00pm in the Luther Room. Now is your big chance to vote on what you would like to learn about next. Another book of the bible, like Genesis (beginnings) or the Gospel of John (the latest and most theologically reflective gospel) or one of Paul's letters? Maybe something theological like the Small Catechism or the Augsburg Confession (primary document that defines Lutheran understanding of the gospel and the church)? Maybe you have another idea...There will be a line on the weekly attendance card for your suggestions. In any case, Christian formation is a life-long process. Why not decide today to join us when we resume in the fall. We have some great conversations.

## ***The Holy Grill feeding ministry health kit project***

For the month of August, we will be collecting items that will be placed in plastic bags to share with our guests at the Holy Grill in September. For the rest of this month you are invited to bring the following items and place them in the specially marked bin in the Narthex (Gathering Area). All of these items should be "travel size":



- Deodorant
- tooth brush
- tooth paste
- bug spray
- baby wipes
- comb
- small water
- disposable razor
- soap
- shampoo
- Gallon size zip bags.

At the end of the month, they will be packaged in the quart size bags and then distributed. Breakfast continues to be served Wednesday at 9am and dinner on Wednesday at 5pm (**note change from Tuesday**) in the same location in our east lot. Please check one of the box on the attendance card if interested becoming a volunteer. Be sure to include your email. Pr. Bob will contact you. In addition to the health kits we continue to collect for these clothing needs: **Men's/women's underwear, socks, T-shirts, shorts, towels.**

### **AUGUST HOLY GRILL VOLUNTEERS**

#### **WEDNESDAY 9AM**

8/14 Juliet Crawford – Carol/Kelly Jacobson  
8/21 Joe Leone – Karen Breslin  
8/28 Juliet Crawford – Carol/Kelly Jacobson

#### **WEDNESDAY 5PM**

Erika Flanigan  
Eric Castaneda  
Karen Breslin

## ***Final Summer Choir on September 8***

The St. Stephen summer choir will sing at the liturgy today. September 8 will be the final summer choir before the regular choir resumes. The rehearsal on September 8 will be at 9 a.m. Like to sing? Try us out. Contact Cesar Vidaud or one of the choir members, or just show up for the rehearsal. Thanks!



## **Online Giving**

We offer you the opportunity to give online through our website and also set up automatic offerings so you don't wish to fill an envelope each week, if you choose. Electronic gifts are fast and secure.

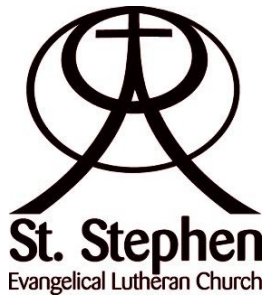
### ***STEWARDSHIP CORNER:***

**Last Sunday Attendance: 49**

**Last Sunday Income (all sources): \$ 8,674.56**

**WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY! THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!!!**





### Sunday Schedule

10:15 a.m. Worship  
Holy Communion is celebrated weekly  
11:45 a.m. Confirmation Ministry

### Church Staff

**The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer** – Pastor  
pastoratststephen@gmail.com  
941-716-5687  
**Cesar Vidaud** – Director of Music  
**Clarence (Teddy) Rowe** – Sexton  
**Aidee Koach** – Administrative Assistant  
sslcpompano@gmail.com  
Office hours: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 Mon- Fri

### Congregation Council

**Larry Jones** - President  
councilpresident@ststephenlutheran.net  
**Christian Hecker** – Vice-president  
**Eric Castaneda** - Treasurer  
**Natalie Prego** – Secretary  
**Lynda Smith**  
**Patricia Engle**  
**Harry Ambrose**  
**Dennis Magarrell**  
**Erika Flanigan**

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[www.ststephenlutheran.net](http://www.ststephenlutheran.net)  
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## Activity Calendar

**Sunday 11**  
10:15am Worship/Blessing of Teachers & Students  
11:45 Socializing Commission

**Monday 12**  
9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

**Tuesday 13**  
9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

**Wednesday 14**  
9:00-10:00am Holy Grill Feeding Ministry  
9:00-12pm Threads of Love  
9:30am-12:30pm Office Open  
5:00-6:00pm Holy Grill Feeding Ministry

**Thursday 15**  
9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

**Friday 16**  
9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

**Saturday 17**  
Happy and Blessed Saturday!

**Sunday 18**  
10:15am Worship  
11:45 Confirmation Ministry  
Fellowship Rented - Baptism



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